

Overview

Based in the cathedral city of Lichfield in Staffordshire, Integra is a leading UK manufacturer of curtain tracks and poles – from steel and plastic tracks to brass, wrought iron and wood poles, as well as a comprehensive range of accessories.

The Position

Integra produce about 25,000 business related documents; statements, delivery notes, purchase orders and invoices every month.

These documents are created by a business software application called Macsys and were printed on 6 x Digital L31 'dot-matrix' printers. The documents were printed on pre-printed, multi-part continuous stationery. There was also a Canon photocopier in the same location which was used for general office work.

The Problem

Keeping a production line supplied with a correct and adequate amount of raw materials is a challenge for every manufacturer, ideally they strive for maximum productivity with minimum inventory, therefore any disruption in the supply of raw materials can be costly.

Integra were printing the purchase orders for their raw materials on continuous multi-part stationery using dot-matrix printers, they then had to photocopy this output onto plain A4 cut-sheet paper in order to be able to fax the orders over to their suppliers, some of which were in the far east. The process was time consuming, expensive and produced poor quality documents at the suppliers end. This resulted in item queries or errors plus associated delays in resolving these problems due to the time differences involved.

The Solution

A 'cold' call by Craig Horton of SBS, a Xerox Concessionaire, resulted in a major business process improvement for Integra. Craig quickly realised that not only could he save Integra money he could help them improve the way they did business. He suggested that XLPrints' product 'Paris' held the key to the solution.

The Paris solution has enabled Integra to produce high quality business documents on A4 cut-sheet paper, using forms, graphics and windows fonts without any changes to the Macsys host application.

Print

Print output is now sent directly across the network and printed on a Xerox DC440st laser printer, copier & fax device.

Fax

Paris is also used to automatically create and distribute fax output, faxes can now be sent, as required, via the same DC440st utilising the same 'print' data.

E-Mail

Following the success of the Print & Fax integration Integra have now implemented the **eXpedite** module of Paris which creates and distributes emails in several pre-defined formats with 'document' attachments, these are automatically sent to specified customers.

Summary

Integra now have 'in-house' control and access to a variety of document distribution options. They have improved their internal and external business processes and communications plus they can now offer their customers a choice of how they want their documents presented.

Benefits

- A4 'plain paper' documents have reduced stationery and print costs
- Automated Print, Fax and Email has improved business processes and workflow
- Replacement of impact printers with Laser printers provides both higher quality documents and a quieter office environment
- Better supplier and retailer communications plus improved company image

Who are XLPrint?

XLPrint has been developing software for the electronic document industry since 1986. During that time, XLPrint's customer base has increased to the point where we now have thousands of installations in over 40 countries around the globe.

Every day, XLPrint's software is responsible for the production of millions of pages of electronic documents which are printed, emailed, faxed or stored in document archive systems.

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