

SWEET SUCCESS – Claricom system purchased for network control at Monkhill Confectionery (Cadbury Trebor Bassett)



Monkhill Confectionery, a division of Cadbury Trebor Bassett, has purchased a Claricom Package Coding Management System (PCMS) for the accurate control of on pack coding across two sites.

The Claricom CLARiNET Package Coding Network software will control the coding equipment across the corporate wide-area-network (WAN) between both manufacturing sites. The resulting high level of control will ensure that Monkhill can minimise costly coding errors, meeting the demands of both leading retailers and legislation, and protecting brand reputation.



At both its Pontefract and York sites, Monkhill Confectionery specialises in confectionery products, with an extensive range including boiled sweets, wine gums, popcorn and chocolate-coated products. Accurate on pack coding information is essential to maintaining cost-efficiencies and, since 1st January 2005, to meet legislative compliance with the new EU Food Regulations.

The Claricom PCMS eliminates the day-to-day potential for errors in critical coding information – such as the Use By date and Lot codes – by removing day-to-day manual setup of thermal transfer coders. All data is controlled centrally using CLARiSOFT Message Design Software, and transmitted to packaging lines via a CLARiNET controlled Ethernet network.

Equipment Name	Status	Current Job	Count	Speed	Efficiency	Rejects
Line 1	Planning finished	333428	10000	45000	98%	0
Box 1	Planning finished	333428	10000	45000	98%	0
Box 2	Online	333428	750	45000	98%	0
Line 2	Online	333428	300	45000	98%	0
Box 3	Online	333428	300	45000	98%	0
Box 4	Online	333428	300	45000	98%	0
Line 3	Online	333428	300	45000	98%	0
Box 5	Online	333428	300	45000	98%	0

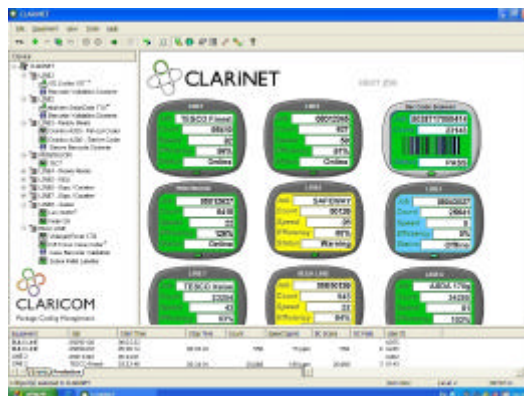
In addition, the CLARiNET Remote Intranet viewer enables real-time status and production line performance information to be viewed across the wide area network using standard Intranet / browser technology.

“Given our experience of Claricom we confidently predict a return on investment,” comments Andy Hamilton, Senior Project Engineer at Monkhill Confectionery.

The Claricom solution has been recommended to its supplier base by Marks & Spencer.

“The Claricom system has been purchased to replace previous proprietary networks and overcome some of their limitations. As an independent supplier Claricom can provide an effective solution in one simple network using industry standard technology,” comments Gerry McDonough, Engineering Manager, Monkhill Confectionery.

“CLARiNET can integrate our Markem SmartDate coders and newer ICE Zodiac thermal transfer coders into a common package coding management system. The coder-independent software allows us to also integrate barcode case coding and barcode packaging validation, and extends flexibility of choice to future purchasing decisions.”



Another key consideration was that the Claricom system is designed specifically for an Ethernet network, ensuring its capability for networking the large number of coders used by Monkhill. Gerry McDonough confirms that, “the Claricom PCMS is ideal for high-volume operations such as those at Monkhill’s Pontefract and York factories.”

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