

## John Nurminen Prima and Honeywell Mobile Computers Ensure Safe Transportation of Fine Art

### Executive Summary:

John Nurminen Prima Oy, a market leader in Scandinavia and Russia, is an expert in fine art logistics and art conservation services. Prima stores valuable art investments for private individuals, companies and foundations. Reliable transportation of high value goods is now safeguarded by a hybrid solution, using a 2D bar code as the main identifier and an RFID-tag to double check the item when the work of art is shipped from the warehouse. Thanks to the solution, Prima has gained better control of the location of each piece at any time, and reduced errors in warehouse records and deliveries. The system also makes carrying out inventory checks easy.

### Company Overview:

John Nurminen Prima Oy is a Finnish company focused on caring for works of art. The company's origins go back to 1886, when the John Nurminen Group was established. Today, Prima's principal business area is fine art logistics, supplemented by art conservation services, which were launched in 2001. John Nurminen Prima operates globally and employs 38 fine art professionals. In addition to the offices in Vantaa in Finland and Moscow in Russia, the company has partners around the world specialising in fine art logistics.

### The Challenge:

Art logistics covers transferring works of art from storage to an exhibition, from an auction to new owners, or from a company lobby to conservation. The art logistics solutions by Prima ensure that the pieces are at the right place at the right time, saving time and effort for the customer. Prima can also provide conservation services for paintings, sculptures, paper-based pieces and furniture. These valuable items are safely stored in the temperature and humidity controlled Prima warehouse. "We wanted to enhance our old storage system with new features," said Juha Määttä, Vice President, Operations at John Nurminen Prima. "Our aim was to achieve better location control, zero errors, accuracy and ease of use."



### Overview:

**Customer:** John Nurminen Prima

**Location:** Finland

**Application:** Art Logistics

**Reseller:** Finn-ID

**Product solution:** Honeywell Dolphin® 7900 mobile computer, SX4 RFID printers (Toshiba), art logistics software application

### The Solution:

The works of art are now marked with two identifiers; a 2D bar code and a radio frequency identification (RFID) tag, of which the 2D bar code individualizes the piece. "We have a registered company number assigned by the GS1 (a leading global organization dedicated to the design and implementation of global standards and solutions), and no other company in the world can use these same codes," says Määttä. The data contained in the bar code is scanned with a Honeywell Dolphin® 7900 mobile computer and transferred in real-time via a wireless local area network (WLAN) to the database. "We can provide up-to-date information about the location of each piece at any time," continues Määttä. The RFID tag is placed within the same label. When the piece of art leaves the warehouse, it passes through an RFID gate, where the tag is read. This way the information is double checked to ensure that the correct item is moved. In September 2008 John Nurminen Prima was awarded the ISO 9001:2000 quality certificate.

## The Benefits

“The feedback from our customers has been extremely positive,” said Määttä. “At the launch event we were able to demonstrate how well the solution works, and I believe that a reliable logistics system has brought us several new customers, as we receive direct enquiries for it.” Thanks to the solution, Prima has gained better control of the location of each piece at any time, and reduced errors in warehouse records and deliveries. The system also makes carrying out inventory checks very easy.

## The Future

John Nurminen Prima is part of the Gerlach Group, which operates in The Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, Luxembourg and China. In the future, other companies in this international group could also benefit from a similar art logistics solution.



### The Benefits:

- Improved location control
- No errors in warehouse records
- No delivery errors
- Double check process increases peace of mind and confidence
- Easy inventory checks
- Easy to use for new employees
- Modern image with latest technology

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Nijverheidsweg 9-13

5627BT Eindhoven

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Tel: +31 40 2901 600

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