PRODUCTIVITY HAMMERED OUT
Honeywell’s Thor VM3 helps DP World Southampton boost operational efficiency.

“The VM3 rugged devices enable our drivers to be productive from the minute they sit in the Straddle Carrier cab. The touch screen provides ease of use for the driver and the VM3 connectivity options allows our GPS and PLC Systems to be fully integrated. This gives full operational and engineering visibility. Couple that with Solid State Disks means that the unit is very robust for the port environment.”

Brian Thomson, Systems Manager, DP World Southampton
DP World is the third largest port operator in the world, handling around 10% of the global container trade. Their terminal in Southampton is one of the largest in the UK and a Lloyd’s List award winner. DP World constantly aims to increase the port’s productivity, reduce operations costs and maximize the return of their investment in larger cranes, deeper berths and an expanded fleet of terminal vehicles.

The Needs

Maintain DP World Southampton’s position as the UK’s most productive port.

Maximize return of investment (ROI) by increasing the flow of goods through the terminal.

Reduce costs and use connectivity to boost operational efficiency.

Increase productivity by incrementing the vehicle mount uptime.

Real-time tracking and visibility of assets and GPS and PLC connectivity.

Customized and easy to use navigation systems.

A rugged device adequate for the harsh work environment.

The Solution

Designed for use in the toughest freight operations environments, the Thor™ VM3 is the industry’s most capable vehicle-mounted mobile computer. The remote turn on feature is a real time saver – before the driver climbs up to the cab, the computer is on and is already running the first task of the day. The driver will collect a container and deliver to a location displayed on the computer screen. Then the task will be marked as “complete” and the next task will come through.

The Thor VM3 is Microsoft® Windows®-based, so integration and application development are simple. One of the reasons DP World Southampton decided to replace the previous units was to upgrade to the Windows 7 platform. The company has constantly upgraded to the Honeywell’s latest innovations and models, from the 5055 vehicle mount computer to CV60 and now to the Thor VM3.

The technical support and service are provided by Renovotec, a leading supplier of its kind to the UK sector, having installed solutions in around 10 ports. Using a wide array of networked vehicle-mounted devices with tracking and inventory-scanning software, Renovotec enables ports of all sizes to manage their operations smoothly and efficiently.

The Benefits

- The Honeywell connected solution helps DP World Southampton maximize its ROI and maintain its position among UK’s most productive ports.
- The Thor VM3 allows DP World to increase the flow of goods through their Southampton port and enable the terminal’s 84 Straddle Carriers and 8 Empty Container Handlers to operate at maximum efficiency – moving over 20,000 containers and loading over 2,000 lorries and 15 rail freights a day.
- The touch screen and the customized navigation system make the mobile computer easy to use for the drivers. DP World’s GPS tracking combined with links to the Straddle Carrier PLC give the company real-time visibility of their assets.
- The remote turn on feature allows the Straddle drivers to become productive from the minute they sit in the cab. The stability of the system and the rugged design make the Honeywell mobile computer ideal for the harsh operating environment.