

BREWING UP QUALITY

Warsteiner group taps into enhanced efficiency with a rugged mobile solution from Honeywell.

“With the assistance of the Honeywell products and the know-how of ID-Solutions, we have managed to further raise our high quality standards within a short timeframe.”

For us, the CN70's extremely fast scanning capabilities were key in the decision to buy.

Case Study



The Warsteiner Group is one of the oldest and most famous brewing enterprises in Germany. The family business, established in 1753, values both tradition and continuous innovation in marketing and technology. After a thorough selection process, Warsteiner decided to rely on Honeywell technology for consistent product quality assurance throughout the brewing process.

The Needs

Improve quality assurance throughout the brewing process.

Allow direct feedback and minimize input errors.

Shorten reaction time when quality requirements are not met.

Maintain Warsteiner's high standards for brewing and bottling.

The Solution

One of the driving principles of the Warsteiner Group is "To develop, produce and ensure quality." This begins with selecting the raw materials to be used: the water, hops, and malt. However, the company also pursues the highest quality standards in brewing and bottling. So at Warsteiner all production sites have been awarded the certificate for food safety management systems in agreement with the international standard DIN EN ISO 22000:2005.

An in-house quality management information system ensures that the quality assurance requirements are met during the brewing process. This includes checks upon supply of the hops and other raw materials, controls throughout the entire production process, and checks during bottling and loading of the finished product onto truck or train. Central to this system is the chemical and biological laboratory based at the company headquarters in Warstein. Here, samples taken from all production stages are continuously examined. Checks are made throughout, from the brewing water from the Arnsberg Forest to the finished beer, the quality of which must still be ensured even if it is transported or stored incorrectly – for example if it is stored in a place that is too warm. Raw materials, such as the brewing malt, are also checked in the laboratory for grain size as well as possible mould growth. Even the glass bottles and bottle caps must be continuously checked.

When Good is Not Good Enough

"Our commitment to quality goes way beyond the legal requirements. We also attach great importance to fast reaction times should anything fail to meet our standards at some point," explains Werner Mittrup, a member of the management team at Warsteiner Brewery. And this is precisely where Warsteiner managed to achieve further optimization thanks to the latest technology from Honeywell. With the CN70 mobile computer that is now used in quality assurance in the laboratory, production, and bottling, checks are even more efficient. The barcode solution they previously used offered lower overall functionality and was by comparison susceptible to input errors. It also did not allow direct feedback to the central system.

“With the assistance of the Honeywell products and the know-how of ID-Solutions, we have managed to further raise our high quality standards within a short timeframe.”

Werner Mittrup, Corporate Management, Warstein Brewery

Thanks to WLAN connection, available in most areas, the direct feedback they wanted is now possible without any problems. The mobile device retrieves data from the central server and, should a fault arise, it is possible to precisely locate which batch or which raw material supply is causing the problem. On the CN70 display the employee is provided with precise information regarding what needs to be done at which sampling point – and these tasks are detailed step-by-step. As a result, input errors and errors caused by everyday routine are minimized. The greatest advantage, however, is that using the devices via a WLAN connection allows an extremely fast reaction time if something does not happen the way it should.



A Clear Winner – the CN70 Mobile Computer

The Honeywell CN70 used at Warsteiner is designed for mobile applications that require a computer both compact and robust. The latter, in particular, is of great benefit in the production environment of the brewery business, which can be very demanding. The CN70 uses advanced barcode imaging technology with high motion tolerance for fast scanning and white illumination with laser that enable high read rates. As standard, the CN70 offers great compatibility with printers, application software, and other communication devices.

The Honeywell mobile computer was selected after an intense competition. The technical management team at Warsteiner were especially interested in the device's excellent scanner. The WLAN reception came out on top too, despite the challenging environment of the brewery with its large amounts of liquids and stainless steel tanks. "For us, the CN70's extremely fast scanning capabilities and excellent performance in the WLAN were key in the decision to buy," says Werner Mittrup. Furthermore, thanks to open standard interface, interaction with the Siemens Unilab laboratory information and management system used in the Warsteiner laboratory also went very well.

The Benefits

- The CN70 devices allow the users to access precise information regarding future tasks that are detailed step-by-step.
- Enhances the reaction time if issues are detected throughout the quality assurance process.
- Provides excellent WLAN reception despite the intense production environment of the brewery.
- Fosters the perception of Warsteiner as a trusted brewing company that values both tradition and technology innovation.

Great Advice from a Trusted Partner

Before the acquisition of over 50 mobile computers, the Warsteiner Group got in touch with a reliable Honeywell partner – ID-Solutions GmbH & Co. KG in Gießen – a company specialized in customer-specific barcode and RFID solutions. After numerous consultations with ID-Solutions and exhaustive presentations, equipment testing, and analysis, the experts at Warsteiner decided to buy the CN70 devices. After the preliminary work performed by the software provider came the configuration, software setup, and commissioning of the new Honeywell devices together with ID-Solutions – right in the middle of the company's busy Christmas period. "It all went extremely well," Werner Mittrup points out, talking about the successful collaboration with the Honeywell partner. The devices have been integrated and commissioned at the breweries in Herford, Paderborn, and Fürstenfeldbruck. "With the assistance of the Honeywell products and the know-how of ID-Solutions, we have managed to further raise our high quality standards within a short timeframe," is Werner Mittrup's positive conclusion.

For more information:

www.honeywellaidc.com

Honeywell Safety and Productivity Solutions

9680 Old Bailes Road
Fort Mill, SC 29707
800.582.4263
www.honeywell.com

SPS-Warsteiner-EN(0217)-CS-R
© 2016 Honeywell International Inc.

Honeywell