

SUPPLY CHAIN

ZEBRA® PRINTING SOLUTIONS



SEE MORE. DO MORE.



Smart ideas for improving supply-chain operations

Worldwide, thousands of warehousing and transport operations use Zebra printers every day, confident in the knowledge they have invested in equipment to help deliver on their service promise.

Zebra's versatile range of printers opens up many opportunities for supply-chain operations to improve their processes. With bar-coding or RFID technologies, if the goal is to improve productivity, accuracy, quality and flexibility, Zebra can print and deliver.

The pressures for increased supply-chain visibility and flexibility mean that many industries are now exploring the possibility of item-level serialisation for complete track-and-trace activity. This enables a complete audit trail of the supply chain.

For improvements to be made in these areas, access to data and the quality of data are vital. Automatic identification (auto-ID) technologies in the form of bar codes or RFID provide the means to access, manage and control this data quickly, easily and accurately at any level of the supply-chain process.



"Zebra printers are robust, reliable and easy to integrate with SAP."

Henrik Joker Trachsel
SAP Consultant
Danisco
Denmark



SAP® compatibility

Zebra Programming Language (ZPL®) is the only native bar-code printing language supported by mySAP™ Business Suite (SmartForms), ensuring that integration with a Zebra printer is faster, easier and ultimately more cost-effective than with any other printer.



Oracle® compatibility

Zebra printers have seamless integration with Oracle BI Publisher via Zebra's Enterprise Connector Solution. This allows customers to quickly design label formats in a GUI environment and upload them to the Oracle-server-based Enterprise Connector environment.



Unicode – international supply chains need international languages

In the ever-expanding global marketplace, many companies now require the ability to print character sets outside the standard Western alphabets, such as Polish, Greek, Turkish, Hebrew and Arabic. Typically, bar-code-label printers require reproduction of these characters as large graphics files, affecting performance. Zebra printers are Unicode™-compliant, allowing printing of international characters with maximum performance straight out of the box*

*Asia-Pacific fonts require the factory-fitted 64MB onboard flash option and the Andale® WorldType® font option.

Moving to Zebra is easy

Using Zebra's APL™ (Alternate Programming Language), we help you convert to Zebra without the cost and inconvenience of rewriting your current application.

Typical labelling applications in the warehouse

Receiving

Inbound goods require goods receipt labels, bulk breakdown labels, item labelling and labels for the processing of returns.

Cross-docking

Generating and applying shipping labels at receipt minimises handling and speeds up inventory turnaround.

Inventory location

Labelling every putaway location with good-quality bar-code labels helps to minimise errors.

Putaway

Scanning the bar-code labels on the goods and at the putaway locations ensures inventory accuracy.

Picking

Generating pick labels, packing labels and pallet manifests ensures greater accuracy of pick operations.

Shipping

Production of shipping labels and consignment labels allows tracking of goods after they leave the warehouse.

The warehouse process

Putaway

Putaway labels
Transfer labels

Inventory location

Location labelling
Non-conformance labels
Cycle-count labels
Stock-check labels
Asset-tracking labels

Shipping

Shipping labels
Bills of lading/packing lists
Compliance labels
Manifest labels
Route/trucking labels

Picking

Picking lists
Picking labels/tickets
Sortation tickets
Package labels
Repack labels
Kitting labels
Store labels
Price labels

Cross-docking

Transfer labels
Move tickets

Receiving

Goods receipt labels
Build/move tickets
Location labels
Return/RMA tickets
Traveller labels

RFID and Zebra – ready when you are

Both passive and active RFID technologies continue to gain momentum, driven by the need for improved supply chain visibility and data aggregation.

RFID delivers this with fewer manual interventions as there are no line-of-sight limitations. Multiple items can be read quickly and efficiently, and tag/label data can be modified and updated to keep data viable.

Zebra's Xi™ Series RFID printer/encoders allow for the production of significantly smaller RFID tags with on-pitch encoding. The RP4T™ printer provides the capacity to encode UHF RFID tags in a mobile capacity.

Above all, many Zebra printers have an RFID upgrade path, allowing for the deployment of RFID technology whenever you are ready.

Linerless

Until now, liner waste has been an accepted part of the labelling process (with the EU producing 240,000* tonnes of liner waste in 2008), but Zebra's G-Series™ desktop printer offers linerless label printing to help reduce waste, save costs and improve productivity.

Benefits include:

- No more liner waste to manage: helps promote the green IT message
- More labels per roll: increases efficiency by minimising downtime and transportation costs
- Zebra's tried-and-tested Desktop series printers, which are rugged, reliable, easy-to-use and affordable

* SOURCE: FINAT press release, "Join FINAT's recycling scheme – a solution to liner waste", FINAT is the worldwide association for manufacturers of self-adhesive labels and related products and services. October 2008.

Mobile printing for supply chain

Proven benefits of mobile printing

- Increased productivity – less walk time
- Increased flexibility – able to print any time, anywhere
- Improved quality – printing on demand means fewer errors
- Fast return on investment (ROI)

Mobility in the warehouse

Zebra's wireless mobile printers have been designed to improve warehouse productivity.

No longer do operators need to go to the printer: they can have their own personal unit to maximise their potential. Walking or driving a forklift truck to printers wastes time and resources. Every second saved increases productivity. Personal printers reduce errors and improve quality by preventing operatives applying the wrong labels to the wrong products.

Mobility on the road

Designed for life on the road, the RW™ series is a range of rugged wireless mobile printers that avoid the need for a cable and can be carried over the shoulder or on a belt. With an in-vehicle cradle, they can even be recharged whilst travelling. The RW 420™ Print Station integrates Zebra's core mobile printing technology into a single, compact, lightweight and rugged unit capable of supporting a Motorola® handheld terminal. The RW series printers have an IP54 dust- and water-resistance rating; they can endure extreme temperatures and weather conditions.

Typical applications include receipts, routing information, proof of delivery, collection labels and final invoice printing.

RW series printers can also be supplied with optional magnetic-stripe and EMV™-certified smart-card readers for taking payments, and with 10-year-archivable receipt paper.



“Wireless mobile printers from Zebra are light and easy to use, and make warehouse staff more flexible. They reduced forklift handling, increased productivity by one minute per pallet and provided a return on investment of only 108 days.”

Theo van Alst
Information Systems Service Manager
TNT
The Netherlands



“We switched to Zebra printers five years ago and since then we have never had a problem. The printers work first time, every time.”

Jimmy Collins
Warehouse Supervisor
Fujitsu Services
United Kingdom



Supplies and accessories



Accessories for supply chain

In the warehouse

Forklift truck mounting unit: attach the mobile QL Plus™ series printer to the forklift truck with this tailor-made solution for maximum round-the-clock uptime.

On the road

In-vehicle cradle, mounting unit and charger: for safe stowing and charging in the cab, the printer can be easily released and worn over the shoulder or on a belt.

The RW 420 Print Station integrates Zebra's core mobile printing technology into a single, compact, lightweight and rugged unit capable of supporting a Motorola handheld terminal.

Why genuine Zebra supplies?



Quality printing solutions come from matching the right printer with the right supplies. Zebra labels (and ribbons where required) deliver maximum print quality to keep Zebra printers running with minimal impact on performance.

Broken or poor-performing printers cost time and money to fix. Poor printing reduces the bar-code read rate, resulting in productivity losses.

The Z-Slip solution

Save substantial time when printing and applying packing slips using Zebra's innovative Z-Slip solution. This patent-pending award-winning design allows the printing and sticking of packing slips in one integrated peel-and-stick sleeve.



"...we use Zebra ribbons and labels because we find them to be better-quality media and also we get longer printhead life from them."

Tony Callaghan
Warehouse Manager
Akzo Nobel
United Kingdom



RWPS

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