An increasing number of organisations are seeking to achieve the ideal of a fully paperless business environment. Taylors of Harrogate has taken a significant step forward towards this objective by purchasing Psion Omnii handheld data capture devices from Spirit Data Capture Limited. The new devices have helped Taylors to make significant progress towards its eventual goal of paperless operations.
Taylors of Harrogate is an independent family business based in Harrogate, Yorkshire. It’s the firm behind such well-known brands as Yorkshire Tea and Taylors of Harrogate Coffee. The company has a globally responsible approach to business and is always seeking to reduce its environmental footprint.

One aspect of this involves a gradual drive towards paperless operations, spearheaded by the use of handheld data capture devices. These help to automate and streamline many processes. Taylors of Harrogate has been using handheld units as part of its warehouse operations for some years. However, its existing devices were becoming old and had limited capabilities and small screens. The company therefore started looking for a solution that would be more versatile.

Mark Asquith, Warehouse and Distribution Manager, explains: “We started searching for flexible and future-proofed equipment that was both rugged and durable – so the units wouldn’t break if they were dropped. We wanted devices that would also be software-friendly, with a large screen size and a good battery life.”

During the course of its investigations, the company came across Spirit Data Capture Limited whilst it was conducting a search of the Internet. Spirit is an independent data capture consultancy specialising in handheld solutions for enterprises of different sizes. The company recommended the Psion Omnii XT 15 as being ideal for Taylors of Harrogate’s needs.

The Omnii™ XT15 is a very rugged handheld device that provides a reliable performance and unparalleled adaptability even in the most demanding environments. It is extremely durable and delivers best-in-class power savings - with an extended battery life of up to 20 hours. It also has a large, 3.7” VGA colour display and a range of WiFi options.

Taylors of Harrogate subsequently ordered the Omnii from Spirit, as the device met all of the company’s requirements. Mark Asquith comments: “Spirit kindly arranged for us to try the product on a loan basis first to ensure that we chose the best possible model for our needs. Their customer service was excellent: they also provided us with a range of useful information on the products.”

The new Psion Omniiis are being used for tracking the movement of products into and out of the company’s warehouse. They have been performing well, and the users are happy with the devices and particularly appreciate their durability.

Mark Asquith comments: “As a company, we are moving towards a paperless environment wherever possible. This will take some time to achieve but the Psions have brought us the greatest benefits so far. We have also been very happy with the service we’ve received from Spirit and can recommend them to anyone looking for help with their data capture needs.”

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