



A Rockwell Automation Company

Weyerhaeuser Chemainus Secondary Sorter

The Client:

Weyerhaeuser Chemainus Sawmill Division, located in the beautiful town of Chemainus, BC, is not your ordinary sawmill. With over a century of sawmilling history this mill supplies complex custom cuts to customers all over the world. It harvests only the highest grade Douglas Fir and Pacific Coast Hemlock

and combines a highly skilled labor force with complex technology to provide high quality lumber that is most often used for exposed areas of building design.

The Requirement:

The client wanted to upgrade their aging GE Series 6 PLC and old legacy applications which controlled their sorters. The existing sorter applications were tightly tied into their packaging and corporate sales systems.

The clients needs were quite complex and there was no off-the-shelf solution which would meet their requirements. A custom solution was the only way to approach the application.

The Sorter setup and report interface had to be accessed from multiple points in the mill. As well, it had to work with the existing legacy sales system and package handling.

The Design Solution:

The solution which Hinz supplied was a web based application which could be accessed from any point in the mill or offices. All of the existing reports were setup and improved upon.

The sorter application was changed from a simple bin sorter application to a seeking sort application. The sort setup was intuitive to use and speeded up configuration and change over of products.

A separate Visual Basic application was written to connect to manage PLC information and write data to the legacy sales and package management applications. The VB application was also used to write custom messages to an old legacy application which displayed operator messages.

A new ticket print application was put in place to improve upon the older barcode ticket print. The new tickets were configured using Excel templates, which allowed the client to modify how the ticket looked and the information on the ticket.

The results of the new sorter application allowed for easier training for new operators, quicker setup for product change over, and easier maintenance of the future changes to the application.

The web application used the latest products from Microsoft, such as VB.NET as the application language and MS SQL server as the database.



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BinSort - Microsoft Internet Explorer
Address: http://localhost:81/Chem/BinSort.aspx

Weyerhaeuser Bins Online
Date: Thu Sep 01, 2005 9:47:00
Active Sort: J2X4WUCR
Shift: DAY
Crew: B

Online Configure Schedule Reports Print [Logout]

Sorter Bins | Bin Sort | Set Bins Status | Enable Grade Buttons | J-Hooks | Download | Browse Boards

Bin: << 1 >> Ticket << 1 >> Save to PLC Active
 Bound
 Linked Bins
 Seeking Sort
 Reverse
 Bin(s) 1 Swap
 Status: ON LINE Apply
 Counts: Preset: 154 Actual: ## Adjust
 FBM: Label
 Moisture
 Reject over moist boards
 Reject under moist boards
 Stickers

Thick	Count
2	154

Grades	Widths	Lengths
BTN	Grade	Length
1	2CL+	7
2	3CL	8
3	4CL	9
4	2SH+	10
		11
		12
		12.5
		13.12

System Specifications:

- Computer: Rack mount Dell server
- Operating System: Windows Server 2000
- Database: MS SQL Server 2000
- Web Server: IIS
- Web Application Language: VB.NET
- Custom Code Language: Visual Basic 6.0

For further information or to contact a Hinz office near you, please check our website at:

www.hinz.com