

## Zebra solution provides automatic identification and ensures food safety

Univer is one of Hungary's leading food manufacturers. Established in 1948, this Hungarian company is based in Kecskemét with over 1200 employees. One of its best selling lines is its baby food products, where modern technology and high-level manufacturing safety conditions play a vital role. The popularity of this range of baby food means that Univer is a market leader in several product areas in Hungary as well as being one of the 10 most popular brands in the country.

### The Challenge

In more than 60 years of operations, Univer's development and innovation have always played an important role in the business. With its dynamic product portfolio the company keeps pace with continually changing customer demands by constantly striving to apply up-to-date manufacturing technologies in its production process. The construction of a 14 million Euro factory in Kecskemét in 2009 was a corporate milestone. This expansion enabled supply to Hungarian and Romanian markets which in turn increased Univer's manufacturing efficiency to broaden its range of preservative-free products.

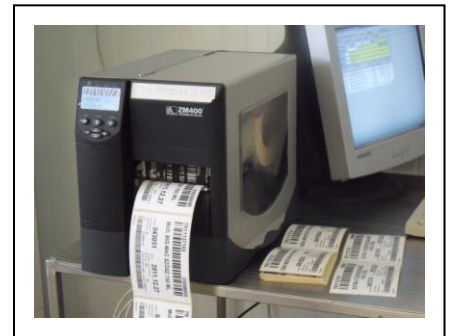
As part of ongoing development and as a result of a strict selection process, the Univer Product Corporation commissioned a third party supplier (inCASE Ltd.) to design a storage management system across a number Univer locations connected to its ERP system. This new system was based on Zebra® printers with a WLAN infrastructure and Motorola hand-held computers.

One of this system's key requirements was to speed up logistics processes and to significantly increase throughput. A precondition was the ability to identify each storage unit. As a food manufacturer it was also important to be able to track the entire process, from receiving goods to delivery.

### The Solution

Customised identification is now possible by using individual bar code identification labels on each unit. The semi-finished and completed products are also bar code labelled immediately. This label accompanies each product until its delivery or end of life.

At each stage of the product manufacturing process, the labels are initiated by mobile data collectors and are printed by mobile or static Zebra printers. Each unit is identified by reading a single bar code label that streamlines the movement of the units through this process.



### Solution Technology

- Zebra® S4M™ printer
- Zebra® ZM400™ printer
- Zebra® QL 420 Plus™ mobile printer
- Zebra® 105SL™ printer
- Zebra® ZebraNet™ Bridge



The bar code label information shows details on the product batch, date of manufacture, material type and expiry date. The system stores additional data besides the information appearing on the label. It not only tracks the movement of materials, but also directs which product batch should be moved and when according to specific parameters such as expiry dates and ordering schedules.

These networked bar code label printers are optimally positioned as part of the material procedure tracking process. Their usage is monitored by the system so that users can print labels from the nearest printer to them.

Different Zebra printers carry out specific printing functions:

- Logistics labels for product batches are printed by Zebra S4M and ZM400 mid-range printers. These were selected for their different loading capacities. In the support material storehouse the ZM400 and S4M printers ensure correct label printing
- In courtyard areas, Zebra QL420 Plus mobile printers are used connected to the WLAN network
- In the warehouse for finished products, Zebra ZM400 printers enable accurate picking of goods
- Labelling of pre-packaged products in barrels is carried out by fully automated Zebra ZM400 printers integrated in the controlled measuring and filling line without the need for operator interaction
- Storehouse printing is performed by a Zebra 105SL mid-range printer that has been working reliably for almost 10 years. This printer is situated in the storehouse office with a capacity of up to 15,000 labels per week. During peak times as many as 12,000 labels are printed in a single day.

Printers are monitored by Univer Product Corporation IT specialists, supported by Zebra NetBridge connectivity software. This software communicates all necessary information between the networked printers including advance warning error notification to the store operators working in these areas.

"We decided to buy Zebra printers again based on the reliability of the printers we had already installed at Univer. Our expectations of the new printers have been completely satisfied. Whether operating under intense or normal conditions, Zebra printers work well and with great accuracy," - commented Zoltán Rozsnyói, IT manager of Univer Product Corporation.

## Quote

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Zoltán Rozsnyói,  
IT Manager,  
Univer Product Corporation,  
Hungary

