



Press Release

Ci-DMS chosen to manage dispensing at new tableting plant

When a major international pharmaceutical manufacturer was planning a new European production facility in the UK, it was a foregone conclusion that a computerised dispensary management system would be implemented for the production function.

This was because of the degree of control that a computerised DMS offers, as getting the production process right from the first stage is vital if the subsequent stages are to be completed correctly. The company's Head of Production comments:



"We firmly believe in the benefits of a computerised DMS, and the importance of dispensing was emphasised by the inspector from the UK's Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency – the MHRA. One of the advantages of a computerised DMS is that it eliminates virtually all paperwork from the booth."

Following a thorough selection process, Ci-DMS, from UK-based CI Systems, was chosen for the project. The Head of Production explained

"When we looked at other systems and suppliers we concluded that Ci-DMS was technically superior and that CI Systems would be an excellent supplier."

Ci-DMS was implemented in two dispensary booths. The system is used to control both manual dispensing of individual components and the addition of dispensed materials and bulk packs into reusable IBCs. Using the dispensary booths for this addition provides an advantage in terms of containment, as it avoids the need to add pre-dispensed bags in the production area where there would be a risk of dust and contamination from each bag.

The Ci-DMS database is hosted off site on two virtual servers (using VMware) - one for the live environment and one for the validation environment. A specially configured interface links Ci-DMS to the company's SAP ERP system - which runs on a server located offshore. Ci-DMS receives transactions for material lots and process orders from the ERP system, then returns transactions for material dispensed and lot adjustments to ensure that the ERP inventory is accurately maintained.



To maximise efficiency in the dispensary and reduce stock movement between the dispensary and the warehouse the dispensary is treated as a kanban stock staging location. Instead of using the ERP to allocate particular lots to particular process orders, the dispensary operators select material available in the dispensary. As each dispensing is completed lot consumption transactions are sent back from Ci-DMS causing the ERP system to issue the materials used against the process order and to automatically replenish the stock in the dispensing area.

In addition to supplying the DMS software and ERP interface, CI Systems also prepared all of the documents necessary for onsite acceptance tests and performed those tests on behalf of the client. This provision of a turnkey service was a major benefit, as it minimised the requirement for customer resources. The client's staff attended project meetings, seminars and training sessions as needed, with CI Systems liaising directly with the client's quality, technical, validation, production, engineering and IT personnel to ensure that the project was delivered on time and to budget. Further input from CI Systems included recommending the hardware and liaising with the booth supplier.

The Head of Production concludes:

"Now that the system is qualified we can say that Ci-DMS is as user-friendly as we expected it to be, and CI Systems proved to be very flexible, responsive, easy to work with and truly understood our needs. While an ERP interface was not originally part of the project scope, CI Systems had no problems providing an interface to SAP - which was implemented at the same time as Ci-DMS."

For more information or to discuss a specific application, please telephone **+44 (0) 1722 424100**, or e-mail sales@ciprecision.com

