



Case Study



Blasting Solutions Inc. Realizes 75 Percent Time Savings with Tablet PCs, Expertise and Digital Software

Overview

Region: Utah

Industry: Explosive removal of hazards for the safe completion of cleaning and repair operations

Customer Profile

[Blasting Solutions, Inc.](#) (BSI) utilizes the controlled detonation of explosives primarily to deslag boilers using coal, wood or fuel oil. Typical applications include the removal of slag, clinkers, pendant build-up and webbing between tubes (gas passages), furnace throat plugs and other hard deposits normally requiring manual labor to remove.

Business Situation

BSI is a fast-growing company with a fast-growing concern – the company's reliance on paper-based forms was costing valuable time, money and resources.

Solution

Able to withstand drops, bumps and spills, the [Motion® F5v Tablet PC](#) is durable yet ergonomic and lightweight enough for all-day use. Running Microsoft® Windows®, it delivers the manageability, compatibility and security as well as the power, performance and battery life BSI needed.

Through Motion, Woodhall was referred to John Hill and [Allegiance Technology](#), a provider of electronic form solutions and tablet PC reseller.

Benefits

- 75 percent time savings
- Can audit entire job book in 15 minutes
- Real-time support for field staff
- Shortened billing cycles

"Almost instantly, the amount of time we spent filling out our job books was reduced by 75 percent, just in the field alone. And for those of us in the office, it was amazing as well. We no longer had to decipher people's handwriting and double check for inaccuracies."

Steve Woodhall, operations manager, Blasting Solutions, Inc.

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Before going paperless with Motion® and Allegiance Technology, BSI's foremen were required to fill out an entire job book by hand. At a minimum, workers were required to fill out 16 forms, and the majority of jobs required more than double that number. Not only did the paper forms take up time, but the cumbersome process left more room for errors than was necessary.

For each job, BSI audits the entire job book from front to back, and what previously took 3 to 4 days to complete now takes approximately 15 minutes. "It's so easy to audit the entire job book now," said Woodhall.

BSI can now also provide support to its field staff in real time. "Before we had to wait for a fax, or we might not be in the office when a foreman called, so it could take a while to fix a problem or provide additional information. Now I can be in Minnesota working with a crew in Arizona, and I'm able to access the same forms they have on the tablets and fix any issues almost instantly," said Woodhall.



“Every mistake could be a costly one,” noted Woodhall. “If the DOT forms were missing a comma or dotted ‘i,’ we could be fined for each error. It was critical that we find a way to maximize consistency, reduce errors and gain control of our forms.”



Overview

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Challenge

BSI is a fast-growing company with a fast-growing concern – the company’s reliance on paper-based forms was costing valuable time, money and resources.

“With this type of work, licensing requirements at the state and federal levels, along with Department of Transportation (DOT) and safety compliance forms, means we have to process a lot of paperwork,” explained Steve Woodhall, operations manager, [Blasting Solutions, Inc.](#) “BSI is committed to providing the best trained, best equipped, safest explosives professionals in the industry, and we wanted to apply this level of quality to all facets of our workflow.”

Solution

The solution came to Woodhall during a visit to a retail store, where he noticed [Motion® Tablet PCs](#) being used at the sales kiosks. Immediately impressed with the tablets’ ability to automate tasks, Woodhall knew he found an answer to his problem in the rugged [F5v Tablet PC](#). Able to withstand drops, bumps and spills, the F5v Tablet PC is durable yet ergonomic and lightweight enough for all-day use. Running Microsoft® Windows®, it delivers the manageability, compatibility and security as well as the power, performance and battery life BSI needed.

While the Motion Tablet PCs provided a mobile computing platform, BSI still required a solution that would digitize and automate its paper-based forms. Through Motion, Woodhall was referred to John Hill and [Allegiance Technology](#), a provider of electronic form solutions and tablet PC reseller.

“Our main goal was to find a way to automate our job book, a compilation of all necessary information about the job, including customer information, worker information, hours for payroll, invoices, safety checklists, DOT shipping forms and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) mandated inventory forms. Every state, company and government agency has different requirements, and the amount of time we were spending on paperwork was tremendous,” said Woodhall.

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By taking a sample of BSI’s job book, Allegiance Technology was able to completely digitize each form, simplifying the overall process and noting places where the company could save time and money. “Allegiance Technology showed us an [Active Ink](#) form for a blasting permit, and that was it; we were sold,” said Woodhall.

Results

“We noticed results very quickly,” noted Woodhall. “Almost instantly, the amount of time we spent filling out our job books was reduced by 75 percent, just in the field alone. And for those of us in the office, it was amazing as well. We no longer had to decipher people’s handwriting and double check for inaccuracies.”

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Featured Partner



Allegiance Technology takes business processes to the next level of productivity and profitability by replacing manual entries, paper forms and disconnected information with an automated system that brings it all together, simply and affordably. We automate your business with Motion Computing Tablet PCs and writeable electronic forms that integrate with databases and accounting software. We provide total hardware and software system implementation, training and support services. For more information or a demonstration, call (215) 441-5580 or go to www.alltp.com.



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BSI also benefits from shortened billing cycles. With the paper forms, foremen had to bring the work orders back to the office, and only then could the billing process begin. Now everything can be done onsite, with customers signing off directly on the tablets and the invoices being uploaded and processed almost instantly.

Conclusion

"People are expected to do the same work for less money these days, and without technology to help, we couldn't thrive as a company. Thanks to Allegiance Technology and Motion Computing, we now have the ability to rise to the top of our field with new technology, ensuring safety and quality work along the way," concluded Woodhall.

