

CASE STUDY

'TNT Innight: RFID = added value'

TNT Innight is the market leader for night time distribution in Europe and has been offering industry-specific night time distribution through its Night Express Services for over 40 years. Shipments are collected at the end of the working day and delivered the same night, before 7.00 am. Through its various forms of night time distribution, TNT Innight offers an excellent and timely service. Not just in the Netherlands, but in many other European countries as well.

All Night Express Services are handled on a contract basis. Delivery addresses must be known beforehand, because TNT Innight has to have the keys of the delivery location. This can be a business address, but also a safe in a wall, a service vehicle or a container.



The central distribution centre in Nieuwegein is the backbone of the services. In the evening, shipments are sorted here by route, mostly automatically. After the sorting, they are transported to strategically located depots. From there, a dense distribution network takes over delivery to the delivery locations.

Through this service, TNT Innight is responding to a number of developments in the market, including:

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- Increase in service awareness
- Reduction of item lead times
- Centralisation of production and storage
- Increasingly busy roads
- Direct delivery to mechanics and branches

Clients who use night distribution reduce their decentralised stocks and at the same time speed up their logistical processes. Many TNT Innight clients often choose to dispatch their valuable and fragile shipments in plastic CurTec crates. They thereby make considerable savings in packaging costs. Various shipments can be fitted into one package, which is at the same so durable that it lasts a lifetime. The robustness of a crate, combined with the option of sealing it, guarantees time-critical shipments are sent safely. The nestable system also saves space during transport and internal storage. Many clients now consider environmental factors when choosing crates; plastic crates are more environmentally friendly than endless cardboard packaging, which is only used once.

The dispatch crates of TNT Innight clients, which are used for the night time distribution of spare parts for the agricultural and installation branch, often disappear. Many a mechanic keeps them in his or her attic or garage because they are so handy- this amounts to a considerable cost item. RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) can offer a solution here. By tagging the crates, they can be registered at different moments in the batch, during the dispatch process as well as the return process. After carrying out a successful field test with clients from various sectors, TNT Innight will start with a large client from the agricultural sector in 2011. One year later TNT Innight introduced RFID to a company in the banking sector.

From the start of the RFID initiatives in 2007, TNT Innight has focused on the advantages in the chain, starting at the loader. As soon as there is a positive business case there, this may also apply to TNT Innight and to the parties that follow further along the chain. There is a clear business case for a client starting with RFID, for fewer hours used manually scanning, less hours for administrative handling and less re-investment in new dispatch crates because of a more effective total management process. The use of RFID technology ensures information is available more quickly and more reliably. The short payback period makes RFID the right choice for innovation. The business case for TNT Innight lies in being able to offer an RFID infrastructure with various collection points in the logistic chain. TNT Innight can offer this generically to clients with different RFID solutions, which means it is an extra service for TNT Innight.

RFID makes the management process of the dispatch crates even more efficient and reliable.



FREE SCAN

Formulating packaging requirements is not an easy task. But CurTec can assist you. Let us review your supply chain! We can perform a **Packaging Scan** which results in a **FREE** guideline that helps you to select the optimal packaging solution.

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