

DACHSER ACHIEVES WAREHOUSE EFFICIENCY WITH HONEYWELL CK65

Case Study

**FLORIAN EHRENFELD,
DACHSER WMS
DEVELOPMENT
TEAM LEADER:**

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Honeywell



BACKGROUND

Dachser is a logistics service provider based in Germany with over 31,800 employees worldwide. Dachser required an Android-based solution to quickly deploy their proprietary app that optimizes their warehouse management system to enable workers to perform more efficient workflows. They partnered with Honeywell and Norlan to successfully deploy the CK65 mobile computer to optimize their scan-picking workflows.

THE CHALLENGE

Previously, Dachser used various hardware and software solutions for their picking operations, all of which had to be meticulously maintained. Additionally, Dachser staff were required to undergo intensive training requirements to be proficient with all the solutions, resulting in extended training times.

In 2019, Dachser IT specialists developed the versatile Mobile Work App, which made the functions of WMS Mikado – also developed by Dachser – available to be loaded onto Android devices. Mobile Work App helped to better manage warehouse operations and make better use of their employees' time.

With 175 warehouse locations and more than 2.5 million pallet bays, Dachser planned to deploy Mobile Work App on a single mobile computing solution that would be able to be rapidly distributed among and adopted by 5,200 employees.

SOLUTION

For Dachser to leverage the full capabilities of Mobile Work App, they required a powerful mobile computing device that could be configured quickly and deployed rapidly among their workforce. Throughout their search, Dachser employees tested multiple devices to see which of them would be the best solution for their workflows. Ultimately, Dachser decided on Honeywell's CK65 mobile computer, an Android-based device that features reserve capacity for graphic applications. Dachser worked with Norlan, a long-standing Honeywell partner based in Neukirchen-Vluyn, Germany, to acquire their new fleet of mobile computers. The Honeywell solution offered Dachser an innovative, Android-based graphic user interface with new possibilities, which were previously unavailable with their Windows solutions, Dachser WMS Development Team Leader Florian Ehrenfeld said.



CK65 Product Image

"Employees are able to select the language on the mobile computer, adjust the font size, and have the article images and notes on the hazardous goods pictograms to be applied displayed when picking," Ehrenfeld said.

The CK65 mobile computer offers a large touchscreen display that can be easily operated by a worker wearing gloves, which was common for Dachser's warehouse workers.

Because the CK65's keyboard and function key layout was like Dachser's former device's layout, employees were able to adjust quickly to the new device.

Additionally, Dachser could continue to use their existing charging stations to charge the devices' batteries.

The mobile computer's powerful scan engine was important for Dachser's day-to-day operations. Dachser chose the optional FlexRange® Scanner, which permits a scanning range of 10 cm up to 10 m, allowing staff to scan comfortably from forklifts without having to dismount, saving Dachser employees' time with each vehicle-mounted scan.

Another advantage of the Honeywell device is its ruggedized design, allowing it to survive tumbles and drops from a height of up to 3 m, increasing its lifespan and minimizing Dachser's total cost of ownership.

In addition, Dachser uses the CK65 mobile computer's photo function for creating product photos, which the picker can have displayed during picking. The photo function enables workers to differentiate between similar products during picking, which lowers Dachser's pick-error rate, especially for new employees.

Product photos can be created on the warehouse floor by the pickers and other warehouse staff, which can then be saved in the respective item's data record.

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WHAT'S NEXT

Dachser reported to be very satisfied with the way the project was executed.

"Switching to Android and implementing our own app to use the CK65 went very well after a successful test and pilot phase," Ehrenfeld said.

"The roll-out of the mobile computers and the app to all warehouse locations will take a couple of months, and Dachser already has further plans."

"With Honeywell as an innovative and reliable partner, we will continue to investigate new possibilities for improving the work of our staff in the warehouses," Ehrenfeld said.

Dachser plans to test their new Honeywell mobile computing solution without a keyboard, giving users an experience like their own personal mobile devices to help improve the overall ergonomics of the solution.



Florian Ehrenfeld, Dachser WMS Development Team Leader



QUICK FACTS

Honeywell Solution

- Customer: Dachser
- Location: Kempten, Germany
- Industry: Supply chain and warehousing
- Website: www.dachser.com/en/

Customer Results

- The Honeywell CK65 mobile computer could be configured to host Dachser's proprietary Mobile Work App and deployed rapidly into workforce.

About Dachser

- Dachser generated consolidated net revenues of around €7.1 billion in 2021 with a workforce of around 31,800 employees in 376 locations all over the world.
- The logistics service provider transported a total of 83,6 million consignments weighing 42.8 tons. Dachser is represented in 42 countries through its own local companies.
- More information is available at www.dachser.com.



For more information

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