VIKING SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS™

A Division of Phoenix Software International®

Systems for data capture and document management

"VDE® IS THE NEXT BEST THING TO SLICED BREAD"

A STORY ABOUT LEWIS BAKERIES

The Problem

Lewis Bakeries, a regional company, was using an HP 3000 MPE system. HP discontinued support for this system and the bakery needed to find new hardware and software. The hardware they chose was HP's Itanium. Mr. Dan Coyle of Lewis Bakeries headed up the project. After choosing the hardware and operating system, his next responsibility was to investigate and select the software the bakery would need to move its processing to the new HP system.

The Solution

When it came to their payroll, inventory, orders, and other applications requiring data entry, they wanted a double-key entry software product that performed in a similar manner to their older DE3000 product. Accuracy was important, and the feature-rich Viking Data Entry (VDE) system from Viking provided the depth the bakery needed.

The Installation

Dan planned to run VDE under the HP-UX operating system to perform in their HP environment. Operators would access VDE with terminal emulation software on their PCs. When the Itanium box was installed, Larry Castell of Viking's support team, explained how VDE for Windows® could be installed on the Itanium system and run directly on Windows workstations, making it easier for the operators to enter the necessary data without the need for terminal emulation and the problems that go along with it.

Larry suggested that the bakery set up the Itanium system as a server in their PC Network. This process involved using an open source, third-party software product called SAMBA. VDE for Windows resides on the Itanium server and is available to operators at their workstations.

The Implementation

Dan spent a couple of days learning the VDE development facility. It was different than what he was accustomed to, but when he completed the tutorial and started on his own jobs he picked up on the process easily. In fact, he reported that over the course of a weekend, he completed the conversion of all of his 80 jobs to VDE. He was impressed with the fact that the software was installed and conversion completed in under a week.

In Conclusion

Now that they have been using the product for a while, Dan continues to be impressed with VDE. In his opinion, "VDE is the next best thing to sliced bread—and coming from a bakery that is a pretty high compliment."