CASE STUDY: MANUFACTURING
Label Replication Ensures Parts Traceability

CHALLENGE

Coridian worked closely with this major Twin Cities medical device manufacturer of respiratory ventilators to improve their inventory management process. In the company's preassembly area, they sort many different parts that are received from subcontractors. They might get one part in a box or as many as 100 small parts in a box. Each box came with a master label, but the individual parts were not labeled. Staff were manually writing inventory information on sheets of paper, and then manually entered the data from these forms to reconcile everything. The manufacturer wanted to enhance record keeping and quality control through a controlled means of tracking inventory and tracing where every component came from.

SOLUTION

Coridian provided the medical device manufacturer with a fully portable "scan and reprint" solution, which involved on-the-fly part label and lot label replication for updating assembly parts and bins in their manufacturing facility. Coridian's custom program gives a mobile terminal the ability to interpret the master label and reproduce the information so they can print and apply a new label on every component they receive. The company needed a label that was compact enough to apply to the small parts but big enough for a barcode and a verbal description of the part. The label also had to have a removable adhesive as some labels need to be taken off during the manufacturing process. Coridian helped the manufacturer develop a custom label to meet these needs.

As the parts go into production, they scan each part as it moves down the line. This not only helps track every component in inventory but also creates a build manifest for every ventilator as it travels through production.

BENEFIT

With their new system, the medical device manufacturer has the ability to track and trace each part, which is important for FDA compliance and quality control. They now know the history and origin of each component of every ventilator, documented and traceable at any time. In addition, the company's inventory management changes improved their on-time delivery to 98%.

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