

ROI SHOWCASE

Checkmate International



PointBase Case Study

Checkmate International
Oxford, England

Checkmate International is one of the world's largest providers of independent consulting, certification and inspection services to the food industry.

Business Process Challenge

Driven by today's growing concerns over the safety of consumables, Checkmate offers a range of services and technologies to ensure that hotel, leisure and food service operators remain compliant with food, premises and health safety regulations. A key offering is a sophisticated audit capture system that helps mobile workers collect vital data needed to ensure that food facilities are standards-compliant. The system stores that information for regular synchronization with central databases.

Originally, this application relied on a proprietary data storage structure written to run on Psion® computing devices. It

became difficult, however, to integrate with corporate back-end databases and was prone to data corruption. Checkmate's priority was to improve the efficiency and usability of its audit capture system.

"A robust local database was needed to increase our auditors' confidence in mobile technologies and allow a greater proportion of audits to be captured electronically," said Jon Ley, Development Manager at Checkmate. For faster and more accurate job performance, inspectors also required a high-performance mobile data management system that synchronized easily with corporate databases.

The Solution

To address these issues, the company switched to PointBase Micro, an embedded database that has the portability of Java to reduce the firm's dependence on Psion technology. Optimized for mobile environments, PointBase Micro gives Checkmate stable data collection

support and rapid turnaround on inspection reports.

The company has also found that it is much easier to support the application on a day-to-day basis, thanks to PointBase Micro's SQL compliance. "In our business, a reliable, flexible data collection system is of paramount importance. PointBase Micro gave us all the features we needed in an extraordinarily small footprint," Ley said.

The Benefits

"We have seen dramatic improvements in our responsiveness and reporting to clients since making the switch to PointBase," Ley concluded. These include:

- Consistent flow of information to and from field personnel
- Data collection and processing times reduced from 8-10 days to as little as 2 days, for better customer service
- Well presented, consistent reports in a unified format
- Reduced administrative costs due to electronic reporting
- More productive mobile workforce focused on information gathering.

PointBase®

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