



CASE STUDY

The Swedish National Post secures and improves connectivity of its tracking system with Columbitech's mobile VPN

The Swedish National Post has selected Columbitech Mobile VPN as its security platform for wireless access and has deployed the solution on more than 2500 mobile computers that are used to track and trace packages and pallets.

THE CHALLENGE

The Swedish Post delivers to more than 900,000 companies every day and the collection of data plays an important role in this process. The Swedish Post's old mobile computing system did not provide real-time communication with the track and trace system and the DOS platform limited the development of new applications.

"The ability to track and trace data in real-time is crucial for our business and we needed to modernize our systems to meet our customers' demands on real-time information," explains Sören Jakobsson from the Swedish Post IT group, who has been responsible for the implementation of the new system.

THE SOLUTION

Online track and trace system

In 2006 the Swedish Post upgraded their old batch-based mobile computing system to an online Windows Mobile 2003 mobile computer from Intermec, the 761 series, with an integrated mobile VPN client from Columbitech.

With the new system every package is scanned at both pick up and delivery. The customer signs a receipt directly on the computer screen when receiving the package. The collected data is immediately sent via GPRS from the mobile computer to the track and trace system. Soon thereafter the information is searchable on www.posten.se.

"The new online mobile computing system has considerably increased our productivity and it provides our customers with up to date information about the delivery status of every package, says Sören Jakobsson. "The new system communicates with the track and trace system in real-time, whereas it in the past could take a whole day."

The new system also allows the dispatcher to send pick-up assignments directly to the driver's mobile computer, which saves time and reduces the paperwork.

OVERVIEW

The Swedish Post has replaced its old batch-based mobile computing system with an online Windows based mobile computer.

Columbitech Mobile VPN has been deployed on more than 2500 mobile computers and provides a secure connection to the Swedish Post central track and trace system and other corporate applications. Columbitech's VPN solution also provides seamless roaming between networks and if the mobile computer goes into hibernation mode.

The mobile VPN is integrated with the track and trace application using Columbitech Application SDK and therefore completely transparent to the user. The solution is scalable and can easily be deployed to secure other wireless devices, networks and applications in the future.

Mobile VPN enables mobility

The Swedish Post requested that the mobile computing solution should offer the same level of security as its wired network. This was to ensure that the platform would support any future mobile applications with strict security requirements.

Columbitech Mobile VPN provides secure wireless access to corporate networks and systems for all applications running on the Swedish Post Windows-based mobile platform. The track and trace system is the first system that has been deployed on the Swedish Post new mobile platform using mobile VPN.



Sören Jakobsson from the Swedish Post IT Group has lead the implementation of the new system.

COLUMBITECH

CASE STUDY: SWEDISH POST

“Columbitech’s mobile VPN offers the required security level without compromising performance or usability. It enables future development of new applications with high security requirements on our existing platform,” says Sören Jakobsson.

Scalable for the future

Columbitech’s mobile VPN client offers scalability and can easily be deployed on other wireless clients used by the Swedish Post. Columbitech Mobile VPN supports a broad range of operating systems such as DOS, Windows CE, Windows Mobile 5.0 and 6.0, Windows XP and Windows Vista.

Session persistence for seamless connectivity

Connectivity is mission-critical for the Swedish Post new online based system and Columbitech’s mobile VPN handles switching between batch and WLAN at the terminal and to GPRS on the road. It automatically logs back on to the network if the signal disappears or if the mobile computer goes into sleep mode. The suspended session is recovered and any data transactions are immediately resumed.

“Seamless connectivity and roaming between different networks were key factors for this project to be successful,” explains Sören Jakobsson. “Columbitech’s mobile VPN is easy to use and makes the connection to different networks seamless. The user only logs on once and the mobile VPN handles the connection to different networks in the background.”

The Columbitech Mobile VPN also provides a seamless user experience in areas with only GPRS coverage. It recovers the data session when the user moves in and out of coverage and activates the device after hibernation mode.



Christer Nordling who works at one of the Swedish Post terminals in Stockholm means that the new mobile computing system is easy to use. It makes the driver's job efficient and customers get better service.

Integration with the track and trace application

Additionally, the Swedish Post used the Columbitech Application SDK to integrate the mobile VPN functionality with the track and trace application. This made the mobile VPN application transparent to the user and the deployment more efficient.



COLUMBITECH

ABOUT COLUMBITECH

Columbitech, a leading mobile VPN security software provider, offers end-to-end security, convenient always-on connectivity, and optimized performance for any mobile device and wireless network. With a strong footprint in the retail and the service provider industry, key customers include three of top ten US retailers and several major European service providers. The embedded solution is OEM licensed by leading companies, including Motorola, Toshiba TEC, Hewlett Packard and Ericsson. Columbitech solution holds a FIPS 140-2 certification. The company is privately held with offices in Stockholm, Sweden, and New York, USA.

CONTACT DETAILS COLUMBITECH INC.

11 Penn Plaza, 5th floor Phone: +1 (212) 946-4820
New York, NY 10001, USA E-mail: info@columbitech.com

Please visit www.columbitech.com for more information.