CATERPILLAR UNDERGROUND MINING MOBILIZES ITS ENTERPRISE TO TRACK ACCURATE, REAL-TIME INVENTORY

The Challenge

Leading the industry in underground mining leaves little room for error. When you have state-of-the-art mining equipment, your warehouse has to keep pace.

Caterpillar Underground Mining needed to enhance inventory tracking throughout its warehouses while improving data accuracy. The company soon discovered it had to dig further than it was willing to go with its enterprise software system.

To enable its employees with real-time information, Caterpillar Underground Mining needed to mobilize its inventory processes. They turned to DSI to become a complete mobile enterprise.

Caterpillar Underground Mining selected DSI to automate the tracking and distribution of all items through its spare parts warehouse.

To do so, the company implemented DSI’s mobile applications for:

› Receipt Routing
› Inventory Transfer
› Inventory Issues
› Barcoding

In addition, DSI helped Caterpillar Underground Mining mobilize its stock counting process through the use of DSI’s mobile platform.

Mobilizing the Workforce

With real-time data at their fingertips at all times, employees are now more productive as they move through the warehouse and complete work in an orderly fashion. Locations, part numbers, lot numbers, and quantities for each cycle count are entered, captured, and validated instantaneously.
Caterpillar Underground Mining is reaping the benefits of accurate, real-time inventory information.

“Accurate tracking of components is reducing losses and maintaining inventory levels so that customer requirements can quickly be met,” said Darren Batt, Supply Manager. “At the same time, the company is not carrying an excess of costly parts.”

Batt says that since turning to DSI, Caterpillar Underground Mining has reduced the time required for regular cycle counts by 50% as fewer adjustments are now required.

The significant and measurable benefits of leveraging a mobile platform in the spare parts warehouse have made Caterpillar Underground Mining enthusiastic about additional uses of DSI. “We are now preparing to expand our use of DSI by introducing remote RF label printing for manufacturing distribution and monitoring tool store asset tracking,” said Batt.

About Caterpillar Underground Mining

Based in Burnie, Tasmania, Caterpillar Underground Mining is a subsidiary of Caterpillar Australia Pty Ltd and has been operating since 1975. Caterpillar Underground Mining manufactures heavy-duty equipment for the mining industry and has become a world leader in the development and manufacturing of underground mining equipment through its commitment to understanding and meeting company needs.

Caterpillar Mining
Case Study

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Darren Batt
Supply Manager
Caterpillar Underground Mining