



Customer Success Story

Schweppes

Schweppes Saves Time and Money with Descartes' Route Planning Solution

Schweppes Belgium, an international soft drink producer, organizes its distribution network with Descartes' route planning solution.

Before Schweppes switched to Descartes, they organized their distribution manually. This was both time consuming and very inefficient.

"We needed a more professional and automated solution. We lost a lot of time and money as a result of manual planning," says Bernard Baugniet, Traffic & Warehouse Manager at Schweppes Belgium.

Schweppes put out a request for proposal and selected Descartes.

"Descartes offered the best quality versus price relationship. Descartes' route planning solution is flexible and user friendly. By integrating all parameters of our clients' preferences such as opening hours, waiting time and loading and unloading times into the solution, we quickly became efficient and timely in our daily deliveries," explains Bernard Baugniet.



Descartes route planning solution offers many advantages, including a saving of time and money.



Bernard Baugniet,
Traffic & Warehouse Manager at Schweppes Belgium

An Organization Up & Running

With a seasonal peak in the summer months, Schweppes consistently commits to deliver within 48 hours, on the basis of orders received by fax, e-mail, EDI (Electronic Data Interchange) or phone. As soon as an order is put into the system, data is imported into the Descartes solution, which then computes and calculates planning and delivery needs for the day.

The solution provides route sheets per vehicle and sends data back to the system for approval. The shipping tickets are printed, and the agenda for loading and delivery is issued. Although Schweppes guarantees 48 hours delivery, reality is that delivery time frames are much shorter and vehicles are overloaded, so the dispatcher can evaluate the problems accurately and solve them quickly.

Better Service Delivery

Descartes' solution leverages advanced planning and optimization technologies and was designed to be an interactive tool for route planners. The solution can calculate your daily planning, improve service delivery as well as examine the cost effectiveness of your transportation strategy, helping to understand and control company transportation costs.

"Descartes' route planning solution offers many advantages, including a saving of time and money. In addition, the distribution planning is much more accurate, reducing the number of vehicles needed to complete delivery, which provides a financial savings. In addition, we do not have to deal with surprises concerning delivery; if the solutions determines that 20 routes are necessary, it is correct and everything goes as planned," says Bernard Bagniet.

"We rarely have to manually intervene with the planning, only for specific requests," continued Bagniet. Schweppes has been a reference for several clients wanting to see the solution working – "Would we change something in the solution? No. I don't see how we could make it any better," concludes Bernard Bagniet.