

CHARON-VAX Application Report



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Suppliers of Software & Systems Integration:

- CRISP Automation
Raleigh, NC
- Salem Automation, Inc.
Winston-Salem, NC

Swift Denim Systems Manager:

- Don Miller

Original Hardware Utilized:

- PDP 11/84 with 5 disks

Software Utilized:

- CHARON-11 11/84
emulation

New Hardware:

- Dual 2.4 GHZ Server
with RAID 5 configura-
tion .

Installation complete:

- March 2003,
Columbus, GA

20 Year Old PDP System *Swiftly* Moved to CHARON 11 Unmodified!

The Swift Denim facility in Columbus, GA has received solid service from their PDP-11 computer system, which supervises a Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) for directing movement of materials throughout the facility.

This system not only interfaces downward to a plant floor PLC but also interfaces upward to the IBM mainframe system to provide material location and work-in-process information as it changes. The PDP system has been in place and worked smoothly for years.

Although the PDP software worked fine for the tasks it was designed, plant IT staff members began to worry about finding PDP spare parts, PDP hardware maintenance knowledge attrition and the risk of extensive down-

time due to hardware failure.

After some investigation, Swift Denim's IT group contacted CRISP Automation with integration partner Salem Automation as their CHARON-11 emulation solution provider.



The Solution to the Challenge

Salem Automation has had major success at replacing PDP systems in other corporations. Salem Automation investigated Swift Denim's PDP system and specified a CHARON 11 software license, support services, software maintenance and the Microsoft Windows 2000 PC platform.

Once the contract for the services, software and software maintenance was issued, Salem Automation received the PDP backups, set-

up the CHARON 11 system and performed the data migration at Salem's Winston-Salem, NC headquarters.

Two members of Salem Automation's CHARON VAX support staff Greg Snider & Jean Brunache provided Swift Denim with a Factory Acceptance Test and training on the CHARON 11 system at the Salem Automation facility.

Project Outcome

Once onsite at Swift Denim, "...we had our PDP up and running on CHARON-11 software in only 4 hours. The use of a configuration file makes it easy to setup TT ports and to select different boot devices. We no longer have to worry about the outdated hardware and boot times are tremendously faster." stated a Swift Denim staff member.

The CHARON 11 product runs 2 to 5 times faster than the previous PDP computer and eliminates the old hardware risk and cost. Also, additional disk drive container files can be created as additional disk storage is required at no additional cost to the Swift Denim.

Swift Denim is now investigating using the CHARON 11 features to send data from the emulated PDP environment to the Microsoft Windows environment and also moving their existing VAX systems to CHARON VAX.



To contact the suppliers/integrators of this project, contact:

*Ken Wild
Crisp Automation
8601 Six Forks Road
Suite 400
Raleigh, NC 27615
410-255-2334
kenwild@mindspring.com*



Salem Automation Inc.

Company Profile:

Incorporated in 1992. Offices in Winston-Salem NC, Charlotte, NC , & San Juan, Puerto Rico

Company Mission:

To provide high quality automation solutions and cost-effective engineering services to manufacturing companies via Win-Win business relationships.



4500 Indiana Avenue
Suite 40
Winston-Salem, NC 27106

Mobile: 704-214-3351
Fax: 336-661-9575
Email: cwgraham@salemautomation.com

We, re on the Web!
www.SalemAutomation.com
www.winvms.com

Staff:

Engineers with varying backgrounds including Chemical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Instrument Engineering and Computer Science. Most all of our staff members have over 15 years experience. Staff experience is extensive in the areas of distributed process control systems, programmable controller based systems and computer based process control. Industry experience in Textile, Food, Tobacco, Chemical (Batch and Continuous), Metals, Utilities, Furniture, Tire and Pharmaceutical.

