

Calendar 2001

February 11-14

MAXCON International

San Mateo Marriot, San Mateo, California, USA. Kewill ERP's user conference for executives, managers and systems administrators. To register, call +1 650 345 6000 or visit www.kewill.com

February 19-20

eLink 2001

International Congress Centre, Berlin, Germany. B2B e-business conference on procurement, IT, marketing and finance. For information, visit www.commerceone.com and www.elinkconference.com

February 20-22

Smart Card 2001

Excel Exhibition & Conference Centre, London, UK. A conference and exhibition on new products and solutions for the Advanced Card community. Organized by Turret RAI. Tel: +44 1895 454 545.

March 6-7

Supply Chain Decisions

Business Design Centre, London, UK. Conference and exhibition on supply chain collaboration and B2B e-commerce. Organized by Business Intelligence. Tel: +44 20 8879 3300.

March 6-9

IMHX 2001

NEC, Birmingham, UK. The International Material Handling Exhibition is backed by the British Industrial Truck Association. Organized by Turret RAI. For details, call +44 1895 454 542 or visit www.imhx2001.co.uk

March 7-8

Credit 2001

Olympia, London, UK. The focus of the National Credit Week covers issues on slow payment, legislation, credit options and bad debts. Contact Ruth Joiner, Advanstar Comms. at +44 20 8987 0945, www.credit-events.com

March 13-15

Global Retail Technology Forum

Hotel Okura, Amsterdam, the Netherlands. An event on retail information systems for old and new economies. For details, contact RMDP Events at +44 1273 722 687 or visit www.rmdp.co.uk

March 22-28

CeBIT 2001

Hannover Messe, Hannover, Germany. One of the world's largest exhibitions of IT and telecommunications. Organized by Deutsche Messe. Call +49 511 89 3 31 11 or visit www.cebit.de

March 28-29

Softworld Supply Chain 2001

Hall 19, NEC, Birmingham, UK. Features software and e-business companies that specialize in supply chain management. Call +44 7000 763 896 or visit www.softworld.co.uk

April 3-5

m-business Expo 2001 (Mobile Business Solutions)

NEC, Birmingham, UK. Exhibition aimed at large-scale users of mobile solutions. Organized by Reed Exhibition Companies. Visit www.mbusiness.co.uk

April 5-6

SMAID 2001

Universität Dortmund, Germany. A conference on the development and application of automatic identification technologies in the enterprise. Call +49 231 75 60 76 or e-mail sekretariat@smaid.de for information.

April 26-27

IT Application Integration for e-Business

Crowne Plaza, London, UK. A technical forum for IT developers, featuring best practice case studies. For information call +44 207 368 9300 or e-mail ITApplication@iqpc.co.uk

Germany hosts ADC forum

SMAID 2001 looks at new developments in automatic data capture

By **Dr Martin Wölker**

It's cheaper to move data than to move goods. But, is every logistics manager aware of this simple truth? Information about the real world has to be captured automatically and communicated throughout all systems of a company. ERP (enterprise resource planning) systems and supply chain software are powerful tools that are driven by real-time data exchange.

These are some of the issues that will be covered at the 6th SMAID meeting on automatic data capture (ADC) that takes place in Dortmund, Germany, on 5-6 April (see box). The meeting also aims to address the following questions:

- How do you support enterprise strategies and software systems?
- What are the recent developments and applications of ADC?
- Where are the established standard technologies?
- What can you gain by implementing these high-tech applications?

The experienced chairmen will guide the audience through the maze of techniques and standards, and visitors will be able to find an appropriate solution for their current logistics challenges.

Meet and learn

Those who do attend will experience the technology at first hand — this year, visitor access to the meeting will be supported by an RFID system provided by AmaTech (Pfronten, Germany).

SMAID 2001 offers more than the chance to get up to date with the newest techniques and trends. During the conference there is time to share experiences with users, manufacturers and integrators of ADC technologies.

The evening meeting takes place in the DASA, the German industrial safety exhibition. All participants will have the opportunity to discuss the events of the day in the context of a buffet and a glass of wine. As a special bonus, the DASA will give a guided tour



"SMAID 2001 offers the chance to share experiences with users, manufacturers and integrators of ADC technologies," says Martin Wölker of CogniD Consulting.



through the exposition.

More than 150 users from around Europe will be present at SMAID 2001. The meeting addresses business and project managers from the areas of logistics management, logistics planning and techniques, supply chain management and stock control.

IT managers within the areas of ERP and e-business/e-commerce will learn

how to improve information flow down to the shop floor.

The meeting will also be of interest to CEOs and area managers, who want to use the strategic benefits of ADC for business planning and organizational development.

For more information, visit the SMAID website at www.smaid.de

Dr Martin Wölker is a consultant with CogniD Consulting, Dortmund, Germany, one of the sponsoring companies of SMAID.

SMAID 2001

April 5-6, Dortmund, Germany

Conference sessions include:

E-commerce starts in your warehouse

Professor Michael ten Hompel, Fraunhofer Institute for Material Flow and Logistics

B2B: from EDIFACT to XML

Dipl. Betrv. Heide Nölke, Centrale for Coorganisation GmbH

Product protection: for safe e-logistics

Dr. Ing. Klaus Krämer, Federal Printer GmbH

What risks can be avoided with biometrics?

Prof. Dr. Ing. Werner von Seelen, Institute for Neuro Computer Science

Modern picking: pick-to-light to pick-by-voice

Jose da Silva, ICS International AG

Please note:

The conference will be conducted in German.

Peak closes UK distributor

Peak Technologies Europe (Ascot, UK) is to close its trade-only distribution division of automatic data capture products in the UK, Accuscan International (Chippenham UK).

Peak has reached an agreement with ABC (Hull, UK) that ABC will extend its coverage to pick up and continue the strong relationships Accuscan has had with its customers. ABC will be able to support those customers with a continuation of the full range of products and services previously available from Accuscan.

Adrian Thomas, Peak's chief operating officer explained the move: "This is very clearly a strategic decision for us as a Group. The automatic data cap-

ture capture industry is maturing quickly and Peak's key strategic aim is to be a significant player in the market, but as a systems integrator, concentrating on supply chain solutions throughout Europe.

"This was not an easy decision for us, but ABC's focus is clearly on distribution and it was our conclusion that their plans to develop their business further would benefit Accuscan customers in ways that Accuscan, if it were to continue, could not."

Peak confirms that this will only affect its UK operations. Its Accuscan divisions in France and the Benelux countries will continue to distribute Peak's products.

www.peakurope.com

At your service

Supply chain management (SCM) systems provider Vertex Interactive has launched a new specialist service business unit focussing on support and maintenance for its existing SCM systems and for those of other customers.

The new unit, Vertex Support and Maintenance (VSM) will enable the company to provide technical support to OEMs and their customers throughout Europe.

VSM has been created by Vertex Interactive's acquisition of SIS (Societa Italiana Servizi Italservice) in June 2000, and the European maintenance arm of Genicom International, acquired in November 2000.

Stefano Guiducci, who will be directing VSM's activities, says: "Our range of support options offer extremely good flexibility to customers... while at the same time ensuring everyone benefits from the corporate culture of rapid response times and high-level quality."

www.vertexinteractive.co.uk

Correction

In the November 2000 issue, we ran a story on Lyson inks and Alpha Dot Midjet printers. We wish to point out that the Alpha Dot brand is not owned by Lyson, and to apologize for any confusion that this may have caused our readers.

www.alphadot.co.uk

Tesco brings suppliers online

Tesco, one of the UK's largest retailers, has adopted Kewill System's (Leatherhead, UK) Internet-based supply chain trading solution, Kewill.Trade, to manage its supply chain.

With 830 stores globally, Tesco currently exchanges product orders and invoices electronically with its 1500 centralized suppliers that are electronic data interchange (EDI)-enabled. Kewill.Trade will be used to bring online the remaining 500 suppliers that are not EDI-enabled.

The implementation of Kewill.Trade is expected to automate many manual processes, thereby improving efficiency, and providing additional control and visibility to Tesco's supply chain.

John Mooney, project manager at Tesco, said: "We will not only be able bring efficiencies to the supply chain, both for ourselves and our suppliers, but we will be able to react quickly to consumer demand and bring exciting products to market more quickly."

The system will be hosted by Kewill, and Tesco's suppliers will log onto and register with Kewill.Net in order to begin interacting with Tesco electronically.

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