High-value asset tracking: visibility for cash machines transportation

Solution

Hardware and connectivity

Pod Group set on a task to find a sustainable solution for large-size and precious cargo tracking. At the same time, the solution needed to be easy to maintain, secure against hackers, and be able to withstand any weather conditions.

To collect the necessary data and track the high-value assets, the client was offered devices by SODAQ. They were chosen for the project because of their technical capabilities:

- They can be used on parcels to detect opening or tampering.
- The devices are extremely low power and ensure long battery life.
- A solar-powered device has a lifespan of over 5 years without maintenance or charging.
- The device can charge the battery even in overcast conditions by harvesting white light.
- The device is sturdy enough with an IP67 casing to support industrial applications.

All these features were ideal for tracking wooden boxes shipped across the globe. The service provider also ensured the availability of LTE-M connectivity during the journey and used one of their SIM cards to enable secure and continuous data transmission.

Software

The data from the devices is sent to easy-to-use dashboards.

- The devices' location is shown on a detailed map. Dispatchers can zoom in to see the exact street or storage facilities while the device is in transit or being transported.
- Additional data such as tilt and temperature is also provided.
- The ability to change the devices' settings via the software is available. Thanks to this feature, Pod Group set the best configuration to receive the containers' position as often as the client needed.
- The entire route is displayed so that the client could both anticipate problems and improve future logistics.
- Parcel opening features and accelerometer changes are used to highlight when the wooden box had been opened by the client and in which direction the goods were transported.

The client places the screen with the real-time information on the parcel next to the software they use for their logistics operations. This helps the operator have a better picture of the entire journey and have more control over the high-value asset tracking process.

The next steps of the project are to integrate the data readings into SAP. The client now considers implementing the solution across their fleet for time-sensitive shipments.

Support

Pod Group offered detailed 24/7 support and conducted detailed training sessions for G+D employees. Moreover, they provided a specialist in network connectivity to help configure the devices as well as manage the connectivity.

Results

The information about handling products during transportation, storage, and transit, with estimated arrival time gave the client data points that they previously had no visibility on. Thanks to the solution for high-value asset tracking, the client got a full overview of their cash machines logistics and transportation in real-time.

-90% chances of cargo stolen

The client estimated the lowered risks of having their banknote processing systems stolen. If an issue arises, an operator is able to immediately take action to protect the cargo or contact the carrier to find a reason for re-routing.

Delivery conditions honored

The solution ensures that the devices travel without unnecessary tilts or poor handling, which could result in malfunction of expensive banknote machines.

Money loss risks addressed

The company significantly lowered the possibility of the cargo taking the wrong route, being handled badly, or deviating from the travel plan, which also provided additional confidence in terms of client satisfaction.

Company profile

IoT project of the year nomination: Long-haul shipping

Country: Germany

Industry: Long-haul transportation

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