



Smart, Connected Hobart HLX Service Scale Helps Grocery Stores Improve Productivity



Situation:

Hobart wanted to redesign its HLX service scale with a larger touch-screen display, up-to-date networking options and other new enhancements that would improve foodservice staff productivity, reduce cost of ownership and help retailers address the problem of inventory shrinkage by tracking product shelf life.

Challenge:

To save development time and speed time to market, Hobart developers needed an operating system capable of supporting future platform expansion such as attaching external devices or adding new applications.



“With the Hobart HLX Service Scale, we are able to easily track the shelf life of our products and manage shrink.”

> Jack Gridley, meat and seafood director,
Dorothy Lane Market

Solution:

Objective:

- Select an operating system that accelerated time to market for Hobart and ensured Hobart HLX service scales could accommodate future customer hardware and software requirements.

Actions Taken:

- Hobart selected Windows® XP Embedded for the Hobart HLX scale to meet customer and sales demand for a PC scale.
- Hobart considered using other operating systems; however, Windows has the appropriate technology for current needs and provides leading-edge future technologies.

Hobart Products Involved:

- Hobart’s HLX service scale provides food retail management with a new level of control. The HLX seamlessly integrates with Microsoft Windows components for enhanced ease of use, increased productivity and real-time connection to headquarters operations. Hobart engineered the HLX with a Windows XP Embedded operating system in order to provide easy access to a wide range of programs with increased portability.





“Food retailers want to protect their investment and expect their scales to be upgradable. Windows XP Embedded enables Hobart to meet our customers’ current and future expectation for new capabilities and expandability. This allows Hobart to concentrate on adding value to the scale products with customer desired features and technologies.”

> Tim Peters, Product line manager
Hobart

Results:

- **Reduce inventory shrinkage:** The Hobart HLX reduces inventory shrinkage with exclusive shelf-life management capabilities. It logs the expiration date and provides a list of upcoming out-of-date items, such as deli meat, enabling instant price adjustments based on sales volume. It also provides a unique label that displays large product descriptions and expiration dates, helping the operators track the shelf life of their products quickly and easily.
- **Improved productivity:** Overall productivity is improved with the HLX because managers no longer must be present at each service counter. They can easily access the HLX scale from multiple locations using Internet Explorer, which enables them to make changes to the system on the fly or evaluate operator activities without constant local monitoring.
- **More accuracy:** The scale features automatic database synchronization with other department scales for shorter setups and increased data accuracy.
- **Remote diagnostics:** For service and maintenance, the HLX offers remote diagnostics for fewer and shorter service calls. Through third-party software, HLX scales can even connect to back-office systems for inventory management and other business applications.
- **Enhanced operations:** The Hobart HLX Service Scale provides food retail management with a new level of control. HLX seamlessly integrates with Microsoft Internet Explorer and Windows Media Player, for enhanced ease of use and real-time connections to back-office operations.
- **Easy to use:** The HLX service scale is simple to use because it has a large display that lets users make selections with a touch of the finger or stylus.





Foodservice's #1 supporter. Hobart is the world's premier commercial food equipment and service provider for the foodservice and food retail industries. Hobart manufactures products for refrigeration; warewashing and waste handling; food preparation; baking; cooking; and weighing, wrapping and labeling systems. To learn more about Hobart, visit www.hobartcorp.com.



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