



» HONDA LOGISTICS UK LTD

THE EXPERT FOR JUST-IN-TIME DELIVERIES

Honda Logistics UK (HLUK), established in 1990 and headquartered in South Marston/Swindon (UK), is an affiliate of Honda UK and part of the international Honda Logistics Incorporate (HLI) group.

As a major player in the warehousing and logistics sector for the last 25 years, Honda Logistics' core business is to support Honda of the UK Manufacturing Limited (HUM) as well as the manufacturing plants of Honda Motors worldwide. In addition, Honda Logistics UK provides businesses of any size and from any sector with services covering logistics, warehouse management, training, packaging design and quality assurance.

In early 2018, Honda Logistics UK Ltd. required a replacement for their aging bespoke T&A system and, after extensive research and vendor engagement, appointed ISGUS UK Ltd. to migrate their current platform to the ZEUS® X application.

“One major issue HLUK faced was the fact that we do not operate a standard shift pattern and have well in excess of 200 working time rules,” says Gary Stewart, European Head of IT for HLUK. “Shift patterns in their self are not an issue but when you have so many different rules it is normally enough to scare most other T&A system providers away.”

A key decision criterion in favour of ISGUS was that many of the potential providers usually only offer a turnkey solution with very little room for customisation and future system expansion. Based on past experiences, HLUK was not prepared to opt for a turnkey solution that offers very little scope for change nor to pay a high price for system flexibility and extensibility by integrating endless add-on packages – with no guarantee for successful project implementation in the long term.

The highly modular and customisable ZEUS® X software and hardware solution offered by ISGUS was the perfect answer to their problem. The high-sophisticated, but easy-to-use ZEUS® X system is perfectly suited to accommodate HLUK's current requirements and to realise individual adjustments when and wherever necessary. Gary explains why: “We have seen a noticeable benefit to ZEUS® X with COVID-19 resulting in a high amount of staff being furloughed. Our old system would simply not have coped and would have resulted in hours of manual adjustments, stress and a high possibility of mistakes due to human error.”

Another bonus from HLUK's perspective was that the ZEUS® X system from ISGUS fully supports running on virtual architecture such as VMware or Nutanix SAAS clusters unlike many of its competitors who insist on physical hardware being the preferred platform. This from any IT point of view is a real benefit from software or version upgrades, security and pen testing exercises that HLUK conducts on a regular basis.

The implementation of the project was managed jointly and, as confirmed by HLUK, very straight forward, unlike so many other projects of this magnitude. "Sure there were those odd moments of head scratching, but nothing was too difficult and often solved quickly and accurately with perfect results; often the ISGUS team found and suggested quicker ways of executing our normal day to day routines with automatic scheduling," Gary emphasises.

Installation of the solution was quick, clean and professionally conducted both from the software side and onsite installation of multiple clocking terminals across different locations and complex access control, through to the end user training of staff.

No doubt, the ability to customise the time recording terminals has proven to be an important advantage in decision making. "By customising the clocking terminals according to our needs it was possible to accept our current clocking cards that have multiple RFID chips and with multiple uses programmed for vending machines, forklift systems and much more. No other provider was able to offer this and saved us thousands in the long run," Gary summarises.

Additionally, Honda Logistics put a special focus on the provider's ability to deliver prompt, reliable and comprehensive support services. "Support on our old T&A system was somewhat lacking often taking days for a response then weeks and a cost for any change no mat-

ter how small," Gary says, and continues to assert, "with ZEUS® X, this has now changed with a majority of our requirements included in the annual contract that was also refreshingly priced. Most requests or changes have often been dealt within a day or two, and suits our fast paced environment perfectly.

In general, the whole experience from planning to implementation and finally the aftercare was a pleasurable experience compared to other projects over the years", he concludes.

For Honda Logistics UK, the ability to have such a robust and intuitive platform such as ZEUS® X seamlessly integrated into an infrastructure as complex as HLUK's is a real benefit and refreshing insight of what a cutting-edge T&A platform can really be like.



ISGUS Software Solutions

- ZEUS® X for 1200 employees at 2 sites
- ZEUS® X Workflow
- ZEUS® X Access Control
- ZEUS® X mobile App
- ZEUS® X Roll Call App
- Payroll export to Sage

ISGUS Hardware Solutions

- 12 IT 8200 FP terminals with HID iCLASS reader
- 31 IT 4100 terminals with HID iCLASS reader

