

Computime Case Study: MethShield

Customer:

InnovationRx Pty. Ltd. is a pioneer in electronic solutions for tracking the sales of ingredients used to manufacture the dangerous drug methamphetamine. The company's first release, ProjectSTOP, is used nationwide in pharmacies throughout Australia, and is credited with helping reduce the number of methamphetamine manufacturing sites (known as meth labs) in the state of Queensland by 49% since its implementation just 3 years ago.

Challenge:

Having already achieved success in Australia, InnovationRx set its sights on another country with a growing meth problem: the United States. The Combat Meth Act, passed by U.S. Congress in 2005, requires all pharmacies and other drug retailers to collect information, including a handwritten signature, from individuals attempting to purchase products containing pseudoephedrine, a necessary ingredient in meth production. This information is typically kept in cumbersome handwritten logs, with no ability to share data with other retailers or law enforcement. Under this current system criminals can easily move from pharmacy to pharmacy, purchasing the maximum per-transaction quantity of pseudoephedrine at each stop.

InnovationRx needed a solution that would allow them to transition their product to the U.S. market under the new name 'MethShield'. They needed to maintain compliance with the Combat Meth Act without sacrificing the ease and convenience of their flagship product.

Solution:

InnovationRx considered a number of electronic solutions for integrating handwritten signatures within paperless process. Most of these solutions were impractical or introduced awkward or inefficient workflow into the otherwise streamlined MethShield process. For example, one solution required pharmacists to print documents, have them filled out and signed with ink, and then scan them back into the software system. Another would have required them to hire an expensive software development team.

InnovationRx learned about Topaz Systems® electronic signature capture pads in February 2008 and began working with Computime, an authorized fulfillment partner for Topaz Systems. Immediately recognizing MethShield's potential to effectively change the landscape of pseudoephedrine sales in the U.S., Computime worked quickly and efficiently to provide InnovationRx with a Topaz SignatureGem® LCD 4x5 evaluation unit complete with free bundled software and unlimited support.

After a few days of analysis, InnovationRx concluded that this was the best solution to their challenge, due in part to the following unique benefits of this solution:

- Large, clear, bright LCD for displaying information as required by the Combat Meth Act
- Robust SigPlus software development kit for easy integration
- No ongoing software license fees
- Small footprint on pharmacy countertops
- Desirable price point

Results:

Just 6 months after initial contact and evaluation, a MethShield pilot program was launched among 128 pharmacies in western Kansas. MethShield allows pharmacists to electronically capture all of the information required by the Combat Meth Act, including a handwritten signature. There is no longer a need for paper logs, outside developers, or printing and scanning equipment.

By partnering in the use of Topaz electronic signature technology, supported in the product rollout by Computime, InnovationRx leveraged the benefits of the world's largest eSignature distribution channel, including development assistance, in-depth sales consultations, and ongoing product support.

MethShield enables the real-time tracking of pseudoephedrine purchase data. This information can be shared among networked pharmacies to prevent criminals from bypassing the law to obtain illegal quantities of pseudoephedrine. Law enforcement agencies can monitor this data and use it to identify likely methamphetamine manufacturers, helping to keep the harmful drug off of the streets.

InnovationRx is currently in talks with numerous other Midwestern states that have expressed an interest in implementing MethShield in the near future.

About Topaz Systems:

Topaz Systems is a leading developer and manufacturer of electronic signature software and hardware, and has been based in Simi Valley, California since 1995. Topaz provides all the hardware, software, intellectual property, and expertise to enable paperless document creation, signing, and authentication of electronic forms with digital handwritten signatures. Topaz is the recipient of multiple industry awards including six-time consecutive wins of the Deloitte Technology Fast 50 award for outstanding growth, Deloitte technology Fast 500 honors, INC 500, and INC 5000 recognition.

www.topazsystems.com

About Computime:

Headquartered in St. Louis, MO, Computime has become a trusted source for Topaz Systems electronic signature capture devices by providing appropriate, cost-effective eSignature products for an ever-expanding customer base of Financial Institutions, Government Agencies, Insurance and Healthcare Providers, and the Point of Sale, Point of Delivery, Automotive, and Photo ID/Security industries. For more information on Computime's services and industry-proven reputation for quality service and customer focus, visit www.computimeonline.com.