Sherwin-Williams Case Study

Quality in Color and Innovation

Durability with Longevity

theoverview

Challenge

An industrial keyboard needed to withstand a harsh working environment.

Solution

iKey keyboards are fully sealed, durable, and versatile. Able to handle the abuse from operators

Results

Easy to use for employees and easy to integrate into various applications.



DU-5K

About 10 years ago Sherwin-Williams Chicago facility started working with iKey to provide Sherwin-Williams with three different iKey products. Sherwin-Williams chose the DU-5K, SL-91, and DP-860 because they are able to handle a harsh working environment. The reason for multiple keyboards is that Sherwin-Williams utilizes them in a variety of ways. Ranging from manufacturing work stations, warehouses, integrated consoles, forklifts and shipping applications.

Before they found iKey keyboards their biggest challenge was the non-industrial keyboards they were using and were failing them due to harsh conditions. They needed a waterproof, dustproof, fully sealed, durable input device that they could rely on in their facility.

Sherwin-Williams is a large supply chain with different facilities all over the world. The Chicago site has a lot of architectural, industrial and military applications that require rugged equipment.

Each keyboard is used at a work station during a batch making process. A batch is a recipe for paint and about 30-50 batches a day are processed, packaged, and shipped. During this situation an operator is processing this batch and these operators have heavy hands resulting in abuse of the products with the amount of force being used.

thesolution



For large projects such as this, corporate procurement for Sherwin-Williams chose iKey in their search for rugged equipment. When their initial keyboard systems were integrated into the manufacturing process an iKey keyboard was required.

"The SL-91 is one of our newer keyboards that we are integrating into our forklift and shipping applications," said Rich Davalos of Sherwin-Williams. "So far we've deployed two SL-91 keyboards and the operators really like them. It was simple learning process, user-friendly and no training was involved."



Sherwin-Williams Case Study

theresults



Photo courtesy of Rich Davalos, Sherwin-Williams, Chicago facility

The SL-91 is a mobile keyboard used for remote data entry. It comes with epoxy-coated keys and can withstand frequent use with harsh cleaning chemicals and are arranged with plenty of space for use with gloved hands. This keyboard also features built in mounting holes for convenient set up on forklifts. The SL-91 meets NEMA 4X standards and can also handle the day to day roughness.

Sherwin-Williams Chicago facility started purchasing keyboards in 2005 and have continued to since. They utilize multiple products for a variety of reasons and will continue to purchase iKey keyboards. This was a large project for the Chicago facility and it has been very successful with iKey products.

"We've been using iKey keyboards for about ten years now, we have a variety of products that are reliable and they are a company I'd recommend to anyone in need of rugged equipment," said Rich Davalos. "The DU-5K, SL-91, and DP-860 have all provided great value to our projects, applications, and verticals."

The DU-5K is used in their manufacturing area. This is the work station for operators when they process, package, and ship batches. The industrial silicone rubber seals out the dust and can handle the day to day abuse in a fast paced environment. The DU-5K can be set up in both desktop and mobile applications. It also features an improved Force Sensing Resistor pointing device.

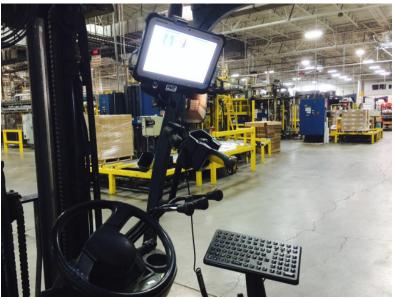


Photo courtesy of Rich Davalos, Sherwin-Williams Chicago facility

About iKey, Ltd.: iKey globally designs and manufactures rugged, sealed keyboards, displays and pointing devices for industrial, public safety, medical and military applications. iKey is known as an innovator of customized industrial keyboards and computer accessories. Solving complex unique mobile and industrial data input needs for 25 years. iKey is the leader in the rugged keyboard industry, used in 88 countries and sold worldwide. For more information, visit www.ikey.com.