

# Del Papa Distributing counts Sage Fixed Assets among its assets



Del Papa Distributing is celebrating 100 years of distributing fine beer and beverages across 17 counties in Texas. The company sells more than 10 million cases each year from three distribution centers employing more than 340 individuals. To ensure its numerous assets are efficiently tracked and accurately accounted for, Del Papa Distributing relies on Sage Fixed Assets software.

## Maximize your investment

Del Papa Distributing has depended on Sage software solutions for years. The company runs Sage 100 ERP (formerly Sage ERP MAS 90) to support its accounting and distribution operations, Sage HRMS to handle its payroll and HR requirements, and Sage Fixed Assets—Depreciation to track its fixed assets. Recently, the company sought to better control its assets through a barcode system and contacted a Sage business partner specializing in the implementation of asset inventory applications.

“We have a large number of assets throughout the company, and tracking them by barcode makes good business sense,” says Crystal Bryan, director of accounting services for Del Papa Distributing. “Barcoding speeds the count of assets, and the simple presence of an asset tag on a piece of equipment lets people know an asset is being tracked. We looked at several other asset tracking systems but selected Sage Fixed Assets—Tracking for its capabilities and also because it integrates with our existing asset accounting software, helping us to maximize our overall investment in technology.”

## A plan of action

The Sage business partner performed a thorough demonstration of how Sage Fixed Assets—Tracking, a companion product to Sage Fixed Assets—Depreciation, could help the company achieve the level of control and accountability it was seeking.

## Challenge

Del Papa Distributing sought an efficient, effective tool to record and track individual assets, ensuring accuracy for insurance and tax purposes.

## Solution

Sage Fixed Assets—Tracking integrates with the company’s Sage Fixed Assets—Depreciation and its Sage accounting systems to deliver a comprehensive asset management solution.

## Results

The company was able to provide its insurance company with an accurate accounting of assets lost in a natural disaster. Barcoding individual assets eliminates duplicate data entry. Personal property tax burden has been reduced thanks to accurate accounting.

## Customer

Del Papa Distributing, Inc.

## Industry

Distribution

## Location

Galveston, Texas

## Number of locations

Three

## System

Sage Fixed Assets  
Sage 100 ERP  
Sage HRMS

## Modules

- Sage Fixed Assets—Depreciation
- Sage Fixed Assets—Tracking

“Our implementation of Sage Fixed Assets is a huge success. The software gives us a better way to manage our assets, and it has already proven its value to us.”

Crystal Bryan  
Director of Accounting Services  
Del Papa Distributing, Inc.

"They worked with us to develop a plan and procedures for determining which assets we would label, how and where we would label them, where we should start, and how we'd manage the process into the future," explains Bryan. "They were very thorough and very knowledgeable about the software, the bar coding equipment, and the entire subject of asset tracking."

For total asset management, Del Papa now tracks all assets, including expensed equipment and artwork. For efficiency, Del Papa Distributing elected to have its Sage business partner help to bring one of its three locations live on the software while at the same time train the company's staff so they could roll out Sage Fixed Assets—Tracking to the other two sites. "It worked very well, and we appreciated that they were willing to work with us that way," says Bryan. "Our internal staff was exceptional during the process too. It was a successful team effort. We were able to take what we learned and expand on it, really making the software suit our business."

### **Proving its worth**

Once metal asset tags were produced and affixed to items from computers, to wall art, to forklifts, and every item had been scanned and entered into the Sage Fixed Assets—Tracking database, it was time for a trial reconciliation.

"We needed to reconcile our newly tagged individual assets against our group assets already in the asset database, clear out lost or disposed of assets, and ensure we were in balance," explains Bryan. During this reconciliation process, however, disaster struck. "We took a direct hit from Hurricane Ike in 2008, and our offices and warehouse flooded. Accounting staff could not even get on the island for several weeks to assess the damage. We had to move our headquarters temporarily."

A bright spot in the ensuing chaos was the fact that because Del Papa Distributing had recorded each of its assets in the software, it now had a complete list of those assets, their location, and their value to provide to the insurance company.

"Sage Fixed Assets paid for itself immediately, although not in the way we had planned," Bryan says. "Incidents such as this are the reason why companies need a comprehensive system to account for assets. Because we had this we were able to save time, money, and get back in operation more quickly."

Bryan says that Sage Fixed Assets has helped the company reduce its personal property tax burden by removing assets from its system that the company has retired. "We now have a complete handle on what we own, its location, and its worth."

### **Easy maintenance**

The company now performs a full asset count annually, with smaller cycle counts occurring more frequently. Barcode scanning devices simplify the task of such counts, and the collected data is then uploaded into Sage Fixed Assets for reconciliation.

"With help from our business partner, we were able to develop an effective and efficient process for handling our assets. Now, we are in maintenance mode, and it is easy to manage," Bryan adds. "The rugged handheld scanning devices survived the hurricane unscathed."

As new equipment is purchased, the company tags it and enters the asset information into Sage Fixed Assets—Tracking and Sage Fixed Assets—Depreciation, ensuring new assets are accounted for. The tags provide a common way for associates in different departments to identify and process disposals. The software calculates annual depreciation based on the schedule assigned to the asset and posts the depreciation to Sage 100 ERP (formerly Sage ERP MAS 90.)

"Our implementation of Sage Fixed Assets is a huge success," concludes Bryan. "The software gives us a better way to manage our assets, and it has already proven its value to us."

### **About The Sage Group, plc**

We provide small and medium-sized organizations with a range of easy-to-use, secure, and efficient business management software and services—from accounting and payroll to enterprise resource planning, customer relationship management, and payments. Our customers receive continuous advice and support through our global network of local experts to help them solve their business problems, giving them the confidence to achieve their business ambitions. Formed in 1981, Sage was floated on the London Stock Exchange in 1989 and entered the FTSE 100 in 1999. Sage has over 6 million customers and more than 12,700 employees in 24 countries covering the UK & Ireland, mainland Europe, North America, South Africa, Australia, Asia, and Brazil.

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