

TAPPI Damage Prevention Trial Results

Cedar Rapids, IA: February 28, 2011 was the final day for participants to report inspection data to the TAPPI-SRW (Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry-Shipping, Receiving and Warehousing) damage prevention trial system. The system, hosted by the qMetrix™ Group, has been in operation since May 17, 2010.

During the trial period the qMetrix™ system has been collecting quality inspection data in the following areas:

- Preload Equipment Inspections
 - Identification of equipment damage before loading
- Shipping Inspections
 - Documentation of specific protective measures used
- Receiving Inspections
 - Documentation of load condition upon arrival
- Paper Damage Inspections
 - Identification of in-transit damage to individual rolls
- Post Unload Equipment Inspections
 - Identification of equipment damage before release back to the carrier

Photos documenting details of the inspection findings were uploaded and associated with the inspection data. The inspection information and photos were then immediately available to participants in the supply chain transaction.

The trial was able to prove that the five objectives set out by the TAPPI-SRW committee were achievable:

- Consider adoptable industry standard processes
 - During the trial all transactions were submitted to the qMetrix™ data center using consistent transaction formats.
- Identify damage as early as possible in the supply chain process
 - The qMetrix™ system maintained a history of damaged equipment, thereby providing mills the opportunity to identify problem equipment before loading.
- Begin to process damage event within 24 hours of awareness
 - The qMetrix™ system provided immediate notification when equipment damage, load failure and paper damage transactions were processed.
- Build a lessons-learned capability to identify and reduce the root causes of damage
 - Because of the large number of inspections captured, the qMetrix™ system participants were able to identify key points of failure and take corrective actions.
- Minimize the impact on operational performance
 - All participants agreed that the qMetrix™ system proved easy to use. Closer integration to existing systems will eliminate duplication and streamline the process even further.

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For Immediate Release

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In addition, participants confirmed: companies benefited from capturing the condition of the equipment being used for paper shipments, the data collected reflected the same trends as data collected in existing systems, and the system could be used for claims resolution. Final results of the trial are being compiled and will be delivered to the industry at the upcoming TAPPI – SRW conference to be held April 12 and 13 in Nashville, TN. Conference details can be found at: <http://www.tappi.org/Events/Upcoming-Events/11SRW.aspx>

About the qMetrix™ Group, a VoIPcare Technology Company - qMetrix™ Group is a system design and development company focused on quality improvement applications located in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The qMetrix™ platform supports applications for Healthcare and Transportation. These applications are available on multiple platforms including PCs, Macs, smartphones, iPads™, iPhones™, and handheld devices. qMetrix™ is currently working on customized versions of these applications for corporate accounts.

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