



White Paper:

Hamburg Germany Fire Department Budget Solution

The men and women of the professional fire department of Hamburg protect everyday the lives, properties and the environment for those that live, work, visit, or invest in the city of Hamburg.

Lion Apparel Inc. fulfills the personal safety, readiness, and identity needs of our customers worldwide, each and every day, not only in the turnout gear industry but also through innovative solutions such as the Budget Allowance Management System. This system allows individual firefighters to purchase various work-related items through an online budget account in real-time. Through this system firefighters are not only equipped with the latest technology in the fire fighting industry, but are also prepared to execute their jobs without unacceptable delays.

Challenge

To control uniform spending with the least amount of effort and most transparency for its 5000 volunteer and professional Firefighters, who spent around one million Euros per year, the Fire Department of Hamburg wanted to move from manual tracking of purchases to an electronic solution. In order to have better accounting control over allowance spending while minimizing personnel costs, they turned to Lion Apparel for a software solution.

Solution

Lion Apparel introduced its Budget Allowance Management System (BAMS) as part of its TotalCare® Service Contract Agreement. Hamburg allots a specific amount of money to be spent by each individual or department within a specific time period. The system tracks orders and returns in real time, to ensure that the allowance is not exceeded, as requested by Hamburg. If a User purchases more than allowed on the account, or purchases items not on the budget list, he can do so through personal out-of-pocket payment.



Depending on the users status within an organization (e.g. Chief of Fire Department vs. Volunteer Firefighter) the user's spending allowance and time frame is specified. All of Hamburg's 2,133 Individual accounts and the 28 departmental accounts within the city have no expiration date and can be used anytime. At the beginning of each year (01.01) each account gets replenished, as specified by the department, to be used at the individual's discretion.

Through this solution, Hamburg has saved about 2,000 hours of administrative work related to ordering, purchasing, and manual allowance accounting. This time can now be used for management of more essential city functions.

Oracle Applications - Lion World (Upgraded to 9i)

Oracle

Order Information Line Items

Order Total 22,88

Allowance Consumed 22,88 Customer Amount 0 Remaining Allowance 106,19

Main Pricing Shipping Addressee Returns Others

Line	Ordered Item	Qty	UOM	Unit Selling Price	Request Date	Schedule Ship Date	Status	On Hold	Cascaded Hol
1.1	FRACHT-KVH	1	ST	4,50	24.04.2007 12:07:32	08.05.2007 12:08:29	Eingegeben	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.1	FW11808-41/42	1	ST	14,72	24.04.2007 12:07:32	08.05.2007 23:59:59	Eingegeben	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
								<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
								<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
								<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
								<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
								<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
								<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
								<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Line Total 4,50 Line Qty 1 Service Total 0,00

Description Fracht - Klein Versand Hamburg Calculate Allowance

Actions Configurator Availability Book Order

Customer Order Entry Form. On the top you can see Allowance Consumed, Remaining Allowance and an Order Total, which is instantly calculated and updated within the system.



Results

- Firefighters can shop whenever and wherever
- Monthly Account Statements available Online per Department, Account or Individual
- Constant Electronic Tracking of Orders

Advantages

- Convenient
- Time Saving
- Flexible
- Efficient
- Accurate
- Transparent
- Administrative Cost Reduction
- Time Saving
- Immediate Feedback
- Real-Time Account Balances

Customer Feedback

“From our Accounting point of view, we are very satisfied and cannot find any problems with [the budget allowance management] system. It fulfills all our requirements in every aspect and contributes to an unobstructed accounting ... Even this solution has been proven extremely practical for our accounting department and makes the auditing much easier. In General, the newly setup budget-solution, in the eyes of the accounting department, is good, easy to oversee and manage; we are fully satisfied.”

- Armin Gehrmann, Hamburg Fire Department