# DARVIN<sup>3</sup>

The Evolving eBusiness Solution For Your Company



e Business Solutions



DATA INTERCHANGE PLC



Darwin is a software solution that enables your company to engage in e-Business relations with your important trading partners. It does this by communicating, automating and managing the flow of your electronic business documents such as invoices, despatch advices, orders and order forecasts.

Darwin users come in two flavours, those that have been asked by their key trading partners to adopt eCommerce in order to continue to be rated as a supplier; and those enlightened companies who wish to implement their own eCommerce initiative. In either case there is a technical and logistical void that is normally filled with eCommerce standards, a multiplicity of communications variants, optional integration modules with back office systems, control systems etc... Darwin fills this void simply and efficiently whilst removing the need for unnecessary and expensive consultancy.

## **Darwin Overview**

Darwin processes the electronic equivalents of orders and turns them around to create despatches and shipments. It then automatically sends these invoices and despatch advices to your trading partners.

Darwin solves what has traditionally been an error prone and time consuming process. The problems with traditional methods stem from the need to manually re-type information, find out what packaging is required for each product etc. Errors are costly; if an invoice contains mistakes it is returned unpaid and you must wait longer before you receive your money. The automation that Darwin provides minimises the number of errors so that you save time and, ultimately, money.

# "You Save Time And, Ultimately, Money"

## **Production Control**

Darwin communicates with your customers automatically, so you will have received orders ready to be processed when Production Control arrive at work. Your controller will decide whether to accept or amend the orders and will review any forecast information to decide what needs to be ordered to satisfy future demand.

Darwin has built in safeguards to prevent you from despatching erroneous orders. Darwin can check received orders for certain criteria and, if necessary, require you to decide whether to accept or reject the order. This protects you from duplicate orders, orders that cannot be fulfilled, orders with different prices than those agreed by your sales personnel and other kinds of orders that should not be fulfilled. Darwin can also be set up so that you must manually accept all received orders before they can be despatched.

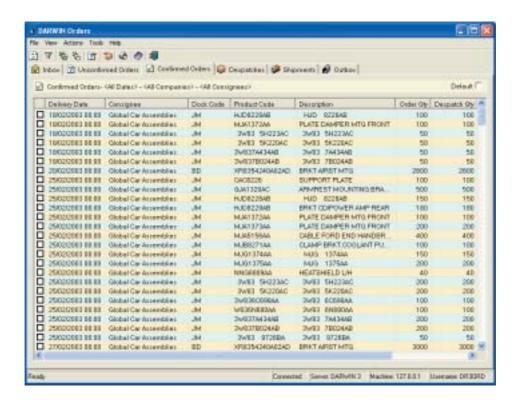
## **Despatch Department**

Orders that have been accepted by your Production Department are turned into shipments that your Despatch Department can view. Your despatch clerks can see all the information for shipments that need to be despatched on any given day. Based on this information your despatch clerks can assemble shipments and print the transport labels to go on the packaging. When the shipment is actually despatched Darwin automatically sends an electronic despatch advice to your customer.

All the major transport label standards are available as well as customisations of these labels that are used by large businesses. Your despatch clerks can scan a barcode from a transport label and Darwin will show on screen the package associated with that label; information such as the package contents, the shipment it is a part of and when it is to be despatched.

Darwin has a special user interface for your Despatch Department which focuses solely on the task of despatching shipments. The interface is controlled solely by the keyboard, which speeds up the despatch process and removes any associated learning curves.

# "Rapidly Turn Orders Into Invoices"



#### **Finance**

Once you have despatched your shipments, Darwin allows you to create invoices to send to your customers and view received invoices. You can also configure Darwin to automatically generate invoices when a shipment is despatched.

Darwin integrates with your existing accounting packages so that any invoices created or received in Darwin are imported into your accounting packages. This allows Darwin to coexist with all of your current systems.



## **Digital Security**

Darwin lets you digitally sign messages containing sensitive information, such as invoices, so that your trading partners can be assured that the messages they received are authentic and actually came from you. Whilst digitally signing your sensitive documents proves their origin, their contents are still visible; so Darwin also lets you digitally encrypt your messages to prevent other people from viewing the contents.

# "Digitally Secure Your Sensitive Business Documents"

### **Changing Business Processes**

All companies change their business processes in the light of new technologies. These new business processes develop at different rates in different ways depending upon the trading partners. Darwin changes too; it is a system that is continually evolving in order to mirror the new business processes that are forever being introduced. As a consequence Darwin will satisfy your business needs of today and tomorrow.

## **Business Logic**

In the real world your trading partners, even those within the same industry, implement different business processes and use different standards to communicate with their partners.

Darwin removes these complications by utilising business logic to give you a consistent view of the business world. This allows you to trade with all your trading partners in the way they want and enables you to participate in all the different market sectors such as manufacturing, retail, transportation and government.

Often, some major trading partners insist on using their own product codes in preference to your own. Darwin overcomes this so that when you receive an order from a trading partner, the product codes you see are product codes you use and recognise. When invoicing your trading partners, the product codes used on the invoice are the product codes that your trading partner will recognise and understand.



#### Multi User

Darwin is a multi user solution based on a client-server architecture; so many people can be using Darwin at the same time whilst in different locations. The Darwin server performs all of the data processing whilst the clients simply retrieve the relevant data from the server and display it. As a result, the client machines are inexpensive to maintain.

Darwin is inherently scaleable so that it is applicable to both large and small businesses. Darwin can run on either a single computer in a small business or over a network of computers in a large business.

## Communications

Darwin's inbuilt TCP/IP communications allows you to send and receive your messages electronically, either directly or indirectly via all the major Value Added Networks. Some trading partners keep track of your status as a supplier and the smallest error on your part can affect this status, therefore Darwin immediately warns you if there are any problems sending messages to help you maintain your supplier status with your trading partner.

## "A Scaleable Multi User Solution"

## **Integration With Your Existing Systems**

Darwin integrates with your back end systems and its intention is to work with them rather than replacing them. This allows you to continue using existing systems and use Darwin at the same time.

## **Business Focused Clients**

Darwin has different types of client applications that perform different business task, because we recognise that there are different job roles within a company that perform different areas of the order turnaround process. Typically, a despatch clerk will only need to see a list of despatches and shipments when performing his job role whilst other people in your company will need to be able to oversee the entire process.

Rather than having one application that performs all of these tasks, Darwin consists of a number of applications each tailored to their task.

### Reports

Darwin can produce many different types of reports for you. Nearly all businesses need a reporting capability, often to produce paper documentation to go alongside its electronic equivalent.

## **Module Enhancements**

Optional modules allow you to add additional functionality to Darwin when and if you need it. These modules allow Darwin's functionality to grow in line with your business needs and reduce your costs.

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"Orders are despatched and invoiced much faster than before, our cash flow has improved significantly"

# Peter Morris, Customer Services Manager, Siemens VDO Automotive Telford Ltd

"Darwin is extremely user friendly and self explanatory, it really does understand our needs. This makes it very time efficient and cost effective for us"

## Tom Whelan, Logistics Manager, JJ Engineering Ltd

"My despatch personnel are too busy to learn a complex computer system put together by people who have no knowledge of the industry we are in. Darwin is quick and easy, allowing them to do their job quickly and efficiently"

John Kahill, Logistics Director, Inalfa (UK) Ltd



# "All The Features And Benefits You Need"

## **Features & Specifications**

- Multi User
- ✓ Despatch advice creation
- Reports
- Invoice creation
- Transport Labels
- ✓ OFTP over TCP/IP communications
- VAN support
- Digital Signatures
- Smart Card support
- Archiving
- User Rights and Permissions
- Trading Partner Assigned Product Codes
- Integration With Back Office Systems
- ✓ Built In Safeguards
- ✓ Web Interface
- ✔ Profile Packs

## **Standards**

- ✓ ANSLX12
- ✓ FANCOM
- EDIFACT
- ODETTE
- ✓ TRADACOMS
- **V**DA

## Requirements

Windows NT/2000/XP/ME/98 SE

## **Contact Details**

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