DISC Stakka®

Stakkas Deliver Security for Software Asset Register

Without question, the most important assets of a software company are its proprietary software products. And employing best-practice management of its vital assets is mandatory.

So when value-added reseller Data Bridge Digital approached its client of ten years, Cognos, with a better way to manage its 3000 master CDs, Cognos listened.

The world leader in business intelligence and corporate performance management, Cognos serves more than 23,000 customers in over 135 countries. Its integrated solution helps customers drive performance through planning; monitor performance through scorecarding; and understand performance through business intelligence.

In assessing any new system to manage its ever-increasing library of discs, Dave Burden, Manufacturing Manager at Cognos Inc's headquarters in Ottawa, Canada, needed to know that its software asset register provided traceability, security, ease of access and an audit capability, such as who used the discs and when.

"We were shown the Imation Disc Stakka with its OpdiTracker software and immediately realised that it would provide us with considerable benefits over our existing system," said Dave.

Enormous Benefits, Same Cost

"The Disc Stakka complied with all our software asset register issues and was much the same cost as our existing plastic boxes. Plus it provided space savings and was quick and easy to use. We looked at a competing product, but the OpdiTracker software and system controls were far superior."

Data Bridge Digital was commissioned to install 35 units, and load and index 3000 master CDs. This implementation took two days, during which time virtually no productivity was lost.

The installation process was seamless, due primarily to Cognos's predetermined naming convention for the discs and because they were clearly marked.

According to Glenn Carley of Data Bridge Digital, "If a master was recalled for production during our data entry process, we simply entered that master into the OpdiTracker database and within seconds the master was initialized in the system."

Cognos upgraded to OpdiTracker Pro edition, which delivers added security and control, additional search functionality and database reporting, and greater management capabilities.

"The five people in the manufacturing department who have access to the Disc Stakka agree that the new system is very much easier to access and return discs and it is completely secure. And it only takes about ten seconds to search for and eject a disc. The whole process makes the Disc Stakka a very positive experience," said Dave.

Cognos adds up to 40 new discs to the Disc Stakka each month, a task that is handled by members of the manufacturing department, which is responsible for maintaining the software asset register.

"The business benefits of our new software asset management system are greater security and accessibility, time and space savings, traceability and more overall control. It is a much better solution in every way and will provide a return on investment in less than six months."

▼ *Each compact Imation Disc Stakka unit holds up to one hundred 12 cm discs.*

▼ *The bundled OpdiTracker software automatically catalogues in its database the volume, file and folder names from computer-readable CDs and DVDs.*

▼ *Search by name or keyword to find any file, folder or disc within seconds, and then instantly eject the required disc.*

▼ *Single USB connection for both power and data.*

▼ *Stack units five high to store 500 discs without needing additional cables or desk space.*

www.discstakka.com