Unitech & PostBus Switzerland Ltd

Case settings:
- PostBus Switzerland Ltd
- Switzerland
- Conductors ticket control
- PA700 (2D + 3G)
- Partner: Mobit AG
- Partner: Authorized Service Partner

Since 1906 PostBus Switzerland Ltd grown to the most important bus organization in the Swiss public transport market. Daily more than 385,000 commuter and leisure traveler get serviced by more than 3,720 employees and arrive therefore safely and reliable their destination. A network of 2,193 vehicles serves every day routes of 11,869 km of roads in Switzerland. The SwissPass is an all-in-one plastic card ticket to allow seamless travelling by rail, road and waterway throughout the whole of Switzerland. By mid of 2015 it will be released with two types of subscription and additional acceptance at car sharing providers, public bike rental stations and skiing resorts. The SwissPass offers 27,000 km of public transport and can be ordered at every public transport ticket and tourism office in Switzerland. It's supported by all public transport companies.
1. Customer specific request

In order to allow a smooth identification of the card by service providers, the pass is equipped with a 2D barcode and a NFC chip.

Beside the software backbone, equipped with all technical software and hardware features the system must offer a flexible, reliable and daily mobile field operation to check the validation of the tickets in all conditions (weather, brightness, network coverage, etc.).

The mobile conductors and the bus drivers must be able to identify the 2D code, NFC chip on the SwissPass card and also the often used SMS codes (alpha-numeric codes) on cell phone displays. Further it’s requested to detect the geographical position via GPS, allow data and voice communication, taking pictures at day and night, communicate with mobile printer and survive in the field with one battery charge and allow users to exchange it uncomplicated when necessary. In the busses the device should be hold and charged at easy accessible and visible position (route navigation) and allow data entry while stopping at station.

2. The total solution

In order to have the best reading performance on the SwissPass via RFID technology, Unitech has optimized its antenna and reader to meet the specific demand from PostBus Switzerland Ltd. Together with MOBIT AG, a local System Integration and Authorized Service Partner of Unitech in Switzerland, the end user could get an impression of the possible solution with the Unitech PA700. PostBus Switzerland Ltd could make a reliable pilot test with multiple devices for weeks before defining the guidelines for a reliable possible solution. The arm-distance support and responsive engineering capability, all over performance in daily operation, the complete accessory list and the after sales support and local service provided by MOBIT have convinced the end user to choose the PA700.

Furthermore the device is empowered by PA700 specific client from Airwatch, it allows PostBus Switzerland Ltd can completely remote manage all PA700 in the field. This allows end user to silently install applications, choose OTA firmware update or remotely support users in the field when requested. Additionally the PA700 allows automatic auto backup and install functions in the field to easily restart the device when requested.

3. Benefits of the solution

By using the PA700 Android based device the users now can easily work on a well-known state-of-the-art operating system thanks to the easy readable large 4.7” HD screen with easy finger operation. Any time up-to-date thanks real time data synchronization and voice communication. In parallel the project team could rely on the great support from local partner MOBIT and UNITECH technical/project team to get the device and system as requested. The inside IT teams have less manual tasks while its leading to a fast and easy data collection instead of human errors, quicker information exchange and less overtime at the field users instead of communication errors and missing data.