

## **Order Picking System Upgrade**



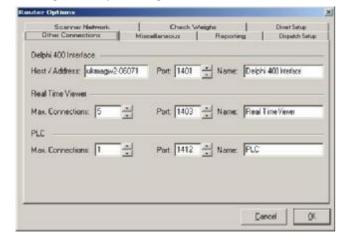
Pearson Education's I/T department had a need to carry out as much in house support on their order picking and packing conveyor system as possible, they wanted the flexibility to make configuration changes to the system on a day to day basis if required.

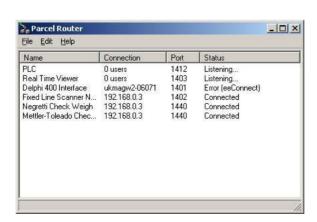
They also wanted to be able to carry out disaster recovery without needing to call on a third party. Axiom redeveloped the operating and control software for the site Implementing all of the software changes using Delphi, under Windows 2000.

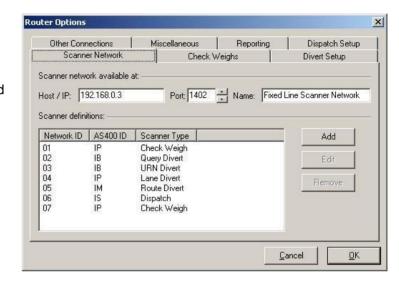
Several processes were created, including :-

- § Connectivity to a range of online automatic barcode readers to capture carton barcode information and routing data.
- § Interfaces with three check weigh machines for dynamic carton weighing.
- Interfaces with Pearson's AS400 to move carton data from client to host and back again, this interface is near real time and uses some specially developed Delphi components to form the link over TCP/IP.
- § Interface with a Siemens S7-400 PLC over TCP/IP, the PLC software was also developed by Axiom.

The system was provided with full logging ability down to a carton level, a user interface so that users and the I/T department could see that the system is working correctly. Configuration is via a suite of menu driven user interfaces.







As well as controlling the logical operation of the conveyor system (Axiom redeveloped the PLC software). The system handles check weigh stations which are used to reject over, or under weight parcels. The system is instrumental in automatically printing invoices via the AS400 interfaces.

A packing area and final dispatch area are also controlled via Axiom's PLC and PC control software