



## Executive Summary

SMIMEC S.p.A. is a company which belongs to the SMI Group and is specialized in the manufacturing of structural components, mechanical components and stamps in aluminum, steel, iron and cast iron. Today SMIMEC is a mechanical workshop at the forefront and has been constantly evolving to become more efficient in the production of many contract jobs of many different third parties.

## Case Study

### Reducing Consumption by 20%



## Challenges

Though the company was already using a different vending system to automatically dispense items, the process was not the desired one for example, items were dispensed by package and not by single quantities as they required. This resulted into stock misalignments as the users could override the system by taking more than what they declared, therefore



## How it helped

Based on SMIMEC requests, Gruppo Grazioli identified SupplyPoint's solution as the perfect answer to all their needs. Unified database connection of all the different vending machines on the shopfloor, possibility to monitor stocks remotely through a cloud platform, together with the interface of the Vending Machines and the Gruppo Grazioli ERP. Gruppo Grazioli offered the customer all the services connected



## Results

After the first year the customer registered a 20% drop in items consumption (compared to their previous system), with the installation of SupplyPoint's ROTOPOINT (PPE and generic Tools) and MODULO solution that controls single quantities with the progressive drawers opening technology. In just 2019, they registered 9675 withdrawals for a total amount of 16330 new items. In addition, for some items, all the reworking process is managed by the vending machine, increasing even further the efficiency in tool consumption.

# The Full Study



## Executive Summary

SMIMEC S.p.A. is a company which belongs to the SMI Group and is specialized in the manufacturing of structural components, mechanical components and stamps in aluminum, steel, iron and cast iron. Today SMIMEC is a mechanical workshop at the forefront and has been constantly evolving to become more efficient in the production of many contract jobs of many different third parties. Before the implementation of SupplyPoint solutions SMIMEC was already using a vending machine to dispense the items on the shopfloor, so they were familiar with the standard benefits of the vending process, however this was not enough. When Gruppo Grazioli showed SMIMEC the SupplyPoint solutions at another customer site, they knew that it was time to make a step further with automation and implement a real and innovative Industry 4.0 Vending Solution. Today, thanks to the integrated services provided by Gruppo Grazioli, SMIMEC now has 9 vending machines spread across 5 different points of use where they stock and manage all their cutting tools, generic consumables, and PPE.



## Challenges

Though the company was already using a different vending system to automatically dispense items, the process was not the desired one for example, items were dispensed by package and not by single quantities as they required. This resulted into stock misalignments as the users could override the system by taking more than what they declared, therefore sometimes risking stock-outs and consequential machine downtime. An additional challenge was that, it was difficult to assign the right cost centre as the withdrawals were cumulative of the same item, which was then used on different machine tools. In addition, there was no possibility to manage reworked or used items. SMIMEC needed to manage a very high diversity of items of different brand by single quantity. It was important that every user could withdraw only one item at the time with the relative cost centre. Moreover, it was also important that every worker could take only the items he could have access to with the minimum walking times.



## How it Helped

Based on SMIMEC requests, Gruppo Grazioli identified SupplyPoints solution as the perfect answer to all their needs. Unified database connection of all the different vending machines on the shopfloor, possibility to monitor stocks remotely through a cloud platform, together with the interface of the Vending Machines and the Gruppo Grazioli ERP. Gruppo Grazioli offered the customer all the services connected to the Vending Machines: weekly refilling, consignment stock and automated reordering, thus giving SMIMEC the chance to outsource all the warehouse management activities and focusing on their core business increasing their productivity. Thanks to the solution implemented by SupplyPoint and Gruppo Grazioli, the company was able to reset all the fixed assets related to the warehouse stocks, receiving one single monthly invoice for all the items used. Withdrawal times were drastically reduced thanks to the positioning of the vending machines in the different parts of the plant, minimizing all the walking times for each worker. Stock-outs were set to zero using the automating re-ordering function and the supervision of the stock levels could be remotely accessed due to Websync (cloud platform).



## Results & Return on Investment

After the first year the customer registered a 20% drop in items consumption (compared to their previous system), with the installation of SupplyPoint's ROTOPPOINT (PPE and generic Tools) and MODULO solution that controls single quantities with the progressive drawers opening technology. In just 2019, they registered 9675 withdrawals for a total amount of 16330 new items. In addition, for some items, all the reworking process is managed by the vending machine, increasing even further the efficiency in tool consumption. A part from the consumption reduction, major savings have been reached reducing all the hidden costs (time) of the purchasing office, administration, warehouse and workers. Very important was also the saving obtained by a more efficient process to manage orders (that are now automatic) and by the reset of all fixed costs (pay per use). Last but not least, the company has now access to a large amount of data related to their items that are periodically analysed and used to monitor consumption, manufacturing activities but also as a support during the decision making process of pricing the products.