

From Vending to Intelligent Control

How SMIMEC reduced tool consumption, eliminated stockouts, and gained real-time visibility with SupplyPoint



SMIMEC S.p.A. (part of the SMI Group) manufactures structural and mechanical components and stamps in aluminum, steel, iron, and cast iron. As a high-mix contract manufacturer, SMIMEC continuously looks for ways to improve efficiency while managing a wide range of tools, consumables, and PPE on the shop floor.

The Challenges

SMIMEC was already using vending machines, but the system lacked the control and accuracy they needed.

Key Issues

- Items dispensed by package, not single quantity
- Users could override withdrawals, causing stock misalignment
- Risk of stockouts and machine downtime
- Difficult to assign the correct cost center per machine
- No way to manage reworked or used items



THE TURNING POINT

A Step Beyond Standard Vending

After seeing SupplyPoint in action at another customer site, SMIMEC recognized the opportunity to move beyond basic vending and adopt a fully integrated Industry 4.0 solution—one that controlled single-item withdrawals, reduced walking time, and delivered complete visibility into usage and costs.

The SupplyPoint Solution

Working with Gruppo Grazioli, SMIMEC implemented a connected vending ecosystem designed around their exact requirements.

ROTOPOINT Vending Machines

- PPE and generic tools
- Large capacity unit with a high mix of items stored in a relatively small space
- Accurate, single-item consumption tracking

MODULO Vending Solutions

- Cutting tools and consumables
- Single-quantity control across multiple brands
- Reworked items managed directly by the machine

Connected Platform

All machines are linked through a unified database, integrated with the Gruppo Grazioli ERP and monitored remotely via the Websync cloud platform.



Modulo

Rotopoint

Measured & Meaningful Results



20%
Reduction in Item
Consumption After
the First Year

Business Impact

- Zero stockouts through automated reordering
- Faster withdrawals and reduced walking time
- Pay-per-use model reduced on-site stock (and freed up working capital) and related storage equipment
- One consolidated monthly invoice
- Reduced hidden costs across purchasing, administration, warehouse, and production

Data Advantage

SMIMEC now uses detailed consumption data to support manufacturing analysis and more accurate product pricing.

Ready to move beyond basic vending?

Discover SupplyPoint.