

Leading Australian Contract Pharmaceuticals Manufacturer Improves Productivity with 3WS

Customer Background

LIPA Pharmaceuticals is the leading Australian contract manufacturer of complementary healthcare medicines, non-sterile prescription and over the counter medicines. This includes herbal medicines, vitamins and nutritional supplements.

Established in 1995, LIPA Pharmaceuticals opened its new custom built facility at Minto, New South Wales, in 2001. Further plant expansion to in 2006, increased the facility to over 15,000 sq m under roof. This consists of warehousing, many dispensaries, manufacturing suites, and production facilities, plus laboratories and administration offices. At present, more than 250 people are employed at LIPA.

“We required a manufacturing system which reached the GMP levels expected by the TGA.”

Mr Pandy Chan, Production Manager, LIPA

The LIPA site is a world class, licensed facility, to Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) standards, utilising the latest equipment and technology. LIPA produces tablets, two piece hard-shells, soft gelatin capsules, powders, liquids and creams.

Customer Requirements

Since the inception of the company, market demands for pharmaceuticals and healthcare products have steadily increased, not just for domestic demands, but also overseas.

To acquire and retain a TGA license to manufacture therapeutic goods, a site must be able to demonstrate, during each factory audit, compliance with manufacturing principles including stringent codes of good manufacturing practice (GMP).

“3WS is GMP approved software, that has been extensively installed in the pharmaceutical industry”

Mr Pandy Chan, Production Manager, LIPA

Since 3WS was implemented at LIPA, the validated dispensing system guarantees many aspects of GMP requirements.

Wayahead Solution

3WS was installed and validated at the original LIPA site, in mid 2000. This project lasted six weeks. There have been numerous updates over the last seven years. All updates are fully validated, as per TGA requirements.

LIPA use automatic interfaces between 3WS & ERP, to transfer materials, lotnos and work orders to 3WS, then upload usage values back to ERP. As Pandy Chan puts it, “The speed of the interfaces, improved our dispensing capacity considerably”.

“The system was installed in a professional manner, with minimal disruption to production. A smooth project, including validation.”

Mr Sanjeev Verma, IT Manager, LIPA

All material dispensing, barcode labelling and manufacturing operations, are managed by 3WS, including a complete FDA level audit trail of all activities.

Lipa Pharmaceuticals Ltd

Minto, NSW, Australia



The implementation of 3WS fulfils all requirements, for validated manufacturing execution software and has improved the overall productivity of LIPA Pharmaceuticals. Pency Chan concurred, “3WS is very flexible and that modifications were completed in a timely manner”.

3WS is a very stable software program, used by a wide variety of people at LIPA, from QC, scheduling, assembly, barcode labelling through to production. The user friendly functionality was easily accepted by all employees.

“3WS is very versatile and is continually being improved. Interfaces run quickly and have improved our dispensing capacity considerably.”

Mr Pency Chan, Production Manager, LIPA

There are currently six dispensing rooms in operation at LIPA, each with two or three electronic balances. Most rooms are used 24 hours per day, seven days per week. New dispensing rooms can be added with relative ease, requiring minimal set-up and validation.

Labelling and reporting across Lotnos, Finished Goods and Batches run across another ten PC work-stations.

In mid 2005, LIPA Pharmaceuticals expanded 3WS to include bulk barcode labelling, to enable labelling of finished goods products, shippers, cartons, etc.

Future Developments

LIPA Pharmaceuticals is planning to expand their supply chain and manufacturing operations, to use the Lot Location Management and Manufacturing modules of 3WS. Pency Chan added that LIPA was looking to incorporate 3WS into other processes at their manufacturing site.

This will continue LIPA’s plan for a practical, integrated and validated MES system.

SITE SUMMARY

Company Details

Company Name	LIPA Pharmaceuticals
Location	Sydney, Australia
Industry	Pharmaceuticals

Technical Details

3WS Modules	Dispensing Interfaced with ERP Finished Goods Labelling
3WS Platform	Windows 2003 Server, XP
3WS Database	MS-SQL 2003

MAJOR BENEFITS

- **Immediate return on investment (ROI) by eliminating all second check activities**
- **Faster production operations**
- **No hand-written labels or batch sheets**
- **Automatic update back to ERP**
- **TGA/FDA compliant and validated**
- **Secure, computerised, paperless system**