

CDI: ENABLING GLOBAL RISK ASSESSMENT IN MARINE CHEMICAL DISTRIBUTION



Inspection data needs to be accessible at all times, if it is to be of any value. For almost 20 years, the Chemical Distribution Institute (CDI) have relied on Pharox Assurance to design, build and update various end-to-end solutions for streamlining global inspection data. "It makes life a lot easier for us."

The Chemical Distribution Institute (CDI) provides over 70 multinational chemical companies with reliable inspection data on oil and gas tankers, terminals and logistic services providers, using three separate assessment database systems. These are based on extensive assessments by accredited inspectors, which may take up to five days and which cover a vast range of details.

Global users

"However, as good as our data is, it's only going to be of use if it's available 24/7", says CDI General Manager Captain Howard Snaith. "Our members conduct round-the-clock activity in all major ports around the world. They rely on our data for fast and reliable risk assessments." Which in turn depends on a robust database, capable of handling large volumes of requests from hundreds of users with different requirements and access rights.

Over the years, CDI has found Pharox to be a partner capable of delivering end-to-end solutions with high availability rates and user-friendly, accessible formats. "The first database they built for us focused on terminals and packed cargo. We were so pleased with their performance that we decided to transfer our existing CDI-M database to Pharox as well."

Flawless transition

This decision wasn't taken lightly, Capt. Snaith emphasizes. "Transferring an existing database containing thousands of active inspection reports, users, access rights and project files is a huge task, with a lot of potential for things to go wrong. And we couldn't afford any downtime, the transition had to be 100% flawless."

Despite the complexity of the task, CDI was willing to invest in the transition because "we wanted an enhanced, more user-friendly database and a high availability rate. Which is exactly what Pharox delivered. They developed a quick, slick and user-friendly interface and have consistently provided an extremely high level of availability and security."

According to Capt. Snaith, the successful transition testifies to the "exceptional skill, professionalism and technical expertise of all the team members at Pharox".

Industry expertise

Over the years, CDI and Pharox Assurance have continued to work together, for example on regular updates. "We are in a constant process of review and improvement. Which is made easier by the fact that Pharox is fully focused on this type of solution. It's very efficient to work with a partner with an insider's knowledge of the chemical industry. Pharox is quick to grasp what we need and is often able to point to similar solutions they have developed for other clients. It makes life a lot easier for us."