

SecureCheck Powers Secure and Efficient Check Production for AmStaff

Company

AmStaff Human Resources is one of the nation's leading Professional Employer Organizations (PEOs) and is ranked in the top 2% of approximately 2,000 PEOs in the United States. AmStaff has certified and degreed professionals on staff to provide their clients with expert services in the areas of payroll, benefits, unemployment, worker's compensation, legal matters, and more. They are a wholly owned subsidiary of Landrum Human Resource Companies, Inc., which was established in 1984 and provides services to over 1000 clients and 10,000 employees. Headquartered in Pensacola, Florida, AmStaff Human Resources provides its services to businesses, industries, and non-profit organizations throughout the southeastern United States.

AmStaff Human Resources has been using SecureCheck since 1997. Its sister company, Landrum Staffing Services has been using SecureCheck since 2002.

Business Situation

Printing employee payroll checks is one of the services AmStaff provides to its clients. Prior to implementing SecureCheck, AmStaff was purchasing pre-printed check stock and using dot matrix printers for their check printing. The disadvantages of using dot matrix printers were very apparent to AmStaff. Bursting, slow printing, poor print quality, and paper jams were some of the problems. The lack of security associated with boxes of pre-printed check stock was also a concern. By 1997, AmStaff was printing approximately 4,000 employee checks per week for 460 clients. Recognizing the cost efficiencies and security advantages that automated laser check printing would offer, they began to explore their options for check printing software. Today, AmStaff has over 423 clients, some with over 250 employees, and they print approximately 7000 checks per week. Their sister company, Landrum Staffing Services, prints an additional 600 checks per week.

The Solution: SecureCheck

"SecureCheck was chosen because it could easily interface with our PayPlus accounting application, had the features we wanted, met our cost requirements ... and the ultimate deciding factor was that it had excellent user testimonial from people I knew in the industry," explains Peggy Fortunato, AmStaff's Director of Administrative Services.

When AmStaff started using SecureCheck in 1997, they implemented the original DOS version on a laptop in their accounting department and used ACL commands to print checks directly from their PayPlus software to two SecureCheck printers containing MIO boards – an HP LaserJet 4SI and HP LaserJet 4. As time went by, they upgraded their operating system to Windows 98, and the SecureCheck for Windows version was implemented simultaneously. When AmStaff upgraded their operating system to Windows 2000 and purchased faster printers for their expanding check printing requirements, AP Technology provided the SecureCheck solutions and service needed for seamless integration. Their SecureCheck application now resides on a Windows 2000 server and is networked to an HP 4100 and HP 4200 that have been upgraded with SecureCheck DIMM boards. In 2002, Landrum Staffing Services also started using SecureCheck. They print checks directly from their VCG payroll packet software using ACL commands sent to their HP 4200 SecureCheck printer equipped with a DIMM board.

"We've seen many benefits from using SecureCheck. By eliminating dot matrix printers, we no longer have to deal with bursting, and paper jams where we lose check numbers. SecureCheck simply reprints jammed check numbers if there is ever a jam. With laser-printed checks, we can now use a folding machine instead of hand folding. The use of a folding machine also allows for inserts. Our laser printers not only make nicer looking checks, they are also faster. The SecureCheck software is very user friendly. It's easy to make even minor changes to the check outline – such as moving the location of an address or logo. We no longer have to reprint check stock to make changes. And we also have greater security by using blank check stock instead having pre-printed stock sitting around," said Rhonda Freeman, AmStaff's Human Resources Applications Support Technician.

"We recently decided to revise our check layout so the check portion would print at the top of the sheet rather than the middle, and this required a new template to be created by AP Technology. We were impressed that the turnaround was one day, and it was all done via e-mail," adds Rhonda.



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