



Infotrac

An application using e-pen technology to capture information once only .

Infotrac uses Datatrac's digital pen solution to electronically collect data once only and distribute the data into management reports and systems without duplication or arduous data entry into a computer.

Operators record data using the pen onto pre-printed forms. When the pen is docked the form is immediately downloaded onto the computer as an image.

The information is then converted into digital data format. The operator may verify his entries before filing the form.

The data is available in the Datatrac Document System where it is demonstrated in Spreadsheets and can be imported into clients' systems in any common format.



Features and Benefits

- Saves operator time
- Improves speed of recording information
- Avoids duplication of entry.
- Data may be collected from several forms into the same place
- Implementation requires no training.
- Handwriting only required
- No risk of disruption to procedures.
- Data available for cross-referencing, to shipboard systems.

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Uses Include:

Deck sailing logs,
Noon day reporting,
Statement of Facts ,
Master's Portage Accounts

The Technology

Digital Pen and Smart Paper

Pen and Paper relationship

The digital pen used by Datatrac in their Pen solutions has a video camera under the nib and contains a battery, a mother board and a timer. The pen is used as an ordinary hand writing tool to write information onto "smart paper" which has been pre-printed with a unique pattern of dots and the camera in the pen locates the exact location of a pen stroke on the paper by a navigational fix in relation to the dots.

Storage Capacity of the Pen

Any information written on the pre-printed paper is stored on the pen, which is capable of storing up to 40 different documents. Once the data has been collected the pen is placed into its docking station that is attached to a computer and all the information is downloaded. The pen can remain in use for 6 hours.



Digital Pen & Cradle

Flexibility of the Paper

The paper is to be used as a 'data collecting tool' to be discarded. Where images only are required then there is no need to change any current documents. For digital data a form will be designed; there is no limit to what can be achieved.

Data storage

Data is captured in three different ways, as an image (JPG) format, as Boolean entries which enable multiple choice questions to be answered and sorted or as character recognition which allows for data to be manipulated.

Operational Use:

First Level

The first level of the Datatrac "digital pen" solution captures only an image as a JPG. This image may be stored at the point of data capture such as on board a vessel or if required it may also be sent ashore; pen strokes only are transmitted in very small files: only 2Kbytes instead of 50Kbytes for an equivalent JPG document.



Digital Pen

Second Level

The second level of the Datatrac solution uses Boolean programming to sort a series of check boxes and analyse responses. These responses may be filed and sorted in the Datatrac management database. The reporting forms and summary analysis may be transmitted to head office in much the same way as the image capture.

Third Level

The third level of pen technology adds character recognition to the application. Data is captured into the Datatrac management database and may then be exported into excel spreadsheets for analysis. The speed with which accurate data is captured into the computer, without the need for extra data entry, facilitates the flow of information from an operational unit to head office or a central server which in ordinary circumstances would have to wait until the operating personnel were free to key the data collected into the computer.

If you think you have an activity which could benefit from our data capture technologies we would like to discuss it with you.

Contact: jtobin@datatrac.co.uk

**Get to know more about Datatrac Solutions by ordering a Starter Pack now.
e-mail: [:sales@datatrac.co.uk](mailto:sales@datatrac.co.uk) or phone 020 7377 5773**