

Premium service at low sales costs

Individual trip planning taking changing demands into account

BUTAGAZ, the French market leader in the field of supplying gas in cylinders (40,000 distributors) and in bulk (250,000 customers), has made it its aim to maintain a high level of service whilst at the same time reducing supply costs.

Every day, some thousand gas cylinder orders are entered which have to be processed by the system. Butagaz has chosen the PTV Intertour trip planning solution to handle this complex task. A PTV expert team has developed tailor-made features to meet the specific BUTAGAZ requirements. The optimisation of a 400-strong vehicle fleet requires a flexible and comprehensive tool. PTV Intertour supports:

- ▷ Optimal management in multi-depot mode
- ▷ Urban trip planning with the City map
- ▷ Planning of consolidated and distribution services

User: BUTAGAZ, the French market leader in the field of supplying gas in cylinders and in bulk – PHILEAS project managed by PTV ONLINE in Paris, France.

Task: Daily trip planning for the supply of gas cylinders

Solution: Professional trip planning with PTV Intertour including extra features meeting BUTAGAZ's specific requirements

A flexible tool for a complex task

The effects in the field of gas cylinders are enormous. The principle of fixed trips, which had been used since Butagaz was founded 70 years ago, has been replaced by daily trip planning based on changing demands.

The aim was to adapt PTV Intertour to the information system using the SAP package. BUTAGAZ can now rely on an interactive trip planning tool for deliveries to BUTAGAZ distributors, i.e. petrol stations, mass retailers as well as local distributors of retail trade and industry.

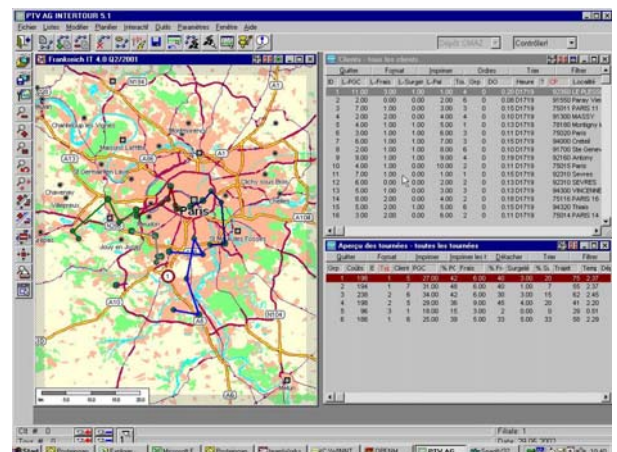
The new solution is extremely flexible, in particular with regard to the significant restraints imposed by BUTAGAZ. For example, the company needed an interface between SAP and the Open Transport

database for managing transport-related resources.

BUTAGAZ also benefits from short reaction times by PTV facing a tight rollout schedule. (8 months for testing, adjusting and installing the system at 30 sites)

Functionalities

The PTV solution consists of a standard module and specific modules adjusted to the specific conditions in the field of industrial supply such as rack arrangement in HGVs, and the ptv road editor, a module for customising the road network. Certain routes can be banned or blocked, for example.



Trip planning with PTV Intertour takes the following major restrictions into account: customer time slots, depot opening hours, vehicle capacity or precombined trips, strategic trip planning, cost transparency, vehicle dispatching, route calculation and the option to connect it with the fleet management system and GPS tracking.

"We decided in favour of PTV ONLINE because PTV Intertour's fast calculating time provides the planner with a high degree of interactivity. Moreover, PTV ONLINE had to offer a wide range of services covering operational trip planning, fleet management and navigation," says Nicolas Bailly, project manager at BUTAGAZ.