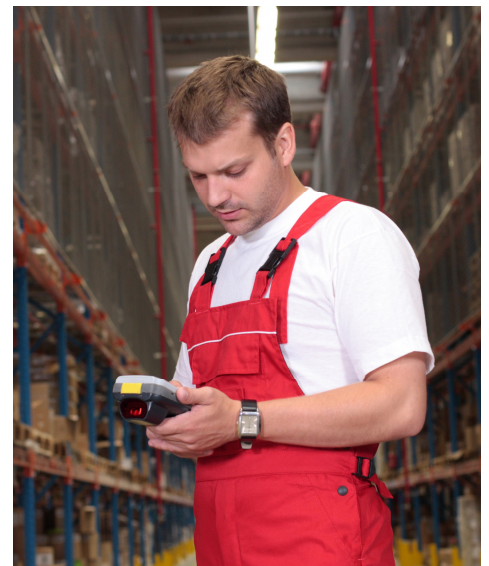


Datalight FlashFX Pro Helps Build “Future Proof” Platform for Enterprise Mobile Computers

The Challenge

In designing a ground-breaking new enterprise mobile computer, a well-known manufacturer sought to provide its customers the best mix of features and performance available anywhere on the market. And while customers are attracted to next-generation performance, often they also demand compatibility with a large pool of previously-deployed units in the field. Typically, any upgrade to the latest handheld technology will require software updates that work with legacy hardware as well. Yet another factor complicating software management for these OEMs is the complexity of sourcing flash parts in today’s ever-changing flash market—with its fluctuations in price and availability and frequent end-of-life announcements. In fact, sourcing flexibility was a major strategic focus for this particular design team as they considered flash management software, having dealt with end-of-life concerns many times in the past. In summary, the software team was faced with the engineering challenge of customizing a flash driver for the past, present and future hardware needs of their customers, no small task under the circumstances.



The Datalight Solution

In researching their options for flash management, the OEM design team discovered Datalight FlashFX[®] Pro, the intelligent flash media manager, with pre-written support for an ever-growing list of flash parts that currently tops 300. With help from the Datalight support team, they had FlashFX Pro up and running on the new target hardware in a few weeks, and they soon discovered write performance was **three times faster** than the default OS driver. Datalight has provided support for flash parts from all major vendors for over a decade, giving the manufacturer’s customers the assurance that software upgrades will work on older flash-based systems as well as systems now and in the future. The performance and flexibility FlashFX Pro brings to the design made the decision a simple one.

The Customer Payoff

With FlashFX Pro, the manufacturer was able to solve concerns about future-proofing and backwards compatibility for field upgrades, and its customers reap the benefit of noticeably faster write performance. They now have complete independence in sourcing flash parts, allowing them to meet production deadlines and shop for the most competitively priced flash parts without concern. “Every flash part we’ve ever used has gone EOL while the devices using it were still shipping,” said the Senior Director of Software Engineering. “FlashFX Pro gives us the flexibility to keep up with changes in the flash supply without having to resort to a costly total system redesign.”