



LINE-SIDE LABELING SOLUTIONS



What is “Line-side Labeling”?

Line-side Labeling is a term coined by Honda to describe a process in which container labels for Finished Parts are printed on-demand, in the work cell, using real-time data from the ERP system. The labels are then immediately applied to the containers of parts being packed. Printing and applying labels at line-side is the most effective way to prevent labeling errors.

SPEDE Line-side Labeling solutions are designed not just for Honda suppliers but for any company that needs a simple, mistake-proof solution for labeling product. Our solutions enable companies to:

- ♦ Reduce labor and expediting costs by eliminating labeling errors
- ♦ Increase efficiency by automating and streamlining the labeling process
- ♦ Improve customer satisfaction by ensuring error-free shipments

What causes labeling errors?

We’ve been solving labeling challenges for 23 years by using RF technology to provide real-time control over the labeling process. The most common labeling mistakes are caused by operator confusion, distraction, and poorly controlled processes. These include:

- Mixing up labels for left and right-hand parts
- Mis-identifying the Part Number to be labeled
- Choosing the wrong label from an onscreen drop-down menu
- Distributing batches of pre-printed labels to the wrong work cells
- Using pre-printed labels that have become obsolete

When human action is involved in a process, real-time control is a must in order to ensure accurate and consistent results.

How to Prevent Errors from Happening

The SPEDE Line-side Labeling solutions are built on the Japanese concept of Poka Yoke (mistake-proofing) in which a device is integrated into a business process to prevent mistakes from occurring.

Our solutions use a small RF Push-button or TouchScreen Terminal installed in the work cell to control both the label set-up and label-printing processes. The RF Terminal can be configured by the Supervisor to print the correct label for the Part Number being made. Once configured for a specific label, no other label can print.

When a label is needed, the operator simply pushes the button or touches the screen. Or, labels can print automatically via signal from a PLC. Labels are 100% correct, all the time because:

1. Label set-up is controlled
2. Label printing is controlled
3. Label data is sourced from the ERP system, automatically
4. Workers remain in the work cell to focus on making, packing and labeling parts

HOW OUR SOLUTIONS WORK

The SPEDE Line-side Labeling solutions consist of the SPEDE Labeling software which resides on a server PC connected to a wireless (802.11b) network, and an RF Push-button or TouchScreen terminal installed in the work cell. The SPEDE Labeling Software maintains a real-time database of label/Part Number data, which is sourced from the ERP system, eliminating the need for data entry. The RF terminal functions as a wireless bridge between the production machine, a label printer in the work cell, and the SPEDE Labeling Software. The Supervisor configures the RF terminal to print the correct label for the Part being made in the work cell. Once the terminal is set-up for a certain label, it will allow only that label to print.

When a label is needed, the operator simply pushes the RF button, or touches the screen. This action sends a signal to the SPEDE Labeling Software, which interprets the signal and sends the correct data to the printer in the work cell. The label prints and is immediately applied to the container of parts being packed.

PUSH-BUTTON LABELING

The Push-button Labeling solution is especially suited for work cells where the production makes only one Part Number at a time. The patented Push-button terminal has a small 5"x7" footprint, and fits easily in the work cell. It connects to a label printer via RF or serial port.

When the Push-button is configured for a certain label, a sample label will automatically print which can be affixed to the face of the Push-button to indicate the label it is set-up for. Once the Push-button is configured for a particular label, no other label will be allowed to print.

When a label is needed, the operator just pushes the button and the label prints in the work cell. The Push-button can interface to a PLC to print labels automatically when a signal is received.



Push the Button to print a label

LINE-SIDE LABELER

Our new Line-side Labeler solution uses the Symbol MK500 Micro Kiosk, a new compact RF TouchScreen with an integrated scanner at its base, and a mere 5" x 5" footprint.

Installed at line-side, the MK500 can be configured to print the label for the Part Number being made there. The SPEDE Labeling Software displays the Part Number, description and pack count data onscreen. To print a label, the operator touches the screen. The MK500 can also display a virtual keyboard for entering non-standard pack counts, and can display status messages such as the quantity of labels printed, quantity of "good" parts made, and more.

Interfaces to a PLC to Automate Label-Printing

To print labels without operator intervention, the MK500 can connect to a PLC to receive a signal when a "good" part is made. When the Pack Count is reached, SPEDE triggers a label to print automatically. The MK500 features three programmable buttons, 3.5" color display, integrated barcode scanner, and WINDOWS CE operating system.



Touch the Screen to print a label

TOUCH-SCREEN LABELING

The SPEDE RF TouchScreen solution is designed for work cells where the production machine makes several Part Numbers at one time. With each Part Number requiring a different label, confusion in identifying parts and matching parts with their correct labels can easily lead to mistakes.

How can you eliminate confusion, and control the process to prevent errors?

A SPEDE RF TouchScreen installed the work cell displays a photo of each Part Number being made. To print a label, just touch the photo of the Part Number. This sends a signal to the SPEDE Labeling Software, which associates the photo with the Part Number data. SPEDE sends the correct label data to the appropriate printer in the work cell. The label prints, and is immediately applied to the container of parts being packed.

The RF TouchScreen can be connected to one or more printers in a work cell via RF and/or serial port.



Touch a Photo of the Part that needs a label

Learn More. Call us at [888.808.4237](tel:888.808.4237), ext. 16.

Visit www.spede.com. Click “**Download Brochures**” for a pre-recorded Webinar on pdf:

[Intro to SPEDE Line-side Labeling Solutions](#)

New! Ask about our new **Line-side Label Validation** Solution. You can use your existing labeling system to print the labels, but validate them for accuracy before applying them to parts.

About SPEDE Technologies

SPEDE Technologies is a software and systems integration company celebrating our 30th year in developing and implementing inventory labeling and control systems for manufacturing and automotive companies.

Our solutions enable industrial companies to operate more efficiently and profitably by using wireless technologies throughout their 4 walls—to automate processes, eliminate errors and reduce labor. We implement total solutions tailored to your requirements and business objectives. Our customers are mid-sized to Fortune 500 companies with multiple facilities throughout the U.S., Mexico and Canada.

