PackProf

the software solution for managing packaging waste & compliance with environmental legislation

built by Softonomy

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1. Introduction

Irish businesses have a **legal responsibility** to report the amount of **Packaging Waste** materials they consume and produce. This is required by the *European Packaging Waste Directive (1994/62)* and the Irish *Waste Management (Packaging) Regulations (1997 – 2003)*. The responsibility for recovery and recycling of packaging lies with <u>all</u> businesses that handle packaging at <u>any</u> stage of the supply chain.

Typically, businesses use a complex range of packaging within their operations. This varies in quantity per material over any given month. Businesses are however required to **report** their **exact levels** of packaging usage to **Authorities**. This process is time-consuming, difficult and prone to error if performed manually. However, there is a software solution for this challenging task - **PackProf Ô** (packaging professional).

Softonomy Ô, a company based in Ireland, in association with environmental specialists and Irish businesses have developed the **PackProf** solution - a functional software application that manages the packaging data and compiles regular **statistical compliance reports**.

PackProf stores all packaging data for a business in a database and combines it with the operational volumes to determine the weight (tonnage) that has been handled for each packaging material type, such as Paper, Glass, Aluminium, etc. **PackProf** performs a series of calculations and uses the results to in-fill all required compliance reports, whether for *Local Authorities* and/or for *REPAK*.

2. Functionality

PackProf is an intuitive and user-friendly system. It enables businesses to manage their packaging data. Attributes are recorded for both *input* and *output* categories in a manner that suits each business as **PackProf** is customised for each Client and takes account of the business sector in which they operate.

This means that **PackProf** works efficiently with the business practices and processes of each Client. Customisation ensures the software is very meaningful and powerful for users.
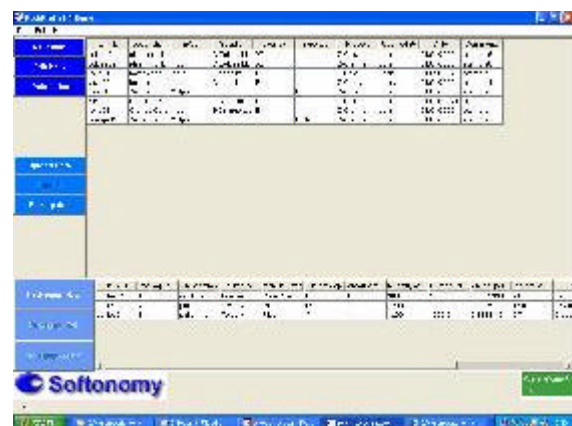

Figure 1: main window - sample

PackProf has been designed to enable Clients to easily *add*, *edit*, *sort* and *search* data in a straightforward manner. Views are structured and layered so that Clients can quickly get to the level of detail they require. **Data links** are configurable so that when changes are made to packaging, such as those made by suppliers, the database is automatically updated.

Packaging data is combined with *Sales*, *Purchasing* and/or other operational sources and **PackProf** calculates all values for the required compliance reports. All required operational data is extracted automatically via programmed **interfaces**.

PackProf provides extensive reporting capabilities. All reports can be saved for viewing at a later time or to share. Additionally, an *audit log* is made which records in detail how each value in each report is calculated. This audit log can be inspected at a later date by external auditors/inspectors, if that is required.

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3. Compliance Reporting

PackProf manages the packaging data and calculates statistics for compliance reporting, such as *tonnage per material type* for the following categories:

➤ **Irish Sourced - Input Packaging**
➤ **Imported - Input Packaging**
➤ **Internal Packaging Waste Management**
➤ **Irish Sourced - Output Packaging, for distribution in Ireland**
➤ **Imported - Output Packaging, for Ireland**
➤ **Output Packaging - Exported**

Figure 2: data editing – sample dialog

4. Implementation

There are 3 steps involved in the implementation of **PackProf** :-

➤ **Step 1:** An appointed consultant outlines the functionality of **PackProf** with the Client, gathers the requirements for their business and maps these into a *custom specification*. This step takes from 1 to 5 days.

➤ **Step 2:** the parameters of **PackProf** are *configured* and a unique version that meets the custom specification is built. This step typically takes from 2 to 4 weeks.

➤ **Step 3:** **PackProf** is *installed* with a comprehensive and Client-specific User Guide. As an optional extra, targeted *training* can be provided for the users.

5. Technology

PackProf has been designed from the outset to work on the most popular computing platforms and technologies.

The system architecture is based on a 3-tiered model, with data abstracted from functionality. The key layers are:

➤ **User Interface**
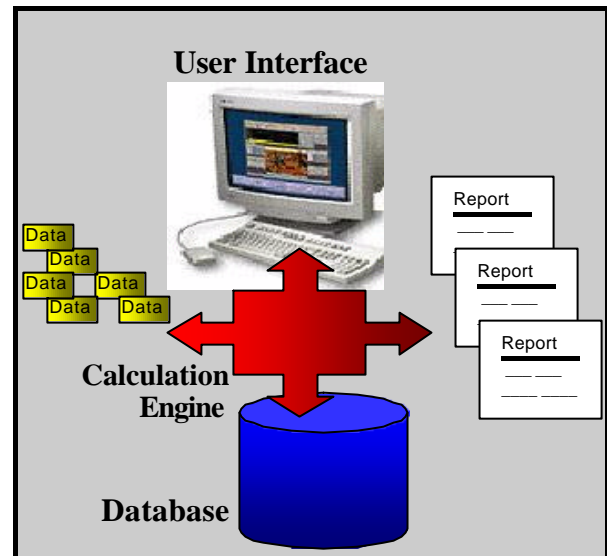➤ **Calculation Engine**
➤ **Database**

Figure 3: The 3-tiered architecture

Because of the layered architecture, **PackProf** is available on popular platforms such as Windows (98, ME, NT, 2000, XP), Web browsers (MS Internet Explorer, Netscape) and Unix/Linux and uses any of the leading ODBC-compliant databases, such as SQL Server, Oracle, etc.

6. Further Information

For further information about **PackProf**, please contact us via:

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*For information regarding other services and solutions available from **Softonomy**, please visit our website at www.softonomy.ie or otherwise contact us:*

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