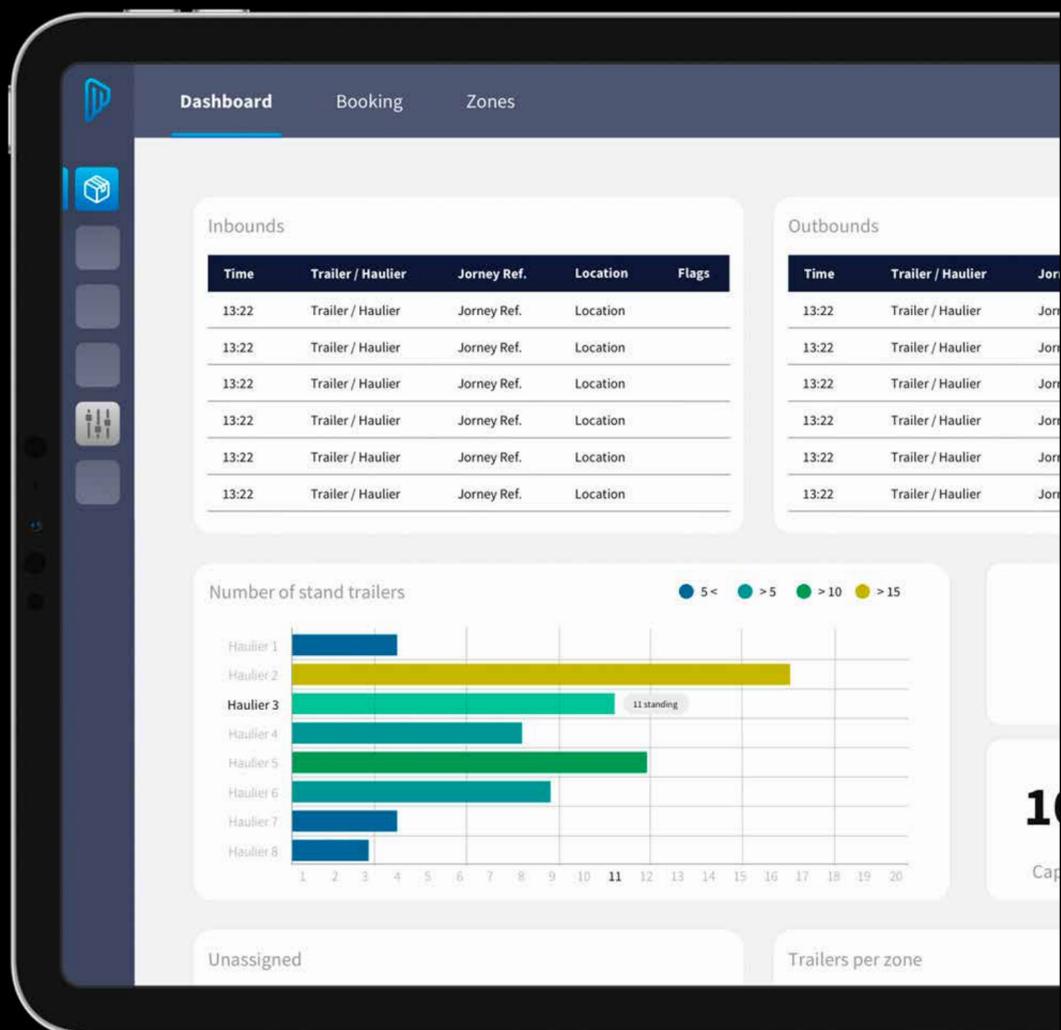


# Nestlé Mercurious

The Sauce solution to Nestlé's yard management challenge

## THE CLIENT

Nestlé is one of the world's biggest food and beverage companies, operating more than 400 factories in over 80 countries. York is the home of Nestlé's UK confectionery business, incorporating factory and warehouse operations, as well as a leading research and development centre. Around 500 trailers leave the site every week, transporting goods to major supermarket chains.



## THE BUSINESS CHALLENGE

Nestlé faced a significant business challenge to tackle complex yard management issues and improve operational efficiency. Lorry drivers coming to the York site would drop their trailer off at the warehouse to be unloaded and remain in a designated waiting area until they were told it was ready to collect. Communication was via two-way radio or walkie talkies, as it was for shunter drivers manoeuvring delivery trailers on and off loading bays, and records were largely paper-based. The system lacked visibility and made it difficult to track driver, vehicle and trailer movements on site.

## THE PROCESS

Nestlé had looked at various off-the-shelf yard management systems, but none of these suited their needs, so the company approached us to explore the possibility of developing a bespoke solution. We worked closely with Nestlé in order to gain a thorough understanding of the day-to-day operations at York, as well as the specific challenges it faced. From there, we are able to develop a unique yard management system to meet the company's objectives.



## THE SOLUTION

Working in partnership, we concluded a flexible and scalable solution was required. An in-house system of this kind would not only address the challenges faced at York, but also have the potential to be implemented at other Nestlé factories and warehouses. This involved creating a suite of applications which could be activated as necessary, dependent on the specific requirements of any site at a given time.

## THE RESULTS

The new system evolved over time as we developed the software, using our agile methodology, to ensure the technology exactly met Nestlé's needs. We created five programs, which work seamlessly together, to meet the company's requirements.

Under the new multilingual system, delivery drivers now input their details digitally upon arrival at security, including their name, vehicle and trailer numbers. They then wait in a designated area where they can view the flight board - similar to an airport or train station information screen - enabling them to monitor the status of their load. When it has been loaded or unloaded, they can return to their vehicle and leave the site.

Shunter drivers also access the live information via a tablet in their cab, meaning they are fully aware of all movements on site. The system has completely revolutionised operations at York, enhancing both operational efficiency and on-site safety.

Such has been its success, it will now be implemented by Nestlé and its strategic logistics partner, XPO Logistics, at an innovative new distribution centre in the East Midlands, known as the Digital Distribution Operation of the Future. The futuristic distribution centre is billed as one of the most advanced buildings of its kind in the world, with its digital ecosystem integrating predictive data and robotics. The digital yard management system created by Sauce will be a key element of operations at the flagship centre.