

# VC5090 Vehicle/Fixed Mount Mobile Computer: Maximizing productivity in the toughest enterprise environments

APPLICATION BRIEF

May 2006

## The challenge

One of the harshest enterprise environments is inside the warehouses of food manufacturers and distributors. Forklift operators can spend the day in the freezer — or moving between room temperature dry storage areas, coolers and freezers — placing shipments into inventory and moving inventory to lower shelves for picking. Extending business applications to point of work to streamline and increase the accuracy of these activities require an extremely rugged mobile computing device that can deliver high performance, real-time wireless connectivity and the ability to handle wide temperature and humidity swings, as well as the continuous vibration of the forklift.



## Key benefits

- Streamlines operations and maximizes productivity in the harshest warehouse environments
- Ruggedized with industrial and military grade specifications, delivering low total cost of ownership and investment protection
- Common Symbol architecture reduces the cost and complexity of mobility solutions
- Centralized remote management significantly reduces the time and cost typically associated with managing mobile devices
- Robust wireless LAN technology enables real-time visibility of critical business data
- Support for terminal emulation, rich browser-based and custom Windows CE applications provides the flexibility to improve efficiency across all your warehouse functions — from shipping and receiving to put-away and picking

## The solution

The VC5090 Vehicle/Fixed Mount Mobile Computer is specifically designed to endure the rigors of life on a forklift, regardless of environmental conditions. Industrial and military grade specifications for vibration, shock, temperature and sealing enable the VC5090 to handle the repetitive pounding and vibrations of forklift operations, the subzero temperatures in a freezer and constant radical temperature changes. The clarity and brightness of the screen ensures easy viewing, and data entry is easy and flexible, via either touchscreen or the keypad, which is designed for gloved hands.

The VC5090 provides everything you need to streamline forklift operations and improve the productivity of your forklift operators. The latest Intel processor provides the processing power to support everything from terminal emulation to browser-based and custom Windows CE mobile applications. Microsoft's Windows CE 5.0 Professional operating system provides compatibility with the latest application development tools. Robust 802.11a/b/g wireless networking delivers real-time data and real-time inventory visibility, offering seamless connectivity with nearly any wireless LAN and support for the latest security mechanisms to ensure the safety of your information during wireless transmission.

In addition, the VC5090 is equipped with the same architecture and user interface as Symbol's leading industrial strength line of rugged mobile computers, enabling fast and easy integration into a Symbol mobility environment. The addition of Symbol's Mobility Services Platform (MSP) makes management easy and cost-effective — IT personnel can quickly and remotely provision, track and support all VC5090 devices from a single central location.

The combination of rugged construction and the latest in computing power and functionality enables the VC5090 to provide the performance and real-time applications distributors and manufacturers need to streamline operations in an extremely demanding environment.

## Receiving and put-away: From dry storage to the cooler and the freezer — and back again

The VC5090 is ideal for receiving and put-away operations. Product is scanned as it is received into the warm or cold dock (which is kept close to freezing) — from pallets and large boxes to location slots. The VC5090 then displays the correct location — dry storage, the cooler or freezer — complete with the fastest route to the right storage area. Once the forklift operator reaches the right storage spot, the bar code on the slot is scanned to verify that the product was placed in the right location, completing the put-away task. The next task is then sent and displayed on the large, easy-to-read screen.

The rugged construction, a high degree of sealing (which includes the external connectors), heated keyboard and screen, ability to operate reliably in temperatures ranging from -22° to 122° F (-30° to 50° C) and internal field replaceable desiccant work hand in hand to protect the electronics from the harsh and varied environments found in distribution. The VC5090 can:

- endure the dramatic temperature changes in this environment
- handle the condensation that can result from the wide temperature fluctuations
- handle the direct stream of water during wash downs



And even in the far corners of your warehouse storage areas where lighting may be less than optimal, the backlit keyboard ensures ease and accuracy of data entry. Features combine to allow the VC5090 to deliver the reliable performance you need to keep your receiving and put-away operations at peak productivity.

## Replenishment: life in the deep freeze

Let-down, also known as replenishment, keeps inventory available on the lower shelves for pickers who are selecting product to fulfill orders. Forklift operators performing replenishment in the freezer receive the location (aisle and shelf) where product is running low on the VC5090. Prior to moving product, bar codes on both the product to be let down as well as the slot label in the new location are scanned. Inventory is then 'let-down' to the lower shelves, and the electronic work order is marked as correctly completed. With the VC5090, your replenishment operations function at peak capacity without error. Inventory is always available for pickers, which in turn assures that picking and shipping functions also achieve peak productivity.

Many warehouses operate around the clock, day in and day out. The VC5090 provides the rugged industrial specifications required to endure extended time in the freezer, remaining in the below zero environment up to 24 hours a day. Gloved hands can quickly and efficiently enter data, either through the touchscreen or the large



well spaced keys on the full QWERTY keyboard. And while the VC5090 receives its power from the forklift battery, an optional internal uninterruptible power supply (UPS) assures continued operation even on gas-powered trucks. With this option, forklift operators never need to power off the VC5090 and reboot, even when the forklift battery is changed (usually once or twice every eight to twelve hour shift).

## Summary

The VC5090 has what it takes to endure all day every day operation in one of the harshest enterprise environments — the food distribution warehouse. Military and industrial environmental specifications ensure reliable performance across a wide range of temperatures, as well as during prolonged use in the freezer. Microsoft's Windows CE 5.0 Professional operating system provides compatibility with standard development tools, simplifying application development. Robust wireless LAN connectivity provides the latest in security protocols, ensuring end-to-end protection for real-time data transmitted during wireless transmission. And while upgrading devices installed on forklifts traditionally involved either IT personnel traveling to the forklift or the removal of the device from the forklift, centralized management (available with the addition of Symbol's MSP) enables your IT department to provision and upgrade all VC5090 devices in seconds at the press of a button.

The VC5090 — the rugged design and robust functionality you need for a maximum return on investment and low total cost of ownership in the demanding food distribution warehouse.

For more information on the VC5090, contact us at +1.800.722.6234 or +1.631.738.2400, or visit us on the web at: [www.symbol.com/vc5090](http://www.symbol.com/vc5090)



## About Symbol Technologies

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*Corporate Headquarters*  
**Symbol Technologies, Inc.**  
One Symbol Plaza  
Holtsville, NY 11742-1300  
TEL: +1.800.722.6234  
+1.631.738.2400  
FAX: +1.631.738.5990

*For Asia Pacific Area*  
**Symbol Technologies Asia, Inc.**  
(Singapore Branch)  
Asia Pacific Division  
230 Victoria Street #12-06/10  
Bugis Junction Office Tower  
Singapore 188024  
TEL: +65.6796.9600  
FAX: +65.6796.7199

*For Europe, Middle East and Africa*  
**Symbol Technologies**  
EMEA Division  
Symbol Place, Winnersh Triangle  
Berkshire, England RG41 5TP  
TEL: +44.118.9457000  
FAX: +44.118.9457500

*For North America, Latin America and Canada*  
**Symbol Technologies**  
The Americas  
One Symbol Plaza  
Holtsville, NY 11742-1300  
TEL: +1.800.722.6234  
+1.631.738.2400  
FAX: +1.631.738.5990

**Symbol Web Site**  
For a complete list of Symbol subsidiaries and business partners worldwide contact us at:  
**[www.symbol.com](http://www.symbol.com)**  
**E-mail**  
[info@symbol.com](mailto:info@symbol.com)



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