

Integrating Payment Solutions with a MS Windows Application

The Nomad Photo Booth



An entrepreneur contacted Datawrx for help with a concept for an up-scale photo booth. He already had the software, the booth design and the computer hardware but had run into issues with payment acceptance. The requirements were simple enough since the photo booth only needed to accept bills or credit cards. No coin changer was needed.

The Problem

All the options he had explored up to this point were:

- Too limited in functionality i.e. pulse based bill validators cannot return change or communicate with software directly.
- Extremely difficult to implement, required in depth knowledge of the MDB protocol.
- Required time and effort to develop software to manage the MDB devices and transaction.

Most conventional products simply relay the MDB commands and instructions to a PC which is then expected to understand and respond to the information. This is not a simple task despite several libraries and API's being available.

The Solution

The MDBPro differs from everything else by managing the complexity of the MDB protocol and reducing the PC

communications to simple commands. By being a controller as opposed to a simple MDB to RS232 relay it allows you to concentrate on core tasks, speed up development, reduce costs and get your concept to market faster.

We were able to provide an all in one solution. The MDBPro coupled with a cashless device, bill recycler and a simple custom software application allowed the photo booth to accept payment in the form of:

- Cash, \$5 to \$20 bills, returning change in \$5 bills
- Credit or debit card
- Coupons
- Pre-paid value cards

Speed to Market

Leveraging the MDBPro platform allowed us to provide the customer with a robust solution requiring minimal customization in a very short time. We were presented with the problem on a Friday and were able to deliver a complete solution by Monday (*yes we work on weekends sometimes!*).

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