

Terminal Emulation Productivity Continues



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Summary

Terminal Emulation (TE) has been a staple for enterprise mobility solutions going back to the 1990's, when wireless mobility emerged as reality. Rugged, brick-shaped mobile computers of the time were being deployed in factories, distribution centers, warehouses, and retail stores where task workers used the computer's barcode scanner and physical keypad to enter data that kept supply in sync with demand—ultimately keeping the wheels of mission-critical operations rolling.

Terminal Emulation made it easy to see and capture the data from the server-based supply chain management systems. Fields such as "SKU #", "Quantity", "Location" and more were easily populated by the task worker, eliminating the paper-based flow used previously to manually capture this information. The biggest difference was that Terminal Emulation eliminated the secondary step of data entry: sitting at a computer to key in the values from the paper page into the server-based system.

Today, Terminal Emulation continues to deliver the same easy-to-use mobility client for capturing mission-critical enterprise data as it has been for the past two decades. Even as mobile computing hardware has changed dramatically over time, companies big and small continue to select Wavelink Terminal Emulation ("Wavelink TE") as a core component of their enterprise mobility deployments. Whether on a rugged, enterprise mobile computer or on today's popular iOS or Android devices, companies depend on Wavelink TE.

This whitepaper outlines five reasons for selecting Wavelink TE as part of a mission-critical enterprise mobility solution.

1. Wavelink TE Works

A proven solution is never a fad. With over 20 years of proven deployments, Wavelink TE has a long-term track record of meeting the needs of businesses around the world. Companies that select Wavelink TE don't need to worry about the stability of the product.

They also don't need to worry about software compatibility. Wavelink TE is the only Terminal Emulation client recognized and recommended by the world's leading supply chain management application providers. This reduces investment as there's no need to fund development (whether internal or external) of a mobile application to interface with these systems.

In addition, Wavelink TE is uncomplicated and familiar. Its screens present simple fields for data population or review. The workflow is logical and familiar. Best of all, with Wavelink's Screen Reformatter capability, TE screens can be adapted to fit company specific, unique mission-critical workflows.

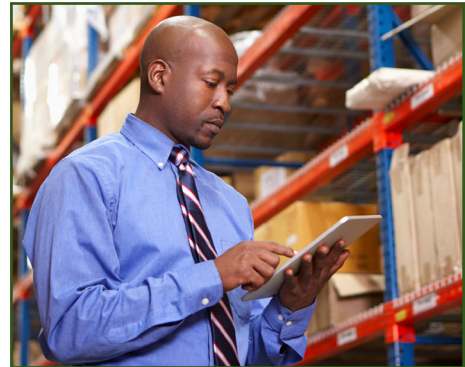


Wavelink TE is the only Terminal Emulation client recommended by leading supply chain management application providers.

2. Wavelink TE is Widely Adopted

Numbers tell a story, and eight of the world's top 10 retailers use Wavelink TE in a variety of areas throughout their businesses. Around the globe, over seven million Wavelink TE clients help capture and aggregate mission-critical data for enterprises throughout the supply chain and across industries.

Not only is Wavelink TE widely adopted by customers, it's also easily available from leading enterprise mobility hardware providers. In fact, 68% of rugged mobile devices deployed globally run Wavelink TE. Enterprise mobile computing devices from manufacturers such as Motorola Solutions, Honeywell Scanning and Imaging, and Datalogic, and others can run or come with Wavelink TE pre-loaded from their factories.



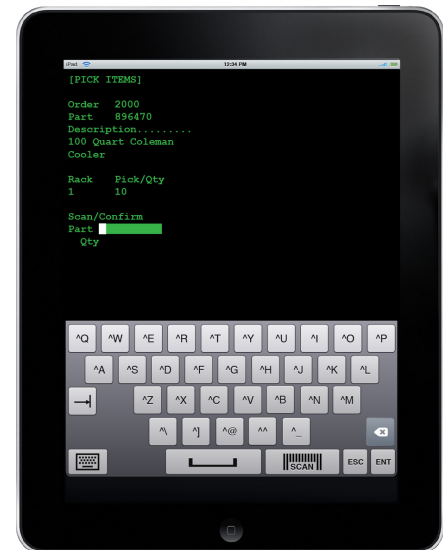
Over seven million Wavelink TE clients help capture mission-critical data throughout the supply chain.

3. Continued Evolution

At first glance, Terminal Emulation doesn't look like a 21st-century mobile application. Its "green screen" appearance looks like a software utility from the DOS platform days. Although it originated there, Wavelink TE has evolved alongside the mobile operating systems that have brought enterprise mobility to the present day.

Sure, Wavelink TE did operate on DOS-based mobile computers from the 1990's. When Palm OS penetrated the enterprise mobility market in 1998, Wavelink TE was there. When Microsoft Windows CE and Pocket PC entered the enterprise mobile computing market at the same time, there were Wavelink TE clients available for both of these operating systems. And as Microsoft Windows Mobile has evolved from greyscale displays to color, from 2003 to 5.0, 6.1 and 6.5, Wavelink TE clients have kept pace, and continue to be pre-licensed or pre-loaded on many mission-critical enterprise mobile computers.

Today, with a wide selection of consumer-grade smartphones and tablets being considered for various mobility solutions, Wavelink continues to invest in Terminal Emulation, offering clients for Android and iOS. Offering a family of TE clients frees enterprises to select the hardware that best meets the needs of the mobile worker, and to be confident there is a Wavelink TE client available to ensure the worker is productive. Businesses can now deploy multiple hardware options such as rugged mobile computers for warehouse workers and consumer tablets for in-store retail associates while still deploying Wavelink TE clients throughout the environment regardless of the device.



Wavelink continues to invest in TE, offering clients for Android and iOS (shown above on iPad).

4. Increased Productivity

For companies that have already deployed enterprise mobility solutions, TE reduces the learning curve when upgrading hardware. Task workers have watched mission-critical enterprise mobility hardware come and go over the years, but what has been constant is the simple, familiar look of Terminal Emulation. Workers have had to adjust to new features—hardware changes from monochrome display to color, DOS to iOS, navigation, input methods, and more. Yet through it all, sticking with Wavelink TE has enabled users to confidently navigate the software that helps them get the job done.



What has been constant for task workers is the simple, familiar look of Terminal Emulation (shown here on iOS)

From an IT perspective, Wavelink TE offers assurance that the mobile application is compatible with the supply chain management software it needs to interface with—whether an ERP, WMS, or other SCM system. Wavelink TE is compatible with all the leading supply chain applications.

Selecting Wavelink TE also means better management of IT costs. There's no need to dedicate resources toward the development of a custom mobility client. This frees up these resources for other projects that can directly impact business processes, operational flow, and ultimately improve operating margins.

5. Continued Innovation

Wavelink continues to invest in Terminal Emulation. The Wavelink TE portfolio now spans all the leading mobile operating systems—from Windows Mobile and CE to Android and iOS. Yet the innovation doesn't stop with OS compatibility. Recent enhancements to Wavelink TE include support for double-byte characters on the TE for Android client, making Wavelink TE more readily accessible for deployments in Asia. What's more, XML-based keyboard editing has been added recently to the Android client for greater keyboard customization capability—adapting to specific workflows.



Wavelink TE is the only Terminal Emulation client recommended by leading supply chain management application providers.

In addition to feature expansion, Wavelink TE innovation helps bring emerging technologies to the mainstream of mission-critical mobility. Along with traditional keyboard entry and barcode scanning, Wavelink TE is voice enablement-ready, allowing data capture and text-to-speech and speech-to-text conversion via Wavelink Speakeasy.

Powerful, Proven Productivity

Wavelink Terminal Emulation continues to be a task worker “productivity catalyst” for enterprises across industries. Its proven stability and performance, along with robust compatibility with leading device hardware and supply chain management applications, make Wavelink TE a reliable foundation of a mission-critical enterprise mobility strategy.

For more about Wavelink Terminal Emulation and other Wavelink Application Streaming options, visit www.wavelink.com.

The Industry Leader

Wavelink, a business unit of LANDesk Software, is the leading provider of multi-vendor mobile device management, wireless infrastructure management, terminal emulation, voice enabling and mobile application development solutions. Wavelink has more than 7.5 million active client licenses in use worldwide. Wavelink solutions solve the unique challenges found in deploying, managing and controlling today’s enterprise mobility systems.

These solutions facilitate peak performance from frontline staff. Wavelink offers a platform to manage, provision, update, secure and troubleshoot ruggedized mobile computing platforms from a single, easy-to-use console. Wavelink products ease the growing chaos around mobility, heterogeneity, and the challenges around more demanding end-user computing environments. Inside the four walls, or in the field, Wavelink leads mobility.

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