

# Route Planning Solution Saves Time and Money

## Challenge:

### Manual Process Challenges Keeping Delivery Promises

Before Schweppes Belgium switched to Descartes, they organized their distribution manually. This was time consuming and very inefficient. Schweppes needed a more professional and automated solution as they were wasting a lot of time and money as a result of manual planning.

## Solution:

### An Organization Up & Running

With a seasonal peak in the summer months, Schweppes consistently commits to deliver within 48 hours, on the basis of orders received by fax, e-mail, EDI (Electronic Data Interchange) or phone. As soon as an order is put into the system, data is imported into the Descartes solution which then optimizes planning and delivery needs for the day.

The solution provides delivery instructions per vehicle and sends data back to the order management system for approval. The shipping tickets are printed, and the agenda for loading and delivery is issued. Although Schweppes guarantees 48 hours delivery, reality is that delivery time frames are much shorter, and vehicles are fully loaded, so the dispatcher can evaluate the problems accurately and solve them quickly.

Descartes' solution leverages advanced planning and optimization technologies and was designed to be an interactive tool for route planners. The solution calculates the daily planning, improves service delivery as well as examines the cost-effectiveness of the transportation strategy, helping to understand and control company transportation costs.

## Results:

### Accuracy and Predictability

"Descartes' route planning solution offers many advantages, including a saving of time and money. The distribution plan is much more accurate, reducing the number of vehicles needed to complete the deliveries. We do not have to deal with planning surprises concerning delivery; if the solution determines that 20 routes are necessary, it is correct and everything goes as planned," says Bernard Baugniet.



## Company Profile

Schweppes Belgium  
Soft Drink Producer

## Descartes Solutions

Dynamic Route Planning

## About the Client

Schweppes tonic water began in 1783 as the world's original soft drink. Its founder, Jacob Scheweppe, was drawn to the new art of carbonating beverages, so he refined and patented his own process of creating mineral water. For over 230 years, Schweppes has been committed to quality and excellence.

"Descartes route planning solution offers many advantages, including a saving of time and money."

## Bernard Baugniet

Traffic & Warehouse Manager  
Schweppes Belgium