



## MicroLite Solution – Securing Shipment of Valuable Art

**Application:** Temperature and humidity monitoring of fine art

**Organization:** A leading museum of modern and contemporary art

### Background:

In today's global village, works of art are often loaned from one museum's collection to another museum, located in another country. The importance of securing the correct environmental conditions of these precious and sometimes even priceless exhibits is further increased during shipment between museums as well as during storage and eventually, display.



### About the Customer:

A leading museum of modern and contemporary art, displaying permanent collections and temporary exhibitions in a wide array of types – paintings, prints and drawings, photography, video, sculptures, architecture and design.

### Key Customer Challenges:

- A painting worth millions of dollars needed to be shipped to a large European exhibition, where it was going to be displayed for three months in a church.
- The environmental conditions (temperature and humidity) of the painting during the transportation process as well as throughout the duration of the exhibition must be monitored, to ensure it is kept in adequate conditions.
- The packaging in which the painting was going to be shipped in had already been built before it was decided to add the data logger. Thus, a compact logger that meets minimal space allowances was required.
- The museum required a simple solution that could be activated automatically and enables alarm indications during the shipment and exhibition.
- Acclimatization – when the painting arrives to its destination, it is required to wait for the temperature inside the packaging to be similar to the external ambient temperature. This could be done by implementing a data logging device with a USB cable pointing out of the box for external PC connection, thereby enabling an informed decision to be made. In the past, the box was opened 24 hours after its arrival, without any certainty that acclimatization has already occurred.

### MicroLite Solution:

- The MicroLite RH data logger was placed inside the back of the frame of the painting.
- The MicroLite RH device was programmed to start when the courier arrives to pick up the shipment. Samples were set to be recorded at 8 hour intervals during the shipment and during the exhibition.
- When the painting arrived to its destination, the team responsible for hosting the exhibition connected the MicroLite RH via direct USB interface to the computer. This resulted in automatic creation and emailing of a PDF data report to the museum that sent the painting. This automatic process is possible via the Boomerang feature. In addition, the data can also be downloaded at the destination for a full record of all logged data, for internal records.





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- During the exhibition, the MicroLite RH device continued monitoring the temperature and humidity of the painting, providing the museum with critical knowledge on the storage and display conditions the painting was subjected to.
  - The MicroLite RH data logger had also accompanied the painting on its return to point of origin, the museum which originally loaned the painting.

#### **Measurable Results:**

- **Measurable quality assurance** - Accurate and reliable confirmation of temperature and humidity readings with detailed analysis of shipment from origin to destination.
- **Efficient monitoring process** – Ability to receive the data report automatically via the Boomerang feature enabled a more efficient monitoring process and avoided unnecessary use of resources to ensure receipt of the data from the process. Thus, eliminated delay in receiving the data or worse yet, data loss.
- **Value for money** - Compact, accurate, low cost monitoring system with zero implementation, packaging disruptions or training costs.

#### **Customer's Last Word:**

*“The MicroLite RH logger was an ideal solution for us to monitor the environmental conditions of our painting during shipment and during the time it was exhibited in the church.”*