

MANUFACTURING GIANT INCORPORATES SAP-CENTRIC ARCHITECTURE

CASE STUDY



SAP LEAP
Large Enterprise Acceleration Program

THE CLIENT

Founded in Spain over 70 years ago, the client has leveraged years of expertise to become a key player in the European manufacturing landscape, with over \$2.5 billion in yearly revenue. The client is present in multiple countries across Europe, and has recently opened their first facility in the United States as part of a strategic, five-year expansion plan.

The company comprises four business units, including manufacturing recycled materials, integrated waste management and the creation of packaging solutions. With a particular focus on the development and production of recycled paper, they are known for their innovation and firm commitment to sustainable products and business practices.



THE CHALLENGE

The client's corporate SAP system went live across Europe some years ago, but was implemented within a single division only. A second of the four divisions followed suit shortly thereafter, with a program rollout that is still ongoing to this day.

With three of its divisions eventually included in this process, this left just one non-SAP division within the company. Incorporating the last division has proved to be particularly challenging due to the client's specific business processes and complex planning algorithms, which have been supported by ad-hoc systems up to this point.

The client's intention in creating a transversal SAP-centric landscape was to facilitate the integration of the non-SAP division, without losing the competitive edge that their existing solutions had provided.

The client's own IT team is highly experienced and has extensive knowledge and understanding of the existing arrangements. The challenge facing NTT DATA was to prove their value as a partner to that team, by demonstrating a profound understanding of the client's business processes and the system landscape as a whole.



THE SOLUTION

The chosen approach would see the creation of a new system architecture, with SAP at its hub, from where the majority of business users would undertake their work. Around that core SAP structure, complementary architecture connects the hub to other areas of the system through interfaces designed to relay information to and from the most critical functionalities, such as planning.

This process is incremental in nature, with the project split into different workstreams to facilitate that approach. NTT DATA was successful in being selected to undertake the first workstream, and following the success of that stage, has now been chosen to carry out the second workstream as well.



provides the latest digital-transformation expertise and solutions, enabling a connected future though sustainable innovation.



THE RESULT

The benefits to the client of a fully deployed solution will be demonstrable and numerous. Firstly, they will enjoy greater synergy and more effective information interchange between Business Units, thanks to the master data homogenisation inherent in the solution. This will in turn allow for greater consolidation and ease of reporting between the various BUs.

The solution also represents a considerable simplification of the client's corporate system landscape. While effective, the variety and complexity of the previous solution made it unwieldy compared to the new architecture, as well as being the only division within the client that was not SAP-centric. That issue has now been resolved.

Having a solution in place that is built around one synergetic architecture has also reduced the client's Total Cost of Ownership (TCO). This is an important metric in such a large organisation, where a broader view of the total investment and ongoing value of the product over its lifespan are critical, and without which ROI is difficult to measure.







WHY NTT DATA

NTT DATA's track record of successfully undertaking SAP transformations at world-leading companies provided compelling evidence as to their suitability for such a project. Specifically in this case, a successful previous collaboration with NTT DATA Turkey for a rollout project had demonstrated their expertise on a similar undertaking.

NTT DATA's industry-specific knowledge, with many of this project's team members having relevant previous experience (with a focus on the manufacturing sector through the SAP4Industry unit), perfectly placed NTT DATA to meet the client's requirements in this case. The client was also provided with references that backed up NTT DATA's expertise within manufacturing industries as further evidence of their suitability.

NTT DATA has over 25 years of experience partnering with clients to provide end-to-end solutions across diverse industries.



WHAT'S NEXT

This project comprises a total of five workstreams. These workstreams will be launched sequentially in a gradual, 'waterfall-style' plan to bring the implementation of a new system landscape to its conclusion.

NTT DATA's successful collaboration with the client on what was a challenging undertaking will position them as the logical choice for any and all SAP-related projects within this division. It has become clear that highly experienced team members are necessary for projects of this complexity, where the client's own IT team has a profound and extensive knowledge of their existing systems.

NTT DATA's role in future projects for this client will require semi-independent technical teams to permit capacity to be scaled according to contemporary need. The experience gained in this project has provided a holistic understanding of the client's whole model, ideally positioning NTT DATA as a collaborative partner going forward.



