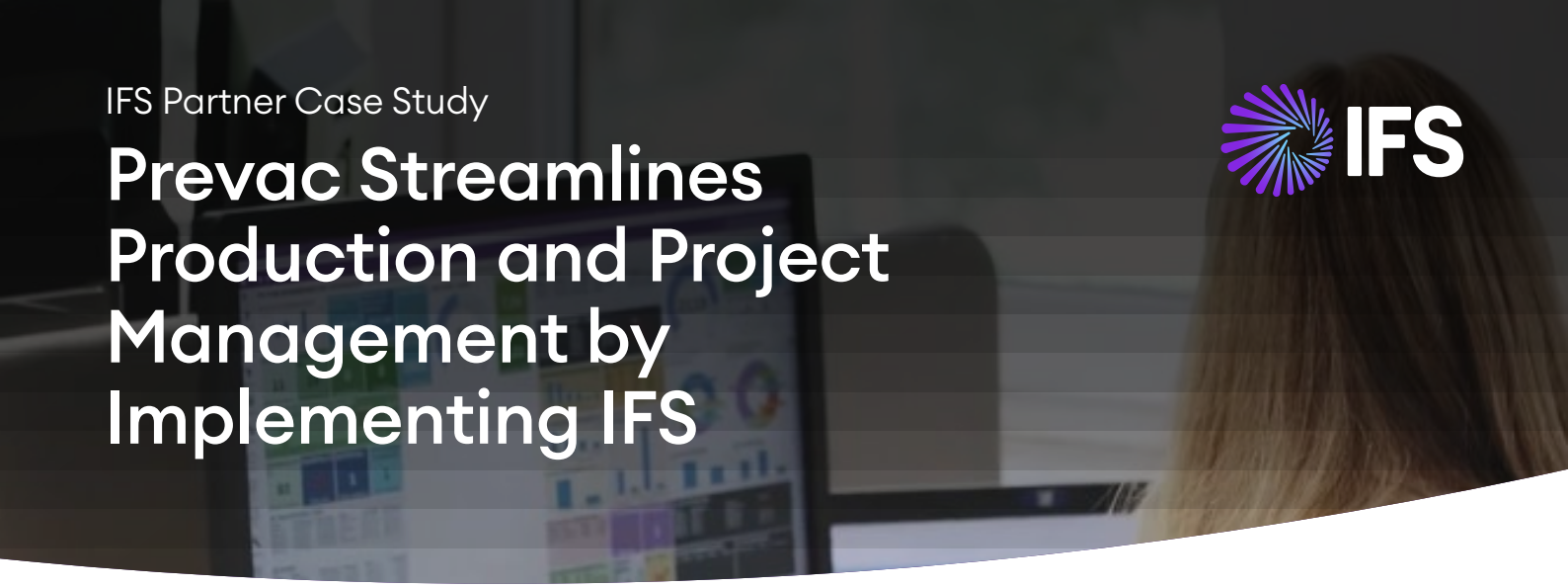
IFS Partner Case Study

Prevac Streamlines Production and Project Management by Implementing IFS



PREVAC sp. z o.o., an advanced research equipment manufacturer, has implemented IFS to optimize the management of complex manufacturing processes and make-to-order projects. Prevac sp. z o.o. specializes in manufacturing research equipment used analyze high (HV) and ultra-high vacuum (UHV) applications.

"Our company works in a very complex, mixed project and production model that encompasses make-to-order projects, production to order, assembly to order, and short batch production made to stock. Production and project management in such an environment is a major challenge. After reaching a certain level, it becomes very difficult without an efficient system," explains Mariusz Czarnecki, CIO, Prevac sp. z o.o.

In 2009, the company decided to change its integrated ERP solution. The main idea was to integrate individual areas of operation in a single, coherent computer system which would constitute a source of management information. The business goals have been divided into the following areas of operation: manufacturing, project management, documentation management, maintenance, customer relationship management, sales and service, finance, human resources and payroll.

"One of the most important areas was scheduling and production planning, service management, electronic document workflow and integration of our CAD system with the ERP system," adds Mariusz Czarnecki.

Implementation of IFS

The choice of supplier was preceded by a thorough market analysis, presentations of ERP systems and negotiations with potential vendors. The IFS offer was the best in many respects. For example, the standard version of the system perfectly matched the customer's expectations, while built-in system flexibility allows the system to be adapted to changing business conditions.

About Prevac SP. Z O.O.

Prevac was founded by Dr. Andreas Glenz in 1996 in Rogów, Poland. The company is one of the world's leading manufacturers of research equipment used for analysis of high (HV) and ultra-high vacuum (UHV) applications. Prevac employs a highly qualified staff of 150 professionals, of whom 38 are R&D constructors, manufacturing engineers and software developers. Prevac's innovative made-to-order products have been used in research institutions in England, Austria, Belgium, China, Czech Republic, France, Spain, India, Japan, Canada, Germany, Norway, Poland, South Africa, Russia, Sweden, USA and Italy. The company also provides vacuum system and vacuum component design services, research, service and training. Its innovativeness and high-quality products and services have been confirmed by the first prize for the "Product of the Future" in the 11th edition of the "Polish Product of the Future" awards.

https://prevac.pl/

"We focused on the standard and flexibility of the application, by which I mean the ability to adjust to the specific needs of our company. With this we can achieve maximum reduction of the costs related to possible modifications," says Mariusz Czarnecki.

The implementation was carried out in a non-standard manner. "As an R&D company with a team of qualified IT specialists, we set a very ambitious goal to implement the system on our own and to start using the new system from the new financial year. We gave ourselves only three months to teach the implementation team and administrators about the new system, train employees, migrate data, launch the system and make it work at the same level at least as the system we used at that time," explains Mariusz Czarnecki.

Benefits

Prevac has experienced a period of dynamic development and has seen its turnover increase several times over the past few years. Consequently, the number of projects has increased, and production and service have developed significantly. This change of scale and turnover forced changes in the organization and business processes.

"The system really helped us in this matter, offering the functionality and patterns to handle processes–with the possibility to adapt them to our industry. The built-in tool for production planning and constraint-based scheduling is worth noting. Planning has been simplified to the maximum. Based on the schedules that are prepared, we execute orders in the company's production departments," says Mariusz Czarnecki.

"The system plays a major role in production and project management. Before implementing IFS, our company was lacking in these areas. Advanced planning of production and projects has become a reality, and with the data collected in these processes, we can use our resources and potential more efficiently," says Mariusz Czarnecki.

The whole company uses automated planning of materials and production resources as well as procurement planning, and receives cash flow forecasts and information about possible problems. Therefore, instead of applying corrective actions, there is always enough time to prevent problems.

"When we use the system, we constantly learn new things about it, and we are surprised by its built-in functionality that enables excellent adaptation to the changing conditions and business processes in our company. We often use the implemented process support and adjust our processes accordingly, which makes our work more efficient and more organized. In this respect, as well as in many other respects related to our new ERP system, the selection of IFS was the perfect decision," Mariusz Czarnecki concludes.

Benefits achieved with IFS

- Instant access to management information
- Real-time access to manufacturing information
- Data integrity and centralized data entry
- Advanced project and production management
- Optimized use of enterprise resources
- Automatic procurement planning
- Detailed cost control
- Cash flow forecasts
- Efficient information flow within the company
- Optimized sales and customer contact
- Ability to analyze risks associated with the budget and deadlines

Find out more

Further information contact your local IFS office or visit our web site, ifs.com

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