

Lumag takes business to the next level with IFS



Lumag, a renowned manufacturer from the automotive industry, specializes in manufacturing friction linings and brake pads for vehicles. It sells its products both in the Polish market and abroad. Lumag exports almost 80% of its entire production volume, and the major consumer of the company's products are EU countries. Since 2013, the company has a new production plant with an area of nearly 19,000 m², placed in a logistically-convenient location in Budzyń, Poland. The production plant is equipped with high-efficiency technological lines. This investment allowed for a significant increase in Lumag's production capacity.

Necessary integration of IT systems

Prior to the implementation of IFS, Lumag had been using many non-integrated supporting management in various areas of the company's activities. These solutions proved to be effective, but the heterogeneity of information from various sources made the reporting processes very time-consuming, and the end result did not guarantee consistent data.

The implementation of IFS, performed by InfoConsulting (Platinum-level IFS partner), aimed to replace numerous programs with a single, integrated ERP solution. From the very beginning of the cooperation, Lumag was aware of the advantages resulting from this integration, which significantly facilitated the execution of the project. After a year from signing the contract, IFS went live.

About Lumag

Lumag company, founded in 1988 by Marek Żak, main shareholder and CEO, during the initial period of its existence, specialized in manufacturing of friction linings. As time went by, the company expanded, introducing its own technology for brake pads production. Over the years, Lumag has made huge technological progress, which is visible in a constantly modernized machine park, construction solutions used by the company, and continuous improvement of its quality and safety standards.

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Implementation of IFS

InfoConsulting consultants took into account issues related to optimizing Lumag's main business processes, as well as enhancing the company's cooperation with partners and clients, and proposed that IFS should be implemented in the following areas: finance, HR and payroll, manufacturing (including manufacturing planning and operational reporting), distribution (including procurement, sales, warehouse management, with an emphasis on Warehouse Management System (WMS) functionality, B2B portals for supplier and customer, as well as Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) communication in specific areas), quality management, and maintenance.

During the first stage of implementation, IFS was parametrized according to Lumag's requirements, and the solution's interfaces and reporting functions were appropriately modified. Also, the implementation team performed a number of activities aimed at improving how the company operated. This included preparing the system for production reporting using touch terminals; expanding functionalities related to reporting time and attendance; introducing a task-based WMS in warehouses and (partly) manufacturing; changing the sales unit (now, the sales unit is pallets with their contents and not, as previously, separate items); adjusting the system to provide full support for a warehouse with terminals.

Consistent information, efficient management

By integrating major business processes, IFS increased the efficiency of Lumag's operations and facilitated management of the company.

Within the implementation of IFS, Lumag has also implemented a powerful business intelligence solution based on MicroStrategy technology. The solution allows the use of a web interface and mobile application, which is available in particular on iPads, and offers real-time access to key data both for management and the sales team. Employees can also access the off-line version. A specifically-designed management dashboard enables data to be checked quickly and enables access to detailed info through a built-in multidimensional drill-down and analysis system. The mobile application provides data on customers, suppliers, sales, finances, warehouse, procurement and production. With the application, all the data users need is always at their fingertips, without the necessity to use a PC or access paper reports. A notification system that highlights the key data facilitates instant reactions in case of danger, deviation or delays.

About the partnership

InfoConsulting Sp. z o.o., a Platinum-level IFS partner, is a consulting company specializing in delivering comprehensive services in consulting, IT systems implementation and customer support. InfoConsulting is a part of the global IFS Partner Network and is entitled to sell, implement and maintain IFS on the Polish market.

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Janusz Marciniak, IT Director, Lumag Sp. z o.o

The solution has been based on a predefined analytical layer of IFS, as well as on data from external customer systems (including Microsoft®Excel files). The IFS layer for accessing data uses IFS Information Access Layer (IAL). With this technology, it is possible to easily develop multidimensional data cubes from any data from IFS and conveniently present them through powerful BI solutions.

Integration as a basis for future development

By implementing IFS, Lumag has gained a satisfactory level of operation for a long time to come, a unified system of reporting and fixing errors, easily planned and controlled item rotation, as well as simplified warehouse management through a wide usage of WMS functionalities.

“The implementation of the IFS ERP system made it possible to integrate and optimize processes carried out previously by two separate systems combined with a number of our proprietary,” Janusz Marciniak, IT director at Lumag Sp. z o.o., concludes.

Benefits seen using IFS

- Integration and optimization of processes
- Data centralization
- Real-time business management data access
- Effective manufacturing planning
- Improved warehouse management
- Effective cost control
- Efficient quality management

Find out more

Further information, e-mail info@ifs.com, contact your local IFS office or visit our web site, ifs.com

