

MOLD-MASTERS MOLDS AUTOMATED PROCESSES TO ITS GLOBAL BUSINESS

Challenge

Mold-Masters is a globally diversified organization with entities, suppliers and customers across the globe. Consequently, management needed to implement global standards of excellence based on common processes, systems and platforms. Since the SAP® system is a key part of this strategy, Mold-Masters wanted to optimize this core business system with globally consistent processes and make internal reporting more effective.

Solution

Mold-Masters turned to the process experts at IDS Scheer Consulting, a Software AG brand, to optimize its SAP system and make process improvements. During a period of more than 12 years, IDS Scheer Consulting has acted as a trusted advisor to Mold-Masters. Projects have included optimizing key design and sales processes as well as corporate reporting and business consolidation.

Benefits

- Reduced administrative effort by 50 percent
- Reduced overall lead times by 50 percent
- Streamlined corporate reporting
- Increased productivity by automating previously manual and inconsistent processes
- Ability to easily track Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), leading to better decision-making



Mold-Masters® is a privately held global company and the world's leading supplier of hot runner technology and systems. The company designs, manufactures and supports a full range of hot runner products, including hot runner systems, temperature controllers, hot halves and gating technologies.

Get There Faster.™

“IDS Scheer Consulting combines two invaluable qualities: The understanding of our business requirements and challenges and the capability to implement a solution to address them.”

Dario Vettor | Vice President, IT | Mold-Masters

Excellence by design

The relationship between Mold-Masters and IDS Scheer Consulting has been a success story for more than a decade, starting with the original SAP implementation in the late 1990s. Since then, IT Vice President Dario Vettor has seen a number of SAP projects successfully completed.

One key project was optimizing the design process for custom systems. To design these items, sales representatives and/or customers work with Mold-Masters engineers to create complex, 3-D computer-aided design drawings. These drawings provide templates used to manufacture specific plastic items. This intricate, time-consuming process typically took weeks, limiting the company's productivity and slowing down manufacturing.

To resolve this, IDS Scheer Consulting integrated Mold-Masters' proprietary Merlin™ application with SAP and then deployed a process so engineers can complete drawings faster. They create specifications and CAD/CAM files, then automatically send them to manufacturing to pump out the hot-runner systems—all by working with one centralized SAP interface. Mold-Masters engineers can easily change variables and provide these drawings with minimal human intervention, reducing the risk of errors.

Streamlining sales processes

Mold-Masters also worked with IDS Scheer Consulting to eliminate sales inefficiencies. Before, there was a great amount of paper-pushing with little time for strategic selling. Information was out of date; there was minimal access to timely information.

IDS Scheer Consulting created a technology bridge from the salesperson's Personal Digital Assistant (PDA), laptop or desktop PC to SAP and Mold-Masters' Merlin system. Now salespeople can easily access catalog information, parts data and order information via their device of choice depending on their location.

The process empowers customers to use self service, provides immediate access to information and offers online instant access to experts when customers have questions.

Making reporting consistent and efficient

Two recent SAP projects include business consolidation and implementing SAP Business Objects. Both projects came as a response to the challenges of dealing with a complex, globally diversified organization. “It is one of my key objectives to ensure our global connectivity and collaboration based on common standards and platforms,” Vettor said.

Mold-Masters' management had established financial KPIs to monitor the achievement of business goals. A key requirement for IT was providing globally consistent reporting on these KPIs. Before, the process of gathering information from all entities, consolidating, analyzing and presenting it relied heavily on manual work and spreadsheets.

With the implementation of SAP Business Objects, the process now has been automated. Executives can count on timely, consistent reporting directly from the source that provides them with a reliable, current and trusted basis for making strategic business decisions.

IDS Scheer Consulting made sure the implementation met the organization's business requirements and was done in the best technical way. “The experts from IDS Scheer Consulting were able to exactly understand our complex accounting and reporting needs, define a solution that best fit the requirements and then deliver it to our satisfaction,” Vettor said.

Similarly, the process experts also helped to implement SAP Business Consolidation (BCS), which led to consistent, automated processes across entities and considerably reduced the margin of error.

Next step: supply chain optimization

The next project is already on the horizon: optimizing Mold-Masters' supply chain based on SAP Advanced Planning and Optimization (APO). IDS Scheer Consulting conducted a workshop to document current supply chain processes and to highlight areas that need improvement. Some of the findings have already been implemented.

No doubt, this will be another chapter of a joint success story. “IDS Scheer Consulting combines two invaluable qualities: The understanding of our business requirements and challenges and the capability to implement a solution to address them,” Vettor said.

KEY COMPONENTS

IDS Scheer Consulting has been a trusted advisor to Mold-Masters for more than a decade, continuously optimizing processes and ensuring that its SAP system best supports business requirements.

Take the next step to get there – faster.

ABOUT SOFTWARE AG

Software AG is the global leader in Business Process Excellence. Our 40 years of innovation include the invention of the first high-performance transactional database, Adabas; the first business process analysis platform, ARIS; and the first B2B server and SOA-based integration platform, webMethods.

We offer our customers end-to-end Business Process Management (BPM) solutions delivering low Total-Cost-of-Ownership and high ease of use. Our industry-leading brands, ARIS, webMethods, Adabas, Natural, CentraSite, Terracotta and IDS Scheer Consulting, represent a unique portfolio encompassing: process strategy, design, integration and control; SOA-based integration and data management; process-driven SAP implementation; and strategic process consulting and services.

Software AG – Get There Faster

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