SAP® Certified
Integration with SAP NetWeaver®

Windows Server 2012 Certified

PLASTICS MANUFACTURER

Overview

This company is a division of the world leader in the production of synthetic fibers and textiles, carbon fibers, plastics, chemicals, pharmaceuticals and high performance films. Their parent company operates 127 facilities in 18 countries around the world with over 32,000 employees worldwide and annual sales in excess of $13 billion, USD.

This division, based on the East Coast of the US, is responsible for manufacturing oriented polyester and polypropylene films marketed to the magnetic tape, food packaging, capacitor and industrial markets.

The Challenge

The company needed a cost-effective method to integrate their newly purchased Manufacturing Execution System (MES), their existing Trim Optimization and Advanced Planning systems and their bar code scanners with SAP. They wanted a solution that could support a wide variety of sophisticated real-time SAP interfaces and that they could build and extend themselves. Total Cost of Ownership (TCO), ease of use, flexibility and time to implement were all critical factors in the decision making process along with a requirement for comprehensive support from their vendor of choice.

The Solution

The use of NLINK® provided significant advantages over alternative approaches. Junot Systems professional services group built the first MES to SAP interfaces and delivered them to the customer. They then provided on-site customized training using the SAP interfaces they had just built. From that point onwards, the customer's IT group and their chosen systems integrator built all of the additional interfaces that were put into production. Junot Systems professional services group played a consultative and QA role in the first few weeks in order to make sure that the lessons learned during formal training were properly put into practice.

SAP Interfaces

The customer identified 16 initial SAP interfaces between the MES and their SAP Enterprise 4.7 system:

1. Download Material Master from SAP
2. Download Bills of Materials (BOMs) from SAP
3. Download Routings from SAP
4. Download Production Resource Tools (PRTs) from SAP
5. Download Work Centers from SAP
6. Download Planned Orders from SAP
7. Download Production Orders from SAP
8. Download Inspection Plans from SAP
9. Upload Production Confirmation to SAP
10. Upload Production Consumption to SAP
11. Upload Production Order Status to SAP
12. Upload Time Confirmations to SAP
13. Upload Goods Movement - Receipts/Issues to SAP
14. Synchronize Inventory - Goods Movement to SAP
15. Upload Testing Results to SAP
16. Upload Inspection Results to SAP

The customer also needed to interface their bar code scanners to the MES and to SAP in order to more efficiently manage the handling of finished goods to inventory.

NLINK Components

The following NLINK components were deployed at this customer site:

- NLINK Server
- NLINK SAP Connector
- NLINK SQL Extender
- NLINK Flat File Extender
- NLINK ADC (Bar Coding) Extender
- NLINK Configuration Module
- NLINK Management Module
- NLINK Alert Module

Benefits

Junot Professional Services provided the initial NLINK training and then played an ongoing QA role throughout the project to ensure adherence to standards and to promote the reusability of configuration components. In addition, we leveraged our established Professional Services infrastructure and configuration methodology to ease the learning curve and maintain an exceptionally high standard for the deployed solution.

NLINK is now being used as an integration toolkit by the customer's own in-house IT personnel to meet their specific integration needs. NLINK was selected in direct competition with SAP's MII product. Since the initial sale, NLINK was subsequently chosen to also provide Bar Code scanner to SAP integration and the developed solution is currently being rolled-out to additional sites replicating the success of the original deployment.

The net result is that the customer got a powerful and flexible SAP integration solution at a fraction of the cost of other commercially available options.

About Junot Systems

Junot Systems, Inc. is a specialist provider of SAP integration solutions for the manufacturing and process industries. Headquartered in Houston, Texas, Junot Systems, Inc. has deployed and supported its NLINK product suite for over 15 years in a variety of vertical markets, both in the US and overseas.

About Junot Systems' Solutions

NLINK® is a configuration-based product suite that installs in minutes and requires absolutely no custom coding to be deployed. NLINK's patented and SAP Certified Interfaces work with any version of SAP and require no additional SAP components to be purchased or installed into the SAP landscape.