



Case Study

infraserV Logistics GmbH: SAP LES

Integrated SAP solutions for powerful logistics processes

Customer profile

InfraserV Logistics is a subsidiary of the InfraserV-Höchst Group and nationally supports operative and administrative logistics processes at multiple sites for customers in the chemical, pharmaceutical and process-oriented industries. Various production sites and warehouses are operated at the sites. Since 2008, InfraserV Logistics and NLC (Neues Logistik Center) operate the largest high bay warehouse in Europe for dangerous goods.

The project

Under the motto 'the highest customer individuality with the highest level of standardization,' the leading logistics service provider for the chemical, pharmaceutical and process industry since 2006 designed and realized a new, comprehensive SAP logistics system together with inconso AG. Now the tiered services, from developing business relationships to invoicing, can be planned, controlled and processed with a single, uniform application for a multitude of customers. The different sites and equipment in Höchst as well as the connected transports are managed and controlled by the system.

With the new NLC building in the industrial park Höchst, InfraserV Logistics GmbH reacted to the high demand for logistics services. In the scope of the strategic partnership with InfraserV Logistics, inconso AG expanded SAP LES, which has existed since 2006, with the needed functions for connecting and controlling this high bay warehouse.

The objectives

NLC replaces a series of manually operated flat storage systems. Through significantly improved as well as conveyor technology-supported processes, the logistics service provider can process complex customer wishes more efficiently and flexibly. Simultaneously, the company improves its own transparency, efficiency and profitability.

The solution

To ensure high flexibility, a proprietary Warehouse Management System (WMS), which controls the PLC level with a material flow control, was added to the existing SAP LES. LES and WMS communicate via a complex, highly flexible interface that enables a hierarchically tiered doubling of functions in LES and WMS and thus fulfills the important criterion of system stability.

Moreover, the existing SAP LES was extended with all high bay warehouse functions. In the central warehouse, in which the customer processes are situated, the entire process intelligence had to be set up. The interface customers dock here via the EDI manager or intervene with a manual entry. All other customers are connected using InfraserV Höchst's portal. One of the most important tasks of SAP LES is customer-specific service invoicing. Due to the invoicing methods, multi-dimensional tables are maintained that are used to precisely calculate invoicing data for rendered services.

In order to determine the services and costs, exact inventory data, customer data as well as the exact agreements and conditions are necessary.

SAP LES even optimizes processes beyond the warehouse walls and improves the efficiency of inbound and outbound transports for the whole industrial park using a vehicle management system. This is accomplished with gate management. Because of the many possible loading sites on the 4.6 km² premises, issued goods are not booked until they arrive at the exit gate. This is also where the dangerous goods check takes place. Using the truck scales and the electronic weighing system available in SAP LES, the carrier, vehicle and load are closely inspected.

In addition, loading slot management minimizes waiting times during putaway and stock removal. Time advantages were also achieved in the realization and go-live processes. A simulation tool helped to uncouple the IT systems from the conveyor technology. Thus, Infraser Logistics carried out separate, extensive IT system tests before simultaneously starting with the integration test of all system components.

At a glance

Customer

Infraser Logistics GmbH

Project goals

Extension of SAP LES for the automated HBW with 75,000 pallet locations, including the hazardous substances warehouse

Products and solution

Expansion of the existing SAP LES

Main benefits for the customer

Efficient and flexible processing
Improved transparency and profitability

“Products and services [...], from business relationship development to invoicing, can be controlled and processed with a single, standardized application.”

Klaus Holzbach
IT Manager, Infraser Logistics GmbH

