

Case Study

International Aluminium Casting Company

Production Logging System



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The Challenge

The company is an International Aluminium Casting Company manufacturing cylinders blocks for the Automotive Industry. They required the development of a database system with a web-based interface to replace an unwieldy spreadsheet method of recording production details.

The Solution

A web-based interface was developed so the system was accessible from multiple sites. The data entry interface was designed to allow production data to be entered in a similar format to that currently used on the spreadsheets but rationalised so that all business units use the same format.

In addition quality information on lost time and waste materials and forecast data were also entered.

Various reports and graphs were incorporated to summarise and analyse the data entered.

The ability to select specific information and export to Microsoft Excel for additional analysis was included.

Daily uploads of data to the Company SAP accounts and administration system was developed.

The Benefits

Prior to developing the computerised production records system the company recorded production details on daily spreadsheets and each business unit used a different format. In order to report on the data and prepare a data upload into the SAP system, one staff member had to spend a substantial amount of time each day combining all the data into a common file. The new interface completely automated this system and freed up this staff member to do more productive work.

In addition, the inclusion of forecasting and analysis data allowed more efficient and cost effective use of the plant. Significantly, the recording and analysis of details of scraped parts and waste produced enabled analysis to be carried out to quickly identify problems so substantial savings could be made in lost time and raw materials and the quality of the product could be improved and maintained.

The Technologies

- Microsoft ASP
- Microsoft SQL 2000
- Microsoft Excel