



How do we achieve more efficiency in procurement?

With a continuous chain of information, automated workflows and lots of practical experience, Walbusch is restructuring its entire supply chain management system – and the technical foundation for this is PLM GoLive.

Walbusch is a force to be reckoned with in the market for best agers. Nearly six million pieces of merchandise and 25,000 orders go out to 200 suppliers worldwide every year. Quality is of course important, but efficiency and flexibility are also key. The company's in-house proprietary ERP system was being pushed to its limits with increased product development and procurement requirements. Walbusch looked for a solution – and found it in Assyst.

Central procurement platform
Today, up to 80 employees access a common platform for product, order and delivery information and work with native workflows. The new Walbusch SCM system networks the entire Purchasing Dept., covering quality assurance, materials planning, contract awarding, supplier management, import, export, and (soon) suppli-

ers and agencies. It also features the classic functions of PLM in the product area.

"Our supply chain management system by Assyst is the backbone of our optimized procurement processes. All Walbusch purchasing areas now work on a central information platform. This is a big step towards more efficiency."
Hartwig Bohnenkamp, Head of Quality Planning, Walbusch

A good technical basis for PLM/SCM
Supply chain management has great strategic importance for Walbusch and PLM GoLive offers an optimal starting point for this. Production releases and other reference processes of the system are already very sophisticated and can be easily adapted to the specific needs of the multichannel company.

Walbusch used the system introduction for the comprehensive optimization and standardization of its procedures. The Walbusch/Assyst team tackled the design and adaptation of the software together. Then the test phase with real data began in selected departments – the new platform had direct access to the master data and inventory data of the Walbusch ERP system and information from Excel and Word documents was entered only once.

Practice-oriented task management
Continuous support throughout the season is particularly important for Walbusch. Over 300 different tasks were grouped according to types of procurement like the EU and Far East, or by product group. Each user has an individual dashboard, in which all relevant tasks are clearly displayed. So everyone knows right from the start what they have to do and which tasks are still open or already done. The dashboard becomes a management tool, indicating the need for quick action, load spikes and delays in the process chain. All workflows can be changed within the company as needed.

During the test phase, the Walbusch project team could thus streamline its workflow design with no problems and focus even more on the practical side of things. After passing the test, the platform was introduced bit by bit throughout the enterprise.

With a comprehensive SCM system based on PLM GoLive, Walbusch reduces its procurement processes and makes targeted information available.

Best Practice Fashion

"PLM GoLive really matches our need for flexibility ... we can simply adapt the workflows in our SCM system to our actual daily needs."
Hartwig Bohnenkamp, Head of Quality Planning, Walbusch

Worldwide networking as a target
SCM/PLM by Assyst works well for Walbusch and contributed significantly to procurement productivity just shortly after being introduced. And this will continue, because Walbusch plans to expand the system along its global value chain. Two partners in Germany and the Far East are already linked via SCM Webclient, with more to follow in 2014.

"Our processes and the availability of information have significantly improved thanks to our new procurement management with Assyst."
Hartwig Bohnenkamp, Head of Quality Planning, Walbusch