How Does a Global Technology Company Integrate Manufacturing Processes with Business Operations?

Connecting people, materials, methods, and machines across 4 continents and 50 plants

By supplying a comprehensive portfolio of integrated systems for passenger cars, commercial vehicles, and industrial technology, global technology company ZF Friedrichshafen AG helps companies big and small develop the next generation of mobility offerings. To expand its position among the market leaders, ZF was looking for a company-wide solution to automate and digitalize production processes. It wanted to tap into the industrial Internet of Things – with the ultimate goal of a paperless shop floor.
ZF uses real-time event processing and manufacturing Big Data to optimize overall effectiveness across multiple plants.

With the SAP® Manufacturing Integration and Intelligence (SAP MII) and SAP Extended Warehouse Management (SAP EWM) applications and working with SAP Digital Business Services, ZF was able to:

- Establish a central standard platform to more easily manage shop floor operations across four continents
- Connect hundreds of ERP applications and numerous shop floor systems
- Enable new industrial Internet of Things business scenarios, reducing inventory
- Introduce product innovations based on the new business scenarios
- Reduce costs by more than 90% thanks to fast integration of new systems and the elimination of multiple interfaces
- Increase quality of order execution with improved tracking and tracing of data
- Benefit from a real-time system that is integrated with SAP EWM to manage warehouse operations across locations

"With SAP MII, our operations are standardized and much more efficient. Any new system can now be connected within a very short time – instead of months, as before."

Matthias Pröller, Senior Manager Smart Factory and Execution, ZF Friedrichshafen AG

ZF Friedrichshafen AG
Friedrichshafen, Germany
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Industry: Automotive
Employees: 149,000 (2018)
Revenue: €36.9 billion (2018)

Featured Solutions and Services:
- SAP MII, SAP EWM, and SAP Digital Business Services