How Does a Leading Telco Trace and Gain Intelligent Insight into Inventory?

Tracking 1,000 reels of cable to increase visibility into inventory location and status

Proximus Group, top Belgian provider of information and communications technology, opens up a world of digital opportunities so people can live better and work smarter. Because delivering on its mission depends heavily on its infrastructure, Proximus began efforts to modernize and expand its extensive cable network. But visibility into the status and location of reels of cable used to build the network was lacking. After the reels were shipped to contractors, the company didn’t always know where the reels were or how much cable had been consumed. And contractors often returned reels late, resulting in high inventory costs, late fines, and project delays.
Using intelligent technologies to improve supply efficiency, Proximus keeps customers connected to what matters to them.

Jointly with SAP and implementation partner Ordina, Proximus developed a sensor-based smart application to track cable reels from warehouse to installation site, resulting in:

- A 15% decrease in inventory levels
- Greater inventory and supply efficiency
- Reduced fines for late reel returns
- Accurate documentation of field asset status thanks to the smart application’s integration with the SAP® ERP application and third-party contractor systems
- Improved reporting of loss and damage, increased project quality, and reduced delays
- Optimized cash flow and asset lifecycles
- Increased top-line revenues
- A custom solution that can be applied to other uses at Proximus and commercialized with external customers

“The smart reel project is a dream come true. SAP Leonardo technologies are a central part of our sensor-based solution that is integrated with back-end systems. Now we have visibility into decentralized stock, and that means higher profitability and better service.”

Hans Schurmans, Director Logistics Operations, Proximus Group

Proximus Group
Brussels, Belgium
Industry: Telecommunications
Employees: >10,000
Revenue: €5.8 billion
Featured Solutions and Services: SAP® Leonardo technologies
Proximus is using sensors and its own Internet of Things application, along with the following, to track 1,000 reels of cable and increase visibility into valuable inventory:

- SAP® Leonardo Internet of Things solution
- SAP Cloud Platform Internet of Things service
- SAP Cloud Platform Integration service
- SAP Fiori® apps