



VIZIYA Customer Success Story

Aluminum Producer Scraps Legacy and Manual Systems to Roll with Oracle eAM

- Eliminate low value work requests
- Improve maintenance planning & scheduling
- Enhance decision making with improved data availability

One of the world's leaders in aluminum rolled products and extrusions, aluminum recycling, and specification alloy production, is strategically focused on low-cost, flexible, and technologically advanced production. The company's products are used by manufacturers in almost every industry in world-wide operations. To maintain their competitive edge and market leadership position, this leading aluminum producer continuously looks for ways to optimize their production facilities through cost reduction and throughput improvement initiatives. This means careful consideration is given to maintaining high value production assets such as rolling stock, furnaces, presses, rolling mills, and rotary furnaces.

With varying maintenance management practices across several plant sites without the benefit of a common system, the company was faced with on-going maintenance inefficiencies. Some sites were forced to manage maintenance manually while others struggled with a legacy system that proved inadequate for their needs. The company needed a solution that would deliver efficient work flow while aligning operations and maintenance activity.

Consideration was given to upgrading the legacy system, but that notion was quickly dismissed since it created several integration challenges and uncertainty. Instead, a decision was made by the company to move toward Oracle eAM to complement the company's existing use of other Oracle applications. By using Oracle eAM for all maintenance activity, they knew they could realize greater operational efficiencies through a seamless integration with existing Oracle applications.

Needing the expertise of a service provider who understood the technology and maintenance issues, this aluminum producer turned to Oracle partner Global PTM to manage the eAM implementation for the sites. "We chose Global PTM because they offered the right balance of Oracle eAM knowledge with a deep maintenance best

- Program Manager for Procurement and Maintenance Systems

- Analyst for Oracle Maintenance
Systems Analyst

practices background which was required for this project," said the company's Program Manager for Procurement and Maintenance Systems. "Global PTM was able to successfully demonstrate their implementation strengths by showing us how Oracle eAM is used as a maintenance improvement tool."

The implementation involved taking the first site whose maintenance was managed manually to the sophistication of Oracle eAM, while the other sites required data conversions from existing legacy systems. For the site without a system, Global PTM completely built the equipment data and hierarchy from scratch since no prior database or system existed at that location. In their efforts, the implementation team identified 5,000 storeroom items and their locations, and introduced storeroom practices for effective spares and inventory parts control. This established the foundation for improved inventory efficiency, cost control, and overall spares management.

At the second site, Global PTM performed all data conversions from existing legacy systems to Oracle eAM. The task included proper matching of equipment identification numbers and similar assets to ensure compatibility of data from the old system to Oracle eAM. The second site, the company's largest rolling mill in North America, had been using MPAC since 1995 and was very mature in their maintenance practices, requiring extensive use of the eAM solution. In the following three years the solution was rolled out to an additional 11 sites from Mexico to Canada, with conversions from four other legacy solutions.

One of the key issues facing this aluminum producer was the inability of plant personnel to easily submit work requests to maintenance. There was no way in the legacy system for operator requests from various plant locations to be processed.

In response, Global PTM developed a tool that was coined 'Artist' which provided a systematic way for any staff person to submit a work request. This custom-developed tool was subsequently interfaced directly into Oracle eAM providing full tracking capability of all work requests. Supervisors are immediately able to review, approve, reject, modify, or make any necessary changes to the request before it becomes a work order.

Having this capability in place allows any plant user a quick and easy way to submit work requests without having to officially sign-on to Oracle eAM. It simplifies the process and provides a way for maintenance personnel to receive input from personnel throughout the plant.

The integrated work request system developed by Global PTM works seamlessly with Oracle eAM. The aluminum products

producer relies on Oracle eAM for work order creation, scheduling, tracking, and management; preventive maintenance; materials management; and equipment and asset management, as well as all of the integration with the Oracle E-Business Suite.

For training, Global PTM used a train-the-trainer approach for all personnel. This took into account those who had some familiarity with maintenance systems and those who had never used one. The training schedule allowed for the variances that existed in user training and the time required for staff to receive proper training prior to going 'live' with Oracle eAM. This approach is based on a proven methodology of best practices for system training.

To review maintenance performance, the company uses standard Oracle reports which provide cost and labor hour reporting. These include work order costing (start, completion, resources/labor used), purchasing activity, and preventive maintenance (work activity, compliance). Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) are in development for future reporting that will provide management with real-time dashboard views of wrench time, materials cost, backlog, and budgets.

Since implementing Oracle eAM, the aluminum producer has realized numerous benefits including increased uptime, reduced costs, better planning, and improved work processes. These improvements have helped the company move from reactive to proactive maintenance, which has delivered results in lower costs, fewer equipment failures, and improved equipment reliability. The work request system provides a common valuation and approval process for all work requests with scheduling based on manpower and equipment availability. And, continuous improvement with a focus on proactive maintenance planning, execution, and management is now a mindset of both operations and maintenance personnel.

ABOUT VIZIYA

Headquartered in Hamilton, ON, with offices in Barcelona, Perth, Atlanta and Dubai, VIZIYA is the industry leader providing bolt-on software products to enhance ERP-based asset maintenance systems. VIZIYA's WorkAlign™ Product Suite delivers seamless integration into existing ERP systems. With over 51,000 users at 850 sites across 6 continents, the world's best companies use VIZIYA products to help them better maintain their assets.



- Program Manager for Procurement and Maintenance Systems

- Increased uptime
 - Reduced costs
 - Moved from reaction to proactive
 - Improved reliability
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