

Aufderhaar Kunststof
Groep BV and Exact



Since the
implementation of
Exact Globe and
Exact Synergy,
we've been able to
save time equivalent
to 1.5 FTE."

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WE ARE TOTALLY EXACT-MINDED



AKG Plastics Group brings together four businesses, each specialized in a specific sector of the plastics industry. AKG Polymers focuses on recycling and processing polypropylene. The second branch, AKG Hortiproducts, develops and produces plant containers. AKG Mouldings is an injection-moulding operation making a wide range of products, while Drain Products Europe is specialized in developing and selling products for water management. The company is based in Vroomshoop and employs around 100 people.

“Originally, AKG used to make clothes hangers and plant containers with injection moulding” explains Rob Groeneveld, Head of Administration at AKG. “In order to help support the collection of raw materials, we began recycling plastic rubbish streams – now the biggest activity within AKG. Large quantities of corporate waste are bought in and processed into granules, which in turn can be used to make new products.” Colleague Jeffrey de Wilde, system manager, adds that the business is now putting extra focus on the more difficult to process plastics that we discard: “The high prices for plastics mean that many production businesses have started recycling their own plastic waste. This means that we need to go in search of other sources.”

‘Working with Exact is professional and structured’

Because AKG works with disposals, it’s never certain in advance exactly how much or of what quality the raw materials they receive will be. Careful registration of product specifications before, during and after the recycling is thus hugely important, and in some cases compulsory. “Previously, the information, without being connected to the stock, was registered in Excel sheets”, says Groeneveld. But at a certain point you want to a more structured and professional way of working.”

‘Exact Synergy was the best solution’

“We discussed what the best solution for our expanded registrations would be with Exact-Partner Brainsquare, and we came to the conclusion that Synergy was the

FORMER SITUATION

AKG had already been working with Exact for DOS and a custom solution for around 15 years. The group's aim was to further professionalize and automate their operations. Processes around quality control and item management at AKG Polymers in particular were no longer sufficiently well supported. Managing the processes with Excel was insufficient for the requirements around ISO, the international standard for quality management. Furthermore, the business was looking to cover as many of their processes as possible with standard software.

THE SOLUTION

At the beginning of January 2012 the business stepped over to Exact Globe Next, with Exact Synergy following soon after. The combination allowed the company to bring their information management and quality processes to the next level, the software enabling the business to do away with their Excel methodology. Exact Globe Next supports real-time insight in, among other areas, stock, turnover and production quantities. This enables greater efficiency in their work. Using standard software has also made it easy to ensure the company always works with the latest updates, and is no longer reliant on expensive custom built solutions.

answer. We wanted to stay with Exact as we're very much Exact-minded, but a standard solution was very important from a cost perspective. Although the ISO rules determine that quality registration is an expansive task, we can use Exact's configurator to generate extra fields and conduct more extensive calculations. We continually need to register more information, but Exact Synergy ensures we keep the administrative avalanche under control."

'The error reduction is hugely significant'

The scan system at AKG has also been expanded. This has benefits for both stock management and product traceability. Groeneveld: "Raw materials are scanned at a range of locations and at any time, enabling us to keep real-time track of how much of each material is available at any storage point. Having the product specification for the available raw materials to hand means the head of production can be extremely efficient in

reserving the necessary quantities for production. Furthermore, materials can also be directly scanned on a production order, further simplifying the calculation process. This used to be all managed via paperwork and manually updated in the system. Now that's it's automated the error reduction has been huge, enabling us to save more than 1FTE in time."

'Realtime stock registration functionality included'

De Wilde continues: "As soon as the final product is ready, it's automatically registered in the system by the production reporting functionality. The products receives a batch number and is automatically coupled to a production order. Finally a sticker is printed with all the relevant information, and we're done. We used to have to enter the final product details into Exact for DOS by hand. Now we have real-time product registration and save another 0.5 FTE in time as well."





'Optimal overview of information via dashboards'

All real-time information that's being registered via the new ways of working can also be rapidly reviewed through dashboards. 'I've created a dashboard specifically for management', explains De Wilde. "With one mouse click it's possible to review the turnover, which customers have bought the most products, how big the order portfolio is, which products we have in stock in which quantities and much more. That's really a step forward. In the coming period we'll be making more dashboards for other departments. That's how you really make best use of all the important information that's being registered. There's just one problem", says Groeneveld with a smile on his face. "If we make too many dashboards, we'll soon be running out of things to do."

BENEFITS

- Expanded quality registration possibilities
- Cost savings by using standard software in place of custom solutions
- Better traceability thanks to expansion of the scanning system
- Real-time insight into stock
- Easy insight into business information, including via bespoke dashboards
- 1.5FTE time saving and elimination of errors thanks to the automated entry of information

Facts

Name organization	: Aufderhaar Kunststof Groep
Employees	: +/- 100
Focus areas	: Finance, logistics, production, payroll, project, WMS, workflows, document management
Exact products	: Exact Globe, Exact Event Manager, Exact Synergy, Configurator, WMS
Number Exact-users	: 30 users Exact Globe, 8 WMS Terminals, 19 users Exact Synergy
Implementation partner	: BrainSquare BV (Netherlands)
Implementation time	: 9 months
Total investment	: €95.000
Time saving	: 1.5 FTE
Website	: www.akg.nl