Ellwood Group consolidates operations with Infor SyteLine

Coordinating one IT platform across multiple sites

For more than 100 years, Ellwood Group, Inc. (EGI) has operated as a family-owned, privately held major supplier of high-quality, engineered, heavy metal components. Through growth and acquisition, EGI has become a global supplier, but these multiple acquisitions have lead to disjointed technology systems. To effectively monitor and coordinate its operations, EGI needed to realign its systems across its sites. EGI decided to upgrade and replace its old and disparate systems to the latest Infor solutions. In doing so, EGI was able to retire the customizations to its systems that had been made over the years and reduce the overall cost of implementation and upgrades in the future.

As Infor SyteLine evolved, we were able to retire a lot of our customizations. Infor built those features into the upgraded versions, so we no longer need to customize.”

Doug Columbus, Director of Business Systems, Ellwood Group, Inc.
Improving integration and monitoring with a uniform system

Optimizing manufacturing processes

With the latest versions of Infor SyteLine and Infor CPM Financial Consolidation, EGI now has greater control and transparency over its operations across multiple sites. Infor SyteLine allows EGI to perform certain crucial and complex operations, such as tracking raw materials and resources at every level of production, which is critical to processing orders in the aerospace industry. EGI also has greater visibility into its production process, which helps to enhance product quality and reduce delivery times. With Infor CPM Financial Consolidation, EGI has optimized financial closing process and the time taken to close its books has been significantly reduced.

Enhancing the user experience

By upgrading to the latest versions of Infor’s solutions, EGI eliminated the need to make customizations to its applications. During implementation, EGI regularly provided feedback and suggestions on the application and Infor incorporated those suggestions into the upgraded versions of the application. With regular feedback, the upgraded versions were user ready right out of the box. The upgraded applications also enabled EGI to perform tasks like setting up email alerts and enhancing shipping screens and order entry processes without making any customizations to the application.

- With Infor CPM, Ellwood Group, Inc. (EGI) achieved a 50% reduction in the time it takes to close the books in its financial reporting process.

“Our long-term goal is to get all our sites up to the latest and greatest version of Infor SyteLine. With the help of Infor and our partners, we plan to keep current with latest Infor solutions.”

Doug Columbus, Director of Business Systems, Ellwood Group, Inc.
Building a better business strategy

Ensuring quick integration

EGI's effective acquisition strategy has been an important factor in its growth. From time to time, EGI buys out companies from bankruptcy and revives them to add to its machining and forging capabilities. Immediately after the acquisition, EGI ensures that the newly acquired company gets up and running on Infor SyteLine, which allows EGI to integrate the new organization into its group. With Infor CloudSuite™ Industrial, EGI can consolidate financials, while monitoring production and sales over multiple sites—thus taking a decentralized approach to business. By implementing Infor solutions, EGI enjoys a smooth flow of information to top management.

Upgrading existing ERP systems to Infor SyteLine

When EGI acquiring a company, must decide whether to continue on with the company’s existing ERP solution or replace it with Infor SyteLine. While evaluating this decision, EGI preferred Infor solutions over other ERP providers, like SAP, because of the distinctive capabilities that Infor provides. Infor solutions have helped EGI to get data out of the system very easily. It was very easy to create custom reports and extract specific information from the software without any IT intervention.

“Basically most ERPs do the same thing, they all track manufacturing, costing, materials, etc. The one thing about Infor SyteLine is that it’s so much easier to get data out.”

Doug Columbus, Director of Business Systems, Ellwood Group, Inc.