

Multivac Sepp Hagenmüller GmbH und Co. KG - CATALOGcreator®

Considerable productivity increase in „Technical documentation“



Messrs. Multivac Sepp Hagenmüller GmbH und Co. KG managed, by using the spare parts catalogue software from CATALOGcreator® to increase its technical documentation productivity considerably, whilst at the same time using the same number of staff. Due to process simplification and a high level of automation, they are now able to create spare part catalogues for 6-8 machines a day.

AT A GLANCE

Company:

Multivac
Sepp Hagenmüller GmbH und Co. KG
Worldwide approx. 3,000 employees

Trade:

Provider of packaging solutions

Systems:

ERP-System: SAP
CAD-System: SolidWorks, E³.series
PLM-System: SmarTeam

Project targets:

Creating an electronic spare parts catalogue, using existing 3D and 2D data

Solution:

Import of parts lists data from SAP into CATALOGcreator®

Project highlight:

Fully automatic creation of electronic spare parts catalog

Customer comment:

„The work processes were optimised, processing and handling of catalogue creation was simplified and automated“, says Reinhard Lankes at Multivac



Starting point

Prior to the introduction of the CATALOGcreator® spare part catalogue software, Messrs. Multivac generated paper versions of spare parts catalogues using a provider from the SAP-environment.

This process was very time and cost-consuming and was to be simplified and automated as much as possible. The decisive criteria for choosing CATALOGcreator® were: user-friendliness, excellent performance, high availability, up-to-dateness of the catalogues and fully automatic catalogue creation.

Multivac Sepp Hagenmüller GmbH und Co. KG

Multivac is a worldwide provider of packaging solutions. Multivac's customers are industrial manufacturers and medium-sized business as well as craftsmen from various trades: Food stuffs (fresh or processed), sterile goods and other medical products, consumer and industrial articles. In accordance with the company's philosophy "Better Packaging", Multivac offers an extensive packaging solution, innovative, with the latest technology, custom-made and customer-specific.

Requirements

Messrs. Multivac has approx. 30 subsidiaries worldwide, 40 branches and 800 consultants and service technicians who, regardless of time zones, have 24 hours a day access to product information and data included in the company's SAP and Intranet. Availability and up-to-dateness had to be guaranteed by internet publication. On top of that, their service department demanded considerable handling improvement with regard to spare part catalogue creation.

Existing old data had to be completely and automatically transferred from the old system. Using existing CC HotspotEditor(+) allocated hotspots to a total of 75,000 drawings, i.e. context sensitive area and integrated these in the electronic catalogue.

Messrs. Multivac's aim was to create an electronic spare parts catalogue using Tiff and SVG drawings and XVL models from SAP. The 2D- and 3D-Data had to be combined, i.e. when a 2D drawing and 3D model are available for an assembly, and then they will both be offered to the catalogue user as an alternative. The user can individually decide whether he wants to use a drawing or 3D model and he can switch between the two.



*Multivac packaging solutions
are innovative and based
on the latest technology*

Solution

Initially, from a system-technical point of view, first the product and CAD construction data had to be prepared for the CATALOGcreator®. The ERP data, in this case the structural parts lists, are adopted from SAP using an existing interface. The CC Data Converter, is a module used for structured reading of mass data followed by automated import of the parts lists from SAP into the CATALOGcreator®.

The construction data, which Messrs Multivac produced using SolidWorks, were fully automatically converted into highly compressed 3D-XVL data and stored and administered in a database (MaxxDB). Because of their small file size, XVL models are well-suited for use in spare parts catalogues and can, for instance, also be used for training purposes or assembly instructions.

Owing to CATALOGcreator's high flexibility, data from various software environments can easily be integrated in electronic catalogues. For environmental reasons, Multivac decided to initially publish the spare parts catalogue on CD-ROM to be followed by an additional web shop solution in the near future. Paper publication is to be reduced to a minimum.

Experience and outlook

Multivac's overall electronic catalogue production process is fully automatic, implying that catalogue creation can be accessed via an SAP template. That is where the order number, required languages and target media are selected, after which catalogue creation can be initiated by pressing a button.

All this saves a lot of time and costs and automation reduces errors during data transfer. Several Multivac departments benefit from changing over to CATALOGcreator®: their worldwide service, the construction and training and technical documentation departments.

The following expansion stage at Multivac was introduced during the 1st quarter of 2009. The CC up2date web shop was linked with the company's own SAP. It allows customers to obtain up-to-date spare parts information such as price, availability, delivery times etc. and use SAP to place direct orders.

Conclusion

Changing over to the spare parts software CATALOGcreator® completely reorganised Multivac's Technical Documentation department. „Work processes were optimised, processing and handling catalogue creation was simplified and automated, which also reduced paper consumption by 30%. In addition, productivity increased by 20%“, said Mr. Reinhard Lanke, Multivac's departmental manager for technical documentation.

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