Packaged Gas Producer Uses Operations Management Solution to Eliminate Paperwork, Streamline Operations and Reduce Costs

A large packaged gas producer was overwhelmed by paperwork and spreadsheets. No one knew the big picture in operations or the real distribution costs. The company wanted to replace the paperwork and spreadsheets with one enterprise-wide solution. The goal was for everyone to access the information and understand the distribution status.

Objective

The company’s goals were simple. They wanted to eliminate paperwork and spreadsheets, streamline operations and reduce costs. Collecting the data in a database would allow everyone to access the same information and to easily enter new data. The challenge was creating the database and the tools for import and export. The solution was the Packaged Gas Operations Log.

Results

The Packaged Gas Operations Log allowed the company to collect the data from operations and distribute it quickly and easily. The Operations Log included both database and web-based data entry and reporting components. The web-based components run on mobile devices, including smartphones. Paperwork and manual spreadsheets were completely eliminated. Operations focused on their tasks, not outdated and inefficient recording and reporting mechanisms. This application reduced paperwork errors by almost 90% and increased overall distribution productivity by over 10%.

Solution

The MAVERICK team performed a thorough analysis on a wide range of existing paperwork and spreadsheets in order to develop a comprehensive data model. Once the comprehensive data model was complete, the model was implemented using a SQL Server database. This database became the single version of truth for distribution activities company-wide. The most challenging components were the web-based data entry and reporting tools. The project needed to provide tools across the company that were simple to use. The project team used the agile sprint process to quickly develop the tools, meeting the exact requirements of the customer. The need to operate these tools on all mobile environments possible, especially smartphones, was an early decision in the project. The mobile platforms allowed operations to complete their paperwork online using tablets or smartphones.

From the database and mobile environments to the web-based data entry tools, the MAVERICK team provided operations with a comprehensive solution to enter data simply and on-demand. A smartphone now easily accomplishes the task. The final components of the solution were the reporting tools. These tools were also mobile and web-based. Easy and simple data reports completed the solution for company operations.

The MAVERICK Difference

MAVERICK recognized the two keys to the success of the project. First, the data model and database needed to support company-wide distribution operations without shortcomings. Second, the company needed easy and quick access to data entry tools anytime, anywhere. MAVERICK provided a comprehensive database and data entry tools to meet these objectives. The company reduced paperwork errors by close to 90% and increased distribution productivity by over 10%.

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