Soy Protein Producer Maintains Competitive Edge by Improving Business Processes and Enterprise-Wide Data Availability

A global leader in the manufacturing and marketing of high-quality soy ingredients realized that in order to respond to the stiffening competition, it needed more agile business processes that would provide the right information to the right people at the right time.

Objective
The manufacturer needed to streamline its business processes and eliminate the need for non-centralized data manipulation for reporting purposes. The organization also needed to define performance metrics uniformly across its global production facilities and make the relevant metrics visible to those who can quickly and effectively act on them.

Results
Because of this project, the customer's corporate executives now have a single set of metrics to gauge performance across the enterprise, which allows for an apples-to-apples comparison between plants.

Additionally, plant managers and controllers no longer need to rely on manually maintained spreadsheets and reports from many sources, containing after-the-fact information on which to gauge performance.

Finally, production managers and supervisors can now proactively identify and correct conditions that cause adverse trends in key production metrics before they become costly.

Solution
MAVERICK's consultants worked with this customer's IT, financial and operations executives, as well as its corporate IT department and plant personnel, to implement a key performance indicator (KPI) dashboard application to track quantifiable safety, quality, cost and delivery metrics. Using MAVERICK's proven methodology for the definition and development of KPI dashboards, the team identified, defined and globally aligned the user roles and associated KPIs, data sources, user requirements and functional specifications.

This application was developed on the SAP® MII™ platform. It was chosen because of its compatibility with user requirements, functional specification and existing IT architecture. The application is web-based and was configured to query data from the plant process historians, laboratory information management systems (LIMS), collaboration system and the enterprise resource planning (ERP) system.

MAVERICK performed data aggregation at the host system level in order to avoid installing a data repository outside the established IT architecture, and to reduce the application's maintenance requirements.

The application provides click-through context-linked drill downs to increasingly granular data and user access through role assignment.