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CONSISTENT ORDER PROCESSES

FOR A VARIETY OF COMPANIES AND SITES

voestalpine is represented worldwide in 50 countries with around 500 Group companies and locations. The company's procurement processes differ extensively in the way they have been set up. Therefore, a standard procurement and ordering portal that is easy to use has been introduced for all Group companies.

Great potential for optimization

Before the new platform was introduced, voestalpine employees used to use an SAP solution to procure products and employees. As the software was not designed for this purpose, there was naturally a lot of dissatisfaction. Finding the products required was tedious, as there was no intuitive support. Nor was it possible to order from external catalogs using the internal system, because they were not embedded. In addition, data, products and service suppliers were stored in multiple systems.

A single procurement platform Group-wide

Now Online Product Catalog (OPC) from jCatalog, an OpusCapita company, is the centralized web-based portal that is used to search, view and order products and services. This ensures that all processes are clearly defined and structured. The new system is easy to use, has a clear user interface and has a range of functions tailored to the company. In all departments, the procurement processes are transparent and binding. All transactions are therefore also processed much faster. Costs and ex-

“Within a short time, we have more than doubled the number of catalog-based orders. We have been able to adjust the material master data in our ERP system and reduce them by more than 20,000 items.”

Harald Kremer, E-Procurement, E-Business Specialist, voestalpine Stahl GmbH

penses have fallen, while employee efficiency has increased. The electronic procurement platform is used across the Group by more than 2,300 users.

Support and benefits for Purchasing

Further advantages of the new system are that data is stored securely and compliantly, and it also has the ability to bundle purchasing volumes. Consequently, the Purchasing Department's operating expenses have been considerably reduced.

Linking suppliers has also been significantly improved. By using Self Service Manager (SSM), catalogs and contracts can be uploaded and managed independently. The data quality is checked automatically, which benefits the Purchasing Department.

As objective criteria are now also available for the evalua-

tion of suppliers, the number of suppliers could also be substantially reduced.

Quick acceptance and error-free orders

Following the introduction of the new system, the number of catalog-based orders has more than doubled within a short time to over 100,000. Error-prone free-text ordering can now be avoided, because services can also be ordered from catalog order items.

Applications and solutions

- **PIM**
Product Information Manager, collects, harmonizes and enhances product data.
- **OPC**
Online Product Catalog, shop for purchases.
- **SSM**
Self Service Manager, portal for supplier data.

Challenge

To establish standard ordering processes for a variety of companies and sites. Independent action on the part of suppliers, without losing control. Secure and compliant storage of purchasing data. To reduce operating expenses for the Purchasing Department.

Solution

The introduction of the new platform has ensured that all the procurement processes are clearly defined and structured. Both the processing time and costs have been reduced. The suppliers have a platform on which they can independently maintain and update their catalogs and contract data. Objective criteria for the evaluation of suppliers, made it possible to reduce the number of suppliers substantially.

voestalpine

EINEN SCHRITT VORAUSS.

In its business segments, voestalpine is a globally leading technology and capital goods group with a unique combination of material and processing expertise. With its top-quality products and system solutions using steel and other metals, it is one of the leading partners to the automotive and consumer goods industries in Europe and to the oil and gas industries worldwide.

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