

Singapore engineering corporation moves toward e-business with integrated solutions from IFS

Rotary Engineering Pte Ltd delivers turnkey industrial solutions for petroleum and petrochemical industry. Listed on the Singapore Stock Exchange, Rotary has almost 1,400 employees, and annual revenue in excess of S\$ 100 million. The corporation has operations in Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, India, and China. IFS Applications will allow Rotary to improve planning, execution and follow-up of its projects.



Rotary Engineering Ltd and its group of companies (“Rotary”), headquartered in Singapore, is a major international player in engineering design, procurement, and construction services for petrochemical plants and associated facilities. Much of Rotary’s success lies in its ability to bring the right caliber of people and the right kind of organization to bear upon fulfilling market needs. Applying this principle to its own needs, it has purchased IFS Applications™ with a view to integrating its business applications and paving the way for the introduction of e-business solutions for its personnel, partners and customers.

The problem

Dispersed throughout Southeast Asia, and with further expansion in mind, Rotary realized that growth called for a flexible ERP system. In line with its corporate vision, Rotary selected IFS as its technology partner. Rotary sees IFS as the perfect strategic partner as it has the solution tools and infrastructure that would enable Rotary to link up with all its partners and customers, giving it an edge above its competitors.

The solution

After a thorough selection process involving several leading business application vendors, Rotary finally opted for the solution provided by IFS. Matthew Wong, IS Manager at Rotary, explains why: “IFS Applications was the only solution that had the tools and infrastructure to enable us to fulfill our vision.” With IFS Applications, Rotary foresees achievable cost reduction through the proper integration between business process and various IFS modules. For instance, project management is tightly integrated with the time & attendance and document management solutions. At the same time, the system is flexible enough to meet the unique needs of the various subsidiaries in the corporation. Matthew Wong again: “The component architecture was particularly attractive, and guaranteed the extensibility we required.”

Implementation

In order to ease the process and minimize disruptions, implementation was planned in phases. The first phase, including solutions for project management, time

reporting and distribution, went live on schedule. Despite the complex nature of implementation processes, the strong IFS presence ensured a smooth installation of the solution. The next phase under implementation is IFS Maintenance™ as well as IFS/Field Service & Operations™.

Benefits

As most of Rotary’s operations consist of long, complex projects, the enhanced project control enabled by the system is one of the most tangible benefits.

The tight integration between the modules enables all information, e.g. budget, activities, spending, to be created within the project, thus providing management with faster, more accurate project data. One consequence of this will be greater accountability throughout the project.

As the solution also acts as an information repository, it will be possible to learn from the system and compare different projects. Such detailed information will allow the company to increase the efficiency of future projects, identify areas where miscalculations were made, and generally streamline project planning.

Naturally, being able to compare projects will make tenders more accurate, which will lead to increased profitability in the future.

Another benefit is that the system is not static. Rotary can input information and thus contribute to developing the system. Matthew Wong sees other benefits: “Our corporation believes in the ‘ease of transaction’ concept. Employees, partners, or customers will find working with us easy. We see e-business as a means of achieving this.”

The integration enabled by IFS Applications will help create this ease of transaction within the group.



But more importantly, implementing IFS’ component-based business applications will empower Rotary in its transition to e-business with greater ease. The e-business solutions offered by IFS are component-based which means that Rotary can implement them as and when is required. Once they are in place, it will be possible to exchange engineering documents over the web, for example. The ultimate result will be lower costs of doing business for all involved.

By choosing IFS Applications, Rotary has equipped itself with the tools required for expansion and maintaining an edge over its competitors.

Software

IFS Distribution™, IFS Human Resources™, IFS Maintenance™

Hardware

SUN Solaris Server
Hewlett-Packard workstations