

CUTTER & BUCK GEARS UP WITH AUTOMATED DATA ENTRY

Cutter & Buck, a subsidiary of New Wave Group AB, is the premium branded apparel supplier to corporate America. Cutter & Buck products feature distinctive, comfortable designs, high quality materials and rich detailing. The company sells its products through golf pro shops and resorts, specialty retail shops, corporate sales and online.

Cutter & Buck implemented SAP R/3 in 2005 and has implemented FI, MM, and SD modules. The company has over 175 SAP users and a dedicated internal SAP support organization.

Challenge

After Cutter & Buck implemented their SAP system, the company quickly realized that it needed to find a solution that would decrease the amount of time it was taking to enter data into the system, increase the accuracy of the data going into the system, and not tie up valuable IT resources.

“There is more than one way to accomplish automating data entry into SAP. What made most sense for Cutter & Buck was to utilize transactionSHUTTLE because it allows us the ease of creating new data entry tasks with little or no IT resources.”

- Rick Davis, Manager,
Enterprise Systems

“The users were frustrated with how time consuming data entry was,” said Rick Davis, Manager of Enterprise Systems at Cutter & Buck. “We recognized that if we didn’t do something soon to assist the users with data entry, we were all going to suffer.”

The company considered several options including, developing custom solutions via internal programming, using the SAP provided scripting tools, or using a third-party solution. Ultimately, Cutter & Buck determined that developing custom solutions was not a feasible option due to cost and heavy reliance on IT resources. They also determined that the SAP scripting tools – LSMW and CATT – were too technical for their everyday users. That left finding a third-party solution that could meet all of their requirements.

Solution

Cutter & Buck was introduced to transactionSHUTTLE, a data management application that lets users load Excel data into SAP without requiring any programming and without involving any technical resources. The users were immediately struck by how easy it was to learn, use and deploy transactionSHUTTLE, and how quickly they were able to create scripts.



Customer

- Cutter & Buck

Industry

- Apparel Wholesaler

Challenge

- Time intensive data entry
- Data accuracy
- Limited IT staff

Solution

- transactionSHUTTLE

Results

- Automated data entry
- Enhanced data quality
- Increased employee productivity

SAP Version

- SAP R/3

SAP Modules

- FI, MM, SD

SAP Transactions/Types

- MM01, VA01, VK11, FB60, VD02, F-30, F-32

Winshuttle, Inc. is the leading provider of data entry and data download tools for SAP users worldwide. Winshuttle's products replace manual data input and complex technical tools by easily and securely shuttling data between Microsoft Excel and SAP. Winshuttle's flagship product, transactionSHUTTLE, effectively bridges the needs of business users with the governance requirements of IT. transactionSHUTTLE transforms business processes for both implementation and post production projects, including data import, data quality and data integration. Managing SAP data has never been simpler for the hundreds of Global 2000 companies that rely on Winshuttle. Headquartered in Bothell, Washington, Winshuttle has offices in the United Kingdom, France and India. For more information visit <http://www.winshuttle.com>, email info@winshuttle.com or call 1-800-711-9798.

They were also impressed that there was no need to create transports; all they needed to do was use transactionSHUTTLE on their own computer. In addition, both IT and the users appreciated that the application sits outside of SAP, residing on the user's PC and does not bypass SAP authorizations.

"There is more than one way to accomplish automating data entry into SAP," says Davis. "What made most sense for Cutter & Buck was to utilize transactionSHUTTLE because it allows us the ease of creating new data entry tasks with little or no IT resources. We have also found that by using transactionSHUTTLE, we have given our users the flexibility to decide when and where to use the tool."

Cutter & Buck immediately deployed transactionSHUTTLE for automating material master data in the material management, and the sales and distribution systems. Prior to implementing transactionSHUTTLE, it would take Cutter & Buck more than 480 person-hours to complete material master creation each season. With transactionSHUTTLE, the total time required to complete this task was reduced to only 8 hours each season - a 98 percent savings of time!

Results

Cutter & Buck has realized a number of benefits by using transactionSHUTTLE. Firstly, the time savings made from the automation of material master data entry more than covered the investment in transactionSHUTTLE and led to an excellent ROI for the project. Secondly, the company also reports that users have improved their productivity since they now have more time to do other aspects of their jobs instead of entering data into SAP.

"The biggest benefit we have achieved to date is that data entry is no longer an IT headache," says Davis. "Our users no longer blame our SAP system and instead fully embrace it. We have automated our data entry, enhanced our data quality and increased our employee productivity."

Future Plans

Cutter & Buck continues to find new ways to utilize the application including uploading condition records, information records, journal entries, payable entries, planning data, and customer master changes.



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