

## Wales & West Utilities Distributes Data Entry Savings Across the Company with Winshuttle

Wales & West Utilities is a regulated gas distributor with approximately 35,000 km of gas distribution pipelines in Wales and the South West of England. The company does not sell gas, but rather ensures that gas is piped safely and efficiently across one-sixth of the United Kingdom. An SAP user since 2005, Wales & West Utilities has 450 employees at its headquarters in Newport, South Wales, and serves a population of 7.4 million.

### Challenge

In 2008, Wales & West Utilities underwent a major cost centre restructure, shifting ownership of assets and improving process efficiencies across the entire company. “Among other things,” explains Nick Hancock, senior business analyst at Wales & West Utilities. “That meant collating a huge amount of new or updated information within spreadsheets, then transferring that data to SAP within a very short space of time.”

Normally, such a massive transfer of information would require intensive data entry or SAP bespoke loading programs—but that was before Hancock happened to see a Winshuttle demo at an SAP user conference. “When I first saw Winshuttle in action, I thought it was great, but I couldn’t believe that it could really be so easy,” he says. “Then I had a chance to try the product for myself, and it really was that easy. Winshuttle just works.”

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### Solution

Although Hancock championed Winshuttle at Wales & West Utilities, he insists that “champion” is too strong a word. “The only ‘championing’ I did was getting the product in front of people,” he says. “Once I did that, they instantly saw its value. They recognized just how clever and intuitive Winshuttle really is. Since then, it’s been adopted in every department across the company.”

Wales & West Utilities now uses Winshuttle to streamline SAP data loading and extraction in multiple business areas, from finance to asset management. “The strength of Winshuttle is its simplicity,” says Hancock.



### Customer

- Wales & West Utilities

### Industry

- Utilities

### Challenge

- Transfer thousands of records from Excel spreadsheets to SAP
- Achieve major cost centre restructure without SAP development

### Solution

- transactionSHUTTLE, runSHUTTLE

### Results

- Saved over 2,284 working days in just six months
- Created 15,000 internal orders in three hours instead of three months
- Periodic, labor-intensive tasks now a daily routine

### SAP Version

- SAP 4.7 Enterprise

### SAP Modules

- FI-CO, MM, SD, PM, PS, HR-PY

### SAP Transactions / Types

- KO01, KO03, F-65, FS00, KS01, KS02, KE51, IW22, IW31, IW32, IW36, IE01, IE02, ILO1, ILO2, VA01, ZIW32a

**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](mailto:info@winshuttle.com) or call 1-800-711-9798.

"If you're creating a series of maintenance work orders, you record the IW-31 transaction just once. Winshuttle maps that transaction and creates a template. Then you click 'Run,' and Winshuttle takes care of the rest."

## Results

By streamlining SAP data loading and extraction, the company's finance teams have uploaded 750,000 transactions with an opportunity saving of 2,284 working days over the course of just six months. "That's the equivalent of 22 full-time employees working over a six-month period," says Hancock. "And that's just in one department. We're seeing gains in productivity throughout the company."

For instance, Wales & West Utilities needed to create 15,000 internal orders to expedite the company's cost centre restructure. Winshuttle transferred all of those records in just three hours; Hancock estimates that the same task would have taken a full-time employee three months. In the company's asset management area, Winshuttle saved 30 days of development time in executing a complex change request. "These days, every time we have a change request, we ask ourselves if Winshuttle can help us execute it," says Hancock. "We've seen again and again how this product can simplify and accelerate just about any SAP transaction."

## Future Plans

By accelerating productivity across multiple teams, Winshuttle will enable Wales & West Utilities to pursue more strategic initiatives than ever before. "Employees are telling me that they're tackling projects that they'd never even contemplated," says Hancock. "Winshuttle saves so much time that it really inspires everyone to look around and think, 'OK, how else can this product make us more effective?'"



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### Corporate Headquarters

18323 Bothell Everett Hwy  
Suite 110, Bothell, WA 98012  
Tel + 1 (800) 711-9798  
Fax +1 (425) 527-6666

### United Kingdom

64 Kimber Road, Southfields,  
London, SW18 4PP, U.K.  
Tel +44 (0) 208 704 4170  
Fax +44 (0) 208 711 2665

### France

58, rue Delalain  
94700 Maisons-Alfort  
Tel +33 (0) 1 48 93 71 71  
Fax +33 (0) 1 43 68 37 68

### India

Third Floor, Tower D  
DLF Building,  
Technology Park  
Chandigarh 160101, India