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Better Performance Through Integration

Atna Technologies implemented a Microsoft Dynamics solution at Sunrise Kitchens to integrate its business operations

SUNRISE Kitchens is a mid-sized manufacturer and designer of kitchen cabinets. The company was in need of an integrated software solution to integrate its inventory control, finance and business operations. This was necessary to improve the business process efficiency of the company.

The Need for Integration

The company previously used standalone systems to manage business operations such as inventory control and costing. These systems included a system based on Paradox (Corel) for manufacturing operations, and QuickBooks for finance-related activities. These standalone systems raised a number of challenges for the company: lack of cohesiveness and data transparency and lack of visibility across the supply chain. Moreover, the lack of coordination within these individual systems led to the duplication of data, wastage of time and increased the overall costs.

To overcome these challenges, the company partnered with Microsoft Certified Partner, Atna Technologies, a core software consulting firm, to implement Microsoft Dynamics NAV 4.0. It is a customised and easy-to-use ERP solution designed particularly for the needs of SMEs. However, prior to its implementation in Sunrise Kitchens, various customisations were made to the software package. Some of these include sales order customisation, cabinet customisation, pricing logic customisation, CNC machine optimisation, and inter-organisational customisation. The software package facilitated faster data transfer with its capability to read design output in XML format, and also provided output data in text format.

Reaping Business Benefits

After implementation of the solution there was a considerable efficiency enhancement in the company's business operations. Some of the benefits Sunrise Kitchens experienced are:

- **Integrated business operations:** The new solution integrates the business operations, thereby enabling employee access and allowing the company to track information across various departments with ease.
- **Fast Order-to-Production Cycle:** The new solution enabled multiple designers to transfer their designing details to the NAV sales order menu

simultaneously. It helped the production planners to plan in a better way thereby reducing the overall cycle time from sales order to production.

- **Inventory Management:** With a new solution in place, the company is now able to keep a proper track of the ongoing and incoming inventory items. It helped the company to manage the inventory and enabled a considerable optimisation of the inventory items in hand.

- **Multi-User Environment:** Its multi-user mode nature enabled multiple people to enter sales orders, simultaneously resulting in better resource utilisation.

- **Streamlined Business Operations:** The new solution centralised all inventory, financial, sales, and purchasing data in a single database which can be accessed by any authorised user from any location. It improved data visibility and decision-making across the entire organisation.

After the successful implementation of the solution the company is now enjoying benefits of a centralised system. Now, tracking and accessing information simultaneously from multiple locations is much easier and operations can proceed quickly and smoothly.

