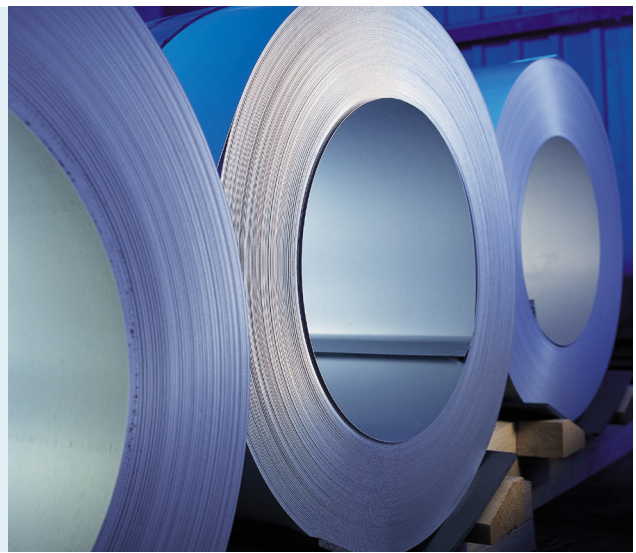


Customer Solution

»SAP BusinessObjects Financial Consolidation significantly improved the efficiency of our financial statement preparation process. Among other things, we are now able to prepare financial statements for parts of the company on a decentralized basis, even at the intermediate holding company level.«

Frank Hieckmann,
Head of Accounting, Klöckner & Co SE



klöckner & co

multi metal distribution

Customer

- Klöckner & Co SE is the largest producer-independent distributor of steel and other metals in the European and North American markets. The Klöckner & Co Group's core business is the distribution of steel and non-ferrous metals from warehouses. The company's approx. 178,000 active customers are supplied from about 250 warehouse and prefabrication facilities that employ approx. 9,500 people in 15 countries throughout Europe and North America. In the 2009 fiscal year, the company generated approx. EUR 3.9 billion in turnover.

Developing Future-Oriented Reporting in a Short Time

Initial situation Klöckner & Co SE is a fast-growing company that currently has over one hundred units that need to be consolidated. The company also plans to expand in the future by means of acquisitions. In order to meet both its current and future requirements as well as to comply with IFRS accounting standards, the company decided to implement SAP Business Objects Financial Consolidation (SAP BOFC). This program was intended to replace the previous consolidation system (SAP FI-LC). With the implementation of the new system, an automated connection to the legacy systems and a high degree of user-friendliness in terms of data acquisition and validation on the reporting unit level were very important. At the same time, the system had to ensure that the financial statements were comprehensible.

Solution Klöckner & Co SE and arvato systems formed a joint project team to implement the new system. As the implementation partner, arvato systems was able to share its many years of expertise in the operation and development of this system with the relevant department. During the implementation process, the project partners developed master data, interface definitions, data acquisition forms, analyses, and a method for implementing the consolidation logic. The interfaces necessary for establishing a connection to the previous systems were created with SAP BusinessObjects Financial Information Management (FIM). As a specialized ETL tool, FIM provides a highly automated connection to SAP and other systems. Any necessary transformations or adjustments can be made at any time. Moreover, all data up to the level of the original accounting records can be analyzed.

»Thanks to the excellent cooperation we shared with arvato systems, our objectives and quality requirements were implemented within a short period of time.«

Frank Hieckmann,
Head of Accounting, Klöckner & Co SE

Results Integrated reporting with SAP BOFC allows for the consolidation of balance sheets, profit and loss statements, and cash flow statements, as well as segment reporting, all of which are carried out according to IFRS international accounting standards. In this system, data is structured in such a way that all the necessary analyses can be quickly and easily carried out. The multi-lingual report package contains all the information from and for the Klöckner Group's international subsidiaries. While the disclosures for the individual subsidiaries once required reporting in Excel, this is no longer necessary. The support that the new system provides for the financial statement preparation process and the high level of automation in the Group's coordination processes have significantly reduced the amount of work and coordination required at the company's headquarters. The new system reduces the workload for employees working on the financial statement preparation process, allowing them to submit their reports earlier.

Customer benefits Thanks to its many years of experience, arvato systems was able to achieve all the project goals. The company was also able to provide significant support for Klöckner, helping the relevant department learn to operate the system on its own. The close and trusting interaction with the customer and consultant teams, the company's comprehensive industry expertise, and its many years of project experience were all decisive factors in the project's success.

Any questions? Please contact us.

Your Contact

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As a global systems integrator, arvato systems implements tailored, industry-specific, and custom-developed solutions in addition to standard software. 1,700 dedicated employees work at the company's 25 sites throughout the world. Our customers appreciate the combination of in-depth industry expertise, technological knowledge spanning all manufacturers, genuine partnership, and true entrepreneurial spirit. With our range of products and services, we help pave the way for your business success.



An Overview of the Case

INDUSTRY

- Warehouse-based steel and metal distribution

PROJECT

- Introduce SAP BusinessObjects Financial Consolidation and SAP BusinessObjects Financial Information Management

TECHNOLOGY PLATFORM

- SAP BusinessObjects Financial Consolidation
- SAP BusinessObjects Financial Information Management

BENEFITS

- High degree of flexibility in the generation of analyses and simulations
- Standardized system for complete group reporting
- High level of data quality thanks to early data validation
- Automated connection to previous systems
- Accelerated financial statement generation processes