

Project Note

Impartial IT Review as a Major Boost to Productivity

The external IT review is neutral in respect of the company and the software provider. Therefore the new IT development approaches for opening up potential of performance which could not been attained beforehand.

Task

The Vitrashop Group is an SME involved in furnishing shops and stores. Its subsidiaries Vizona (projects) and Visplay (products) are legally separate, independent business units with different organizations; both conduct business internationally. The IT solution had to meet tough requirements due to the different processes in the various business areas and to the highly seasonal concentration of sales.

The task was to conduct an external IT review with SAP R/3 as ERP in order to test the current systems and their settings and to devise suggestions for remedying weak points. The new IT plan had to

- Examine alternatives to SAP R/3 and additions to product lifecycle management and store planning /configuration,
- Improve the meshing of business processes and their IT support in the various areas and thereby increase user satisfaction,
- Increase transparency in terms of costs, project progress, deadlines, inventories and capacities,
- Enable comprehensive supply chain management and collaboration with customers and suppliers and
- Replace modifications by making creative use of standard functionality.



vizona
visplay

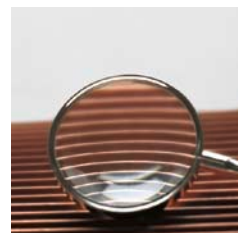
Implementation

After determining the company and business area requirements in detail, the consultant held workshops and interviews to pinpoint and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the current IT system. After briefly evaluating sectoral software for the furniture industry and of ERP systems for SMEs, he recommended that SAP R/3 be retained; the customer agreed.

Based on the above findings, the consultant then devised an overall architecture for future IT and suggested detailed organizational and system-related technical measures to remedy weak points. He also planned the implementation and estimated the benefits and resources required.

Customer benefits

- Innovative, comprehensive IT plan that largely meets future requirements and that opens the way to major increases in productivity.
- New approaches thanks to the consultant's experience in other sectors.
- Detailed and implementable master plan as a roadmap for achieving the desired IT capabilities.
- Analysis and optimization in line with corporate goals and independent of the interests of software providers, service providers or business areas.



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