CASE STUDY | Associated Milk Producers, Inc

Flexible system automation for superior results

Associated Milk Producers Inc. (AMPI) is a dairy marketing cooperative with 3,500 member farms, 5.8 billion pounds of milk and $1.7 billion in annual sales. Members operate dairy farms located throughout the Midwest states of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and North Dakota. They own 14 manufacturing plants and market a full line of consumer-packaged dairy products, including the Cass-Clay® brand.

BENEFITS

• Automated Processing of EDI Transactions

• Reduced Annual EDI Processing Costs

• Faster Trading Partner On-boarding

• Adherence to Trading Partner Requirements

• Increased Reliability of Data Transfers

• Lower Workload on a very lean IT Team

Discover more about the unique solutions UpNet offers by:
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UPNet

CREATING A WORLD OF CONNECTIONS

CHALLENGE:
HEAVY BUSINESS PROCESS, DISCONNECTED SYSTEMS

In the dairy processing industry, EDI is a de-facto requirement for doing business. Companies like Schwan's, Kroger, Sysco and Walmart have very specific and stringent connectivity requirements.

AMPI was using a well-known and widely accepted application for EDI processing. This application was not integrated with their manufacturing systems making EDI processing a daily challenge. Multiple steps were required to move transactions from the EDI application to the manufacturing systems. In addition, AMPI migrated from their legacy Oracle Mfg package to JD Edward Mfg. Their EDI solution did not scale for the JD Edward solution and required even more effort to transact than its counterpart, Oracle Mfg. This led to AMPI utilizing a combination of both systems, adding further complexity.

AMPI's system and process was very expensive, manual, and prevented easy setup of additional trading partners. This created a backlog of demand for EDI transaction processing with new and large customers requiring connectivity and compliance. AMPI needed a better EDI solution.

SOLUTION:
INTEGRATION THAT WORKS

UpNet Technologies assessed the situation and proposed a managed service solution to replace the manual application and process. UpNet's iEDeX platform processes all customer EDI transactions and performs all of the trading partner setup, data translation, and mapping as an on-demand solution.

Connecting data in a true many-to-many platform, iEDeX enabled integration of both the JD Edward and Oracle Manufacturing systems simultaneously in real-time. The JDE system was setup as the primary interface point and the Oracle Mfg system the secondary, allowing AMPI to continue the current migration to JDE. Leveraging the non-invasive attribute of iEDeX, this integration was completed without costly changes to the existing manufacturing systems.

iEDeX also provides the flexibility to connect to any trading partner with no further changes to AMPI's systems, simplifying the on-boarding process and reducing the time to deploy. All translation, transformation, and standards compliance is completed within the iEDeX platform.

RESULTS:
ANNUAL COST REDUCTIONS AND NEW CUSTOMERS

The total solution powered by UpNet Technologies will provide a 40% savings in annual costs. In addition to the annual cost savings, UpNet will provide the on-going service of new trading partner on-boarding, further reducing the internal resource burden to increase or enhance AMPI's EDI processing. What was once a negotiation point on new contracts is now a standard for AMPI customer contracts.