A Case Study

The Impact of Meat Industry ERP Solutions into a Meat Production Company

(A case study on the efficacy of modern Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) solutions for meat production and meat packaging industry)

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RLCS4EAP202201

Overview

It is a case study based on how a big meat production company goes through transformative changes using modern cloud based ERP solutions. How a meat production ERP solution, along with other automation solutions, make it possible for the meat production house (slaughterhouse) into a more streamlined, greatly improved profitable venture. The study also signifies how modern manufacturing and production companies can revitalise their business operations into a modern, highly efficient system so that they can focus on production and their customers and clients.

The Rustam Foods is among the leading meat production companies in India. It mainly produces buffalo meat and relies on several distribution channels. Apart from producing for the local markets they also export a sizeable fraction of the produced meat to more than 30 countries. Sometimes their production units work round-the-clock to supply the excessive meat demands in recent times.

A few years back as their production grew multifold, they realised that the old system of tracking things and accountability could not cope with the production process, and the production process itself was crippled with many issues. It was a not-so-profitable business. Their old methods of accountability (which largely consisted of regular off-the self office use softwares—— Excel™ sheets, Word™ files, PDFs, image files and other software; hard copies of documents) became too cumbersome and overwhelming. The whole of business process was under continuous pressure. The top management was not happy with the whole meat production process documentation, meat packaging documentation, meat storage documentation, meat delivery and everything related to their meat documentation & Accounting. Moreover, the workers too suffered from the old practices of tracking everything, whether it is simple gate pass generation or the issues of large export order tractability. Because of the loopholes in production system, human errors, accountability problems there were multiple delays, misplaced orders, order cancellations, and lot of other losses. The religious and regulatory laws further exacerbated problems. All these kind of losses and mistakes could have been easily avoided if a modern enterprise level software system were in place.

Approach & Implementation

Understand the Exact Need

Through the continuous interview and analysing the current format with each department of production, Bito came to know the exact requirements of the client. It also helped in identifying that what are the pain points, in which they find maximum problem in documentation and data management.

Analyse the current Infrastructure

An IT Implementation always need a good IT infrastructure. So the first task advised by the Bito is a good data centre room where the ERP Team will work and coordinate with each department. This is accepted by the client and infrastructure is established.

Analyse the People Tech savviness

Understanding the technical knowledge and how much familiar with Computer, mobile, tabs and other IT Devices is very crucial for the project. Bito helped organization to find out current resource for ERP training in each department.

Divide the Whole project in phases

Based on the requirement and data dependency the whole project is divided in few phases. This has been done to start implementation in a smooth way. As implementation in phase wise manner do not bring large resistance in organization as well as client team also do not feel loaded with additional work.

Manual to Automation at the last

When the whole client organization become familiar with ERP and become used to manual entry of data one by one, the team decided to do automation. Implementation of Bar code and capture the frozen and stock out data through bar code scanners.

Results

Real time reporting

Besides 48 hours late report of each department, client now start getting real time reports.

Data Repository

Now all data & Information is available in a single system.

No Manual Dependency

Unlike previous times for any information no manual dependency is required. All information is available in ERP

Production Planning & Forecasting

Due to organized & processed data of orders and production it become possible that management can do production planning & Forecasting

Accurate Stock

After automation management get the exact finished as well as raw material stock.

Easy Legal and Delegate Documentation

ERP gives a lot of document preparation function in just client of a button. From Delegation to export document all can be

Conclusions

When the ERP systems were installed, marked differences in the working methods of employees and a lot of process improvements could be observed from the very beginning. Report generations and timely dispatch of reports and information was no more a stressful work for the employees. Even the conventional file-based solutions and apps such as spreadsheets, text files, PDF files (Like Microsoft Excel sheets, Word files) can be generated using the new software. So Excel sheets can be sent to employees and clients, whenever required. There was no big switchover problem due to transition. Customer Order management is now stress-free work, auto alerts automatically reminds about many tasks which should be done in time. The always online centralised cloud based system made it feasible to update data in the variety of documents and sheets. Resource utilisation took a steep turn towards high percentage. A far better accuracy level in data handling can be seen all the departments. Barcode based material handling and packaging relieved the workers to concentrate on other works.

The whole production process started a journey towards operational, economic efficiency and further stimulated process improvements. All the problematic areas were addressed with reasonable and sometimes even novel solutions, profits took a better turn and the heavy losses incurred due to operational methods and human errors were in sharp decline.

The case study shows how a great impact can be made through judicious use of information technology to even to an industry which is big but suffers because of not so well educated workers, older practices and methods recurrent heavy losses.

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