GO-LIVE IN 8 WEEKS:
EMITEC OPTS FOR AFI PURCHASE FOR THE CARVE-OUT

EMITEC

Challenge:

» Introduction of a new SRM system as a result of the carve-out

Solution:

» Implementation of an add-on for the SAP-based procurement process on the basis of a customized approval workflow

Benefits:

» System-supported purchasing process (OCR/Excel catalogs)
» Customized workflows in the release process
» Full transparency of the processing status in real time

AFI SOLUTIONS

Go-live in 8 weeks:
Emitec opts for AFI Purchase for the carve-out

Emitec Technologies (Emitec) is a global leader in the development of highly innovative metal substrates. They form the backbone of future-oriented solutions for reducing emissions in the automotive and non-automotive sectors. As a result of the upcoming carve-out, Emitec was facing the challenge of not being able to migrate the supplier management system that had been in use until 2023. A new SAP-integrated solution for purchase requisitions had to be found within a noticeably short space of time. After all, the Lohmar-based company has over 9,000 purchase requisitions a year - so there was no question of there being a "gap" in the company-wide procurement process. Emitec found AFI Purchase to be the key to the solution. We asked Dimitri Baronsky, Head of IT BA, about the introduction of AFI Purchase: find out more about the selection process, the integration and the project highlights below.

1 Why was Emitec looking for automated software to process purchase requisitions? What were the requirements for the new solution?
Dimitri Baronsky: "For the carve-out, we had to find an alternative to the SRM system previously used. It was important to us that the approval workflows and user interfaces were based on the Emitec-specific requirements of our locations across the world."

2 Why did you choose AFI Purchase? Could you briefly outline the decision-making process?
Dimitri Baronsky: "First of all, various solutions and providers were evaluated. The hunt for alternatives led to two options. One of them was AFI Purchase. Right from the start, the specialist departments were involved in the selection process with their individual ideas about approvals and workflows. We were therefore not looking for a mere standard, but for a customizing solution that could be adapted to the different process requirements. The demands that we had from the IT side were also decisive. In the end, it was the overall package that convinced us. AFI Purchase is transparent, web-based, available as an SAP-integrated add-on and provides all the technologies we considered necessary and important for the new implementation."

3 AFI Purchase was chosen. Could you briefly describe the project procedure?

Dimitri Baronsky: "First, we defined the internal requirements and coordinated them with the AFI project manager. Once the concept phase was complete, the Emitec project team implemented the technical solution and iteratively tested the new application. AFI Solutions fixed errors that occurred during the test runs and also identified and implemented change requests to the process flows and user interfaces. After acceptance of the application by the Emitec project team, the international user training courses were planned and carried out. This was followed by the go-live. After further adjustments in the hypercare and optimization phase, the final change requests were tested, implemented, and finally put into operation. The adaptability within AFI Purchase in particular made integration quick and uncomplicated."

4 You have now been using AFI Purchase for almost a year. What are the improvements you experience in your daily work and what do you think is the most important benefit?

Dimitri Baronsky: "We benefit from the seamless integration of our system-supported purchasing process, the connection to OCR and Excel catalogs, the customized workflow and release processes and, last but not least, the ability to adapt the solution autonomously. Something that is particularly important to me as it allows us to adapt the solution on the IT-side precisely to the requirements of the respective specialist departments should circumstances change. As a company, we are generally pleased with the user-friendly interfaces of the AFI Monitor and the lean cross-departmental requirements and release processes."

5 You mentioned "special" internal requirements. What adjustments were made as part of the introduction of AFI Purchase?

Dimitri Baronsky: "In particular, we had to consider the country-specific requirements of the respective departments for the release levels and process flows. Various Z-tables were implemented to control the release levels depending on the plant, material group, value, and other parameters. In addition, individual assistant checks were introduced to ensure additional security. Processor determination was also performed based on the respective cost center managers."

6 How do these adjustments help?

Dimitri Baronsky: "These individual adjustments enable full implementation of our business requirements for the purchase requisition and release process which ensures more efficient and smoother handling of our internal business processes."
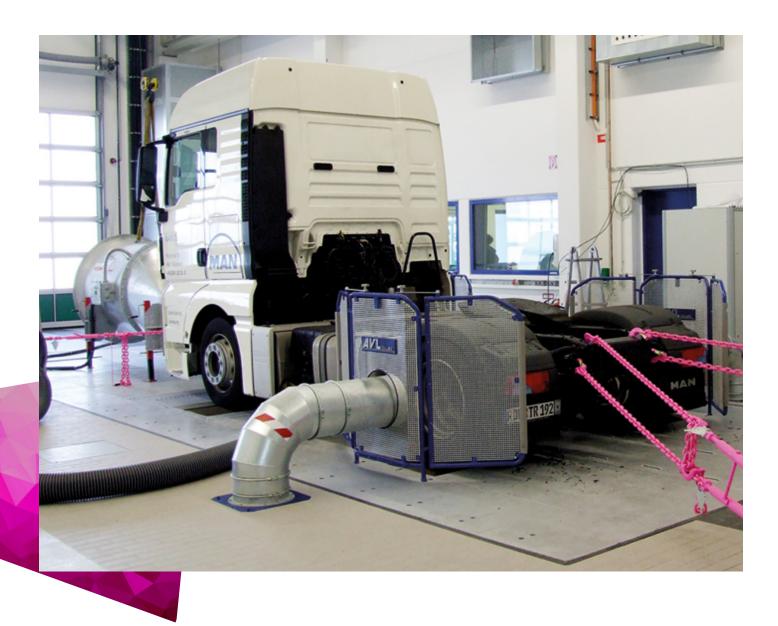
7 Could you tell us how you perceived the cooperation and support from AFI Solutions?

Dimitri Baronsky: "The cooperation was excellent. The high level of competence and professionalism of the responsible AFI project manager throughout the entire period has to be emphasized - from project consulting to support during implementation."

8 And last but not least: what were your personal highlights of the project or the solution?

Dimitri Baronsky: "I can only emphasize the exceptional competence of the responsible AFI project manager which was definitely a key success factor in the entire project progress. And let's not forget the possibility of customizing and the option of integrating individual developments. Another decisive success factor was the excellent project work of all the persons and specialist departments involved within the Emitec project team. Only because of this were we able to put the application into operation within a truly short time."

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Since its foundation in 1986, Emitec has sold over 360 million high-quality METALIT® and EMICAT® metal substrates and is a long-standing development partner for engine and automotive manufacturers as well as the non-automotive industry. Together with its customers, Emitec works on the development of products, solutions and systems and provides comprehensive support with its development team and a cutting-edge test center.

The company's customers include major car, truck, and motorcycle manufacturers from across the globe as well as manufacturers of tractors, agricultural machinery, construction machinery, marine engines, and diesel locomotives in the non-road sector. Emitec has over 1100 patents worldwide - a sign of its innovative strength, which is highly valued throughout the entire business environment.

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AFI Solutions GmbH is a leading solution provider for the digitization and optimization of document processes around SAP. The solutions cover the entire purchase-topay and order-to-cash process.

AFI is the only software manufacturer on the market that offers everything from a single source: With the RedPaperCenter as a managed service, companies can easily outsource the digitization of a wide variety of paper documents. In process optimization, AFI scores with SAP-integrated software solutions. The cloud-based DocumentHub as software as a service (= SaaS) completes the unique product portfolio.

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