

SAP implementation strengthens smart manufacturing journey

Client background

A multinational food processing company began its smart manufacturing journey to modernize operations but needed to quickly convert a quarter of its business to a single enterprise resource planning system. By implementing SAP in conjunction with the multiyear smart manufacturing transformation, the client realized value faster than a typical SAP deployment—in months versus years.

Solution

The client was using multiple homegrown systems—some more than 30 years old—that created unnecessary financial, compliance, and operational complexities. Deloitte found synergies within the ongoing smart manufacturing journey to implement SAP S4/HANA simultaneously to address the client's inventory management challenges. Our Smart Manufacturing team:

- Complemented SAP with advanced analytics: We integrated Al-enabled forecasting and production technology with the inventory management tool to optimize scheduling and decrease manual operations. This streamlined processes for the end user, improving inventory, scheduling, and adherence to key performance indicators.
- **Collaborated with the shop floor:** We deployed options for the end users to test and provide real-time feedback, quickly adjusting the solutions based on the workers' experience. We produced rapid iterations for users who knew the systems best, enabling the solution to address the unique processes and technology of the factory and avoid limitations of the current system.
- **Customized solutions:** We developed options for each plant based on specific requirements of the unique end users instead of implementing a "one size fits all" approach. Our plant floor experience and industry best practices enabled us to deploy rapid and adaptable solutions.

Traditional approach



Deloitte's approach Integrated solution

Benefits in months, not years

Impact

legacy systems replaced with one streamlined platform

reduction in system-related manual processing

new analytics products with real-time data