



AT&S

BETTER PLANNING FOR MORE EFFICIENT PRODUCTION WITH SAP® APO

“SAP APO lets us plan in much more detail. Now that we can identify production bottlenecks more quickly, we can respond without delay.”

Günter Sauermoser, Project Lead and Director, Supply Chain Management, Austria Technologie & Systemtechnik AG

QUICK FACTS

Company

- Name: Austria Technologie & Systemtechnik (AT&S) AG
- Headquarters: Vienna, Austria
- Industry: High tech
- Products and services: Printed circuit boards
- Revenue: €467 million
- Employees: Approximately 6,300 worldwide
- Web site: www.ats.net

Challenges and Opportunities

- Improve planning capabilities to save time and costs
- Deal with high volume of data
- Ensure user buy-in to new planning methods

Objectives

- Implement automatic finite planning production
- Optimize planning process deadlines
- Improve compliance with customer
- Reduce overall lead times in order to reduce work in progress and tied-up capital

SAP® Solution and Services

- SAP® Advanced Planning & Optimization (SAP APO) component
- SAP Consulting services

Implementation Highlights

- Upgraded to new release of SAP APO to handle high data volume
- Gained user buy-in with verification of automatically generated data

Why SAP

- Optimal solution for interface issues
- Integration in the existing SAP ERP application landscape

Benefits

- Improvements in the accuracy of delivery
- Better ability to predict compliance with customer deadlines
- Faster response to problems and bottlenecks
- Reduced lead times, work in progress, and capital tied up in production
- Transition from infinite to finite planning
- Flexible planning enabled, with simulations possible
- Improvements in the quality of master data
- Harmonized planning across all production facilities

Existing Environment

- SAP ERP
- SAP NetWeaver® Business Intelligence component

Third-Party Integration

- Database: IBM DB2 UDB for iSeries
- Hardware: Hewlett-Packard
- Operating system: IBM i5/OS (OS/400) V5R4

AT&S

Austria Technologie & Systemtechnik AG (AT&S) leads the European market in manufacturing printed circuit boards. The company implemented the SAP® Advanced Planning & Optimization (SAP APO) component, delivering impressive improvements in overall planning capabilities.

Headquartered in Vienna, Austria, with around 6,300 employees worldwide, AT&S has a growing global presence, including operations in Austria, China, Korea, and India. In 2007, the company's highest-ever revenue (€467 million) supported its strategic goals: to extend its technological leadership and become the world's leading printed circuit board manufacturer.

Streamlined Planning

AT&S began to evaluate planning tools to optimize its logistics and production planning. Easily integrated with the SAP ERP application and the existing landscape, SAP APO offered the functions required to manage all detailed planning, order-entry, and fine-tuned control processes at production locations.

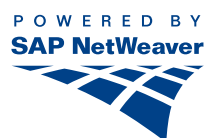
When AT&S customer demand figures are entered, SAP APO uses predefined parameters to check capacity levels and plan production automatically. "Using SAP APO, we can respond to problems and identify production bottlenecks much faster, even simulating additional or reduced shifts to plan more accurately," says Günter Sauermoser, project lead and director of supply chain management at AT&S.

Faster Response, Greater Accuracy

SAP APO forecasts so accurately that AT&S can handle demand fluctuations flexibly and quickly, improving its delivery service and confidently predicting its ability to meet customer deadlines. More accurate planning helps AT&S reduce lead times, work in progress, and capital tied up in production.

Based on the 450,000–550,000 production operations planned in one optimization run at four locations, AT&S has one of the world's largest SAP APO installations. Implementation was completed within 20 months, despite a release upgrade necessary to resolve an issue regarding high data volume, which affected user confidence. A verification exercise proved the automatically generated data was accurate, dispelling remaining doubts. "Users recognize the benefits of finite planning, so buy-in levels are now high," says Hellfried Fleck, head of capacity management at AT&S. Manfred Ofner, head of IT at AT&S, adds: "As we now face tougher requirements in terms of data accuracy, our master data quality has significantly improved."

After the successful implementation in Austria, AT&S began to roll out SAP APO to its Shanghai facility, before implementing the component in India. "We're nearing our goal of cross-plant harmonization," says Sauermoser.



50 090 436 (08/07)

©2008 by SAP AG

All rights reserved. SAP, R/3, xApps, xApp, SAP NetWeaver, Duet, PartnerEdge, ByDesign, SAP Business ByDesign, and other SAP products and services mentioned herein as well as their respective logos are trademarks or registered trademarks of SAP AG in Germany and in several other countries all over the world. All other product and service names mentioned are the trademarks of their respective companies. Data contained in this document serves informational purposes only. National product specifications may vary.

These materials are subject to change without notice. These materials are provided by SAP AG and its affiliated companies ("SAP Group") for informational purposes only, without representation or warranty of any kind, and SAP Group shall not be liable for errors or omissions with respect to the materials. The only warranties for SAP Group products and services are those that are set forth in the express warranty statements accompanying such products and services, if any. Nothing herein should be construed as constituting an additional warranty.