



HeidelbergCement AG

At a glance

The customer

HeidelbergCement AG
Berliner Strasse 6
D-69120 Heidelberg/Germany

- World market leader in the area of aggregate and with leading positions in cement, concrete, and further downstream activities, one of the largest manufacturers of construction materials in the world.

The figures

Total Group turnover : about 11 billion Euros (in 2007)

Employees: about 68,000
in 2,800 locations in
50 countries

The SLO II project

- Includes the standardization and harmonization of master data and processes within the HeidelbergCement group in Europe.
- The goal was to build a central system, to replace the different SAP systems operated in Europe, and to design a future-oriented platform for process integration based on templates, which can also be used for rollout projects in other parts of the HeidelbergCement Group.

Project SLO II: Worldwide Process and System Harmonization

The blueprint phase started in mid-2006, with the analysis of the business processes in the different business areas of HeidelbergCement AG, as well as in the countries migrating to the central SAP R/3 system by the end of 2009. 20 countries are in the focus of this migration.

Shortly prior to this, the group's accounting team released a globally unified account structure, which forms the basis for the target process harmonization and will be introduced in each country over the course of the SAP implementations.

After definition of the global target processes and the rollout template, the phase of technical implementation started in mid-2007. The implementations are executed in so-called "waves": Bosnia-Herzegovina was put into production as a pilot in November, 2007 (Wave 1). Wave 2, in January, 2008, included Sweden, Norway, and Poland. In April 2008, it was Germany's turn, in Wave 3.

These first three waves included a total of 219 companies (company codes), with 315 plants and about 6,000 profit centers, distributed over the four business lines of the HeidelbergCement Group. Just about 3,000 users are already online, and about 100 people in all (including the XEPTUM consultants) are working on the SLO II project.



HeidelbergCement plant Schelklingen, Germany



XEPTUM Success Story



HeidelbergCement plant Gorazdze, Poland



"The greatest challenge is the parallel introduction of countries with the simultaneous build-up in support after every wave," says XEPTUM project lead Armin Geiger. "The topic of planning and coordination takes on a whole new meaning in this context."

By January, 2009, another eight countries, like Belgium and the Netherlands, Hungary, the Ukraine, Romania, and Great Britain, will go into production. In the Cement business line, the modules FI, CO, CO-PA, SD, MM, PM, and IM/PS modules are being implemented for each country.

The HeidelbergCement project manager and head of the Group IT SAP Competence Center explains the next steps and challenges: "We are working on migration of more countries to the system on within the course of 2008 and 2009. We are also working on many parallel projects, which will result in extremely high demands on our resources. The objective is to have all of Europe – over 6,000 SAP users – online by the end of the first quarter of 2009."



Union Bridge cement plant, USA



Floating silos in the fjords, Norway

More info ...

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