Manufacturing

Meet the competitive challenges of the manufacturing market with SharePoint® and Bamboo

Industry Overview

Manufacturing enterprises are becoming more and more complex. Having the fastest, least expensive, and best automated manufacturing operation within one’s “four walls” is no longer sufficient to gain competitive advantage. Top companies are increasingly relying on SharePoint to drive momentum. SharePoint and Bamboo are positioned as the enterprise platform that can help meet these competitive challenges of shrinking time to market, reducing manufacturing costs, increasing quality and building an infrastructure to support rapid integration of new acquisitions.

Solutions Brief

When a major manufacturer looked to improve its ISO 9001 document workflow and management, it turned to Bamboo to add the functionality needed to create a world class quality management solution. Reliably documenting its quality and safety procedures was mission critical, and documentation had to be maintained in an easily accessible format. Furthermore, to ensure the repeatability and accountability inherent in maintaining ISO 9001 certification, procedural and process revisions had to be communicated and updated quickly.

Their solution was to implement a document repository and management system based in SharePoint. Using SharePoint, a single, computerized document repository was created to house existing documents relating to ISO quality processes. This repository used Bamboo’s Navigators, List Search, and many other feature enhancements to enrich the user interaction and management of content. In addition, the solution utilizes Bamboo Workflow Conductor® to route and track new documents through authoring, modification, and approval before they are accepted into the quality document library. If existing documents require modification, workflows properly route and track them through approval as well.

As an adjunct of the workflow implementation, the company utilized advanced notification and alerts. Using Workflow Conductor and Alert Plus, a system to inform personnel charged with specific quality objectives was created. The system afforded the manufacturer the flexibility to move beyond out-of-the-box SharePoint alerts and create specialized, query-based alerts without the need for custom workflow development. This alerting feature is also being used to measure and monitor progress within the Quality Management System. Overall, the impact of the implementation for the company has been significant.