

DUNLOP SYSTEMS & COMPONENTS



Dunlop is a name that is steeped in the manufacturing history of the UK for over 100 years. In 1890 the Dunlop Tyre Company first opened its gates in Coventry and it has been part of the landscape ever since. In 2007 Dunlop Systems & Components was formed after a management buyout of the Dunlop Coventry suspension division from Trelleborg AB. Today, at their state of the art Coventry facility they design and manufacture Advanced Electronic Control Systems and Air Suspension components for the automotive and ancillary industries.

Their products include: Air Springs (Dunlop were one of the first companies to produce these), electronically Controlled Air Suspension (ECAS), Air Suspension Conversions, Mobility Systems, Testing Services and Electronic Design. They currently employ close to 100 people in their engineering and manufacturing operation and turn over approximately £10m pa. They have sold over a quarter of a million Ecas systems worldwide, with over 10 million Air Springs sold since they began production in the 1950's.

The Issues

The senior management team, the driving force behind the new ERP project, saw the need for a more robust and efficient system to replace their old, outmoded legacy system. The drivers for change included:

- DSC wanting a more flexible ERP system compared to their legacy system
- The legacy system was overly expensive to maintain
- The legacy system had data accuracy issues relating to BOM's routings and core part data
- Most importantly the legacy system had a poor MRP mechanism resulting in operational inefficiencies

Dunlop aimed to implement a full ERP package concentrating on production, logistics and project management. Their plans for the future include extensive use of shop floor data collection, PDA's, bar coding and live reporting of production.

Our Solution

Medatech UK Ltd provided an overall standard system with pertinent modifications to suit the business processes at DSC. We put together processes and data flow solutions that provided smooth and efficient work flows in the challenging environment of a manufacturing platform in a multi company set up. A conscious decision was made by DSC to perform extensive data cleansing before migrating the new system. This ensured the ease of use of the various data analysers to get accurate results every time with the press of a button in every area of Priority ERP.



IN THIS CASE STUDY

- Background
- The Issues
- Our Solution



The Results

The Priority implementation has so far achieved:

Project Management—the project management module is an integral part of the system rather than a stand-alone unit. This allowed transparency for the engineering department towards the other users of the system.

Executive Reporting—Dunlop have the business intelligence module as part of their package which allows executive dashboards within the Priority ERP environment as well as on the MS outlook interface, allowing the management an excellent snapshot and drill down capability on the business processes and performance

Production Efficiency—During implementation, Dunlop timed all operations and reviewed BOM's for all parts. As a result of this data review and input, accurate product prices are now available through Priority ERP.

Operations on the shop floor are constantly reviewing strategy. There is a growing trust towards the data coming from the new system as opposed to the old system which was often misleading.

Inventory Management—Both final products and raw materials are managed effectively using FIFO and Lot control and are easily traceable. Manufacturing and raw material procurement is closely monitored and managed fully utilizing the benefits of the Priority ERP and purchase planning modules.

Dunlop has succeeded in implementing a full ERP package, logistics and project management. Their plans for the future include extensive use of shop floor data collection, PDA's, bar-coding and live reporting of production.

If you have an ERP project in the pipeline and would like some more information on how Medatech can help you streamline your operations process, please contact us today on 845 230 6740 or email info@medatechuk.com



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