



Manufacturer of Precision Machined Parts, Welded Frames, and Integrated Assemblies Synchronizes Information across Design and Manufacturing, Reducing Engineering Change Cycle Time by Over 75%

Customer

For over 30 years Treske Precision Machining, Inc has provided Precision Machined Parts, Welded Frames, and Integrated Assemblies to their customers. The company utilizes high quality, state of the art equipment and systems to meet the demands of today's rapidly changing manufacturing environment. Understanding that superior quality and on time delivery are basic expectations of any supplier, Treske strives to exceed expectations by developing efficient manufacturing methods and supply chain systems matched to the unique requirements of their customers.

Challenge/Situation

Growing customer base and pending ISO certification

A substantial growth in their customer base and pending ISO (International Standards Organization) certification changed Treske's requirements for managing product information. Legacy processes were no longer sufficient to keep up with the significant increase of documentation that needed to be managed. Treske's product documentation was stored in various files on network servers- Bills of Materials (BOMs) were managed in Excel spreadsheets and prints were saved in PDF format. This setup lacked accessibility and the capabilities to keep documentation in a controlled environment such as tracking, linking and where-used searching.

Managing data was a tedious task and often resulted in inefficiencies. "To prevent losing control over our increasing product documentation, we needed to implement a system to track and manage this information and make it accessible to everyone," stated Mark Brenden, engineering manager for Treske Precision Machining, Inc."

Customer Goals

Create an integrated ERP and PLM environment

The company had implemented an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) solution from Epicor Software Corporation, **Epicor Vantage® 8.0**, to manage manufacturing information such as job planning, purchasing, inventory and financial data.

Key Benefits

- Unified location to manage product information
 - Controlled environment for managing data
 - Easily accessible by all necessary parties
 - Supports ISO certification requirements
- Time and Cost Savings
 - **Reduced ECO cycle time by over 75%**
 - Reduced product errors
 - Reduced returns
 - Eliminate manual entry of data
 - Eliminate delays in searching and accessing product information
- Streamlined Communication
 - Automate manual processes
 - Direct data sharing between engineering and manufacturing
 - Ensure accuracy of data across the enterprise
- Business-ready solution
 - Easy to use
 - Fast implementation (less than one week)
 - Open technology platform for easy integration with existing ERP system, **Epicor Vantage 8.0**
- Superior Support Staff

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CUSTOMER SUCCESS

Treske knew the best way to manage their growing product information and properly track documentation for ISO certification was to employ a Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) solution. Treske's ultimate goal was to integrate the ERP and PLM environments to directly share information through an automated process and eliminate double entry of part data. Treske enters new part data on a daily basis and manually entering that data into two systems is error-prone and time-consuming. Treske wanted all released information, particularly BOMs, automatically uploaded to Epicor from the PLM system.

"As we searched for a PLM solution, one of the key requirements was that it needed to integrate with our Epicor ERP system," said Mr. Brenden. "Also, with over 100 users required to access the system, we wanted a straightforward and user friendly product that an average user could navigate without difficulty."

"We compared several PLM vendors during our selection process and found that Omnify was the only product that provided the intuitive solution, integration capabilities and affordable price point we were looking for," continued Brenden. "Beyond that, the Omnify sales and support team was responsive to all of our questions and truly understood our need for integration with Epicor - something I cannot say about the other software vendors. The more questions we asked, the more expensive the competitive solutions became."

"Omnify provided a straightforward PLM solution that was intuitive, extremely easy to use, affordable, and delivered the integration to our Epicor ERP system that other PLM vendors could not offer. The added benefit of an excellent support team that understood our needs made Omnify our number one choice and we could not be without it today."

-Mark Brenden, Engineering Manager, Treske Precision Machining, Inc

Omnify Solution

Open integration platform, ease of use, low cost, and an outstanding support team

"Omnify had everything we wanted and more in a PLM solution: an open integration platform, ease of use, low cost, and an outstanding support team," stated Mr. Brenden. "Omnify's support team was instrumental in making the overall implementation a smooth process. The Omnify system was implemented, complete with training and integration to Epicor, in a little under a week".

Omnify Empower is now the master control database for all system and product documentation at Treske. With Empower, Treske has a single system to manage their 20,000 plus part numbers and associated prints. Centralized storage for all product documentation with revision control, part association and controlled editing helps Treske to comply with ISO standards and facilitate their requirements to receive certification.

The ability to quickly enter a part number, bring up a print, and see the latest revision has eliminated the delays in finding information. "Omnify has empowered people to find information themselves and move forward with their work without having to wait for engineering," added Brenden. "All product development team members including engineering, document control and planners have a single location to access accurate product information."

Omnify's open integration platform coupled with Epicor Service Connect provided an easy integration process. With the integration to Epicor, engineering does not have to manually enter information in two locations. When engineering releases a part or ECO (Engineering Change Order) from Omnify Empower, it is automatically uploaded to the Epicor ERP system. Planners can then create a method for manufacturing, approve a revision, and generate a job within Epicor. Sharing data between Omnify Empower and Epicor through an automated process has allowed Treske to eliminate the introduction of errors due to manual entry of BOMs and ensure planners have correct and current information within Epicor.

CUSTOMER SUCCESS

As part of Treske's philosophy to develop efficient manufacturing methods, they plan to integrate Omnify Empower even further into their manufacturing operations. All documentation used by machinists to set up a job will be managed within Empower. Wireless remote stations setup on the shop floor will allow machinists to easily pull up the required documentation. This will not only save time in finding information it will save time by eliminating the need to print these files which contain numerous pages. "The fewer tools we have to use, the more efficient we are," commented Brenden.

Return on Investment

ECO processing time reduced by more than 75%

"Now that we have Omnify, our ability to look at parts and find documents is much, much faster," said Mark. Sharing data between their PLM and ERP environments has also sped up ECO cycles for Treske. All necessary information such as the quantity of parts in inventory, how many parts are being manufactured, and change history is now at the fingertips of the engineers processing ECOs. Information can be accessed immediately within Empower to create an ECO and then automatically routed via workflows for appropriate signoff. The released ECO is then automatically uploaded to Epicor. "Prior to Omnify, people used to have to physically go onto the shop floor to find this information," stated Mr. Brenden. "Our overall ECO processing time has been reduced by more than 75%".

Treske is also able to support their customers much more efficiently. Accurate and up-to-date information across engineering, manufacturing and sales, guarantees that the paperwork that must ship with a part - from the invoice to the packing slip - is correct, with matching revisions and part numbers. Because parts are returned if the documentation supplied is not correct, this automated process has resulted in reduced returns and significant cost-savings for Treske. "With the data sharing between Omnify and Epicor, we are assured that the documentation generated in Epicor reflects the most current revision," said Mark. "This has also relieved some big headaches in our shipping department."

"We could not be without Omnify at this point in time," concluded Mr. Brenden.

