The Central America Bottling Corporation

Filling up on Efficiency With Epicor Informance EMI and Sage Clarity

EPICOR.
Platinum Partner

Company Facts

Overview

▶ Location—Guatemala City, Guatemala

▶ Industry—Beverage manufacturer and bottler

▶ Website—www.cbc.co/en

Success Highlights

Challenges

▶ Ability to monitor and measure events in all plants through an easy-to-use solution

Solution

▶ Epicor® Informance® EMI

Benefits

▶ Increased plant efficiency by 5 OEE (overall equipment efficiency) points

▶ Allowed users to drill down into all metrics measured by system to find and resolve issues and identify efficiency opportunities

The Central America Bottling Corporation (CBC) is a multinational beverage corporation—operating in Central America, the Caribbean, and South America—with the industry's largest portfolio of products in the region. It manufactures both PEPSICO products and its own products, and it also distributes these products, making it the largest beverage distributor in Central America.

The business situation

As more manufacturing execution systems modernize to make data from equipment more available, CBC needed to eliminate its paper-based statistics process. "We needed a reliable tool to measure every single event that occurs within our production lines," recalled Carlos Estrada, corporate packaging manager, CBC. "Our goal was to go from collecting data on paper to having the information in real time. Epicor Informance EMI had what we needed."

The solution

The Informance system's wide range of tools and analytics allows businesses to analyze information and help engineers work on optimizing manufacturing lines, and the availability of dashboards for each line operator to be able to measure their line's performance on-the-go without interruptions has helped optimize production.

Partnering for success

CBC selected Sage Clarity—an Epicor Channel Partner—for the implementation. "We selected Sage Clarity because we felt confident how things would work with them," said Estrada. "They had the insights on what we needed, the background, and the experience. Their familiarity with our industry and the software gave them the edge over others. I would definitely recommend Sage Clarity to deploy Informance."

SageClarity
Insight in Manufacturing

The business impact

Since going live, the company estimates efficiency among the lines already running the software has increased by five percent. "Informance gives us insights to pinpoint where major gaps exist," explained Estrada. "That allows us to have more uptime in our lines by raising the productivity with the proper management tools and allows us to launch new products faster. Now, we don't need a complete new line to launch a new product—we can intersperse multiple products into the same line."

From production budget to efficiency, virtually any possible metric related to its plants is viewable in Informance. CBC can—for instance—use Informance to determine where to allocate the maintenance budget. "Now, we know where to invest to get better efficiencies from the lines while also having reliable information on productivity that's measured in real time at the filler," added Estrada.

Ultimately, one of the best parts about Informance for CBC is not only the depth and breadth of data points available, but also how intuitive it is, allowing Estrada and his team to run the same reports across different lines to identify immediate insights.

"Informance has a lot of great features, but for us, two things that stand out are the ease of use for our line operators and the analytics the system provides," he said. "Because it's intuitive and you can get the same report repeatedly, we can quickly get the information and show operators at the plant a progression of information so they know where productivity needs to improve. With only three clicks the information we need is logged into the system, and we can eventually pinpoint where the major gaps are and how we can rapidly resolve them."

What's next for Epicor and CBC

Informance has been so successful at CBC that the company already has plans to install it in other plants soon. "We are very happy with what we've done so far, and we'll be deploying Informance at other plants with Sage Clarity this year, because they have the insight needed and the experience for our industry," concluded Estrada. "They really know how to help you get the most out of the tool being installed."

About Sage Clarity

Located in Chicago, Sage Clarity is developing solutions to enable the "Next Generation Manufacturing Enterprise." Sage Clarity is a leading provider of manufacturing intelligence solutions, developing cutting-edge concepts to elevate manufacturing visibility and performance. By combining best-of-breed software capabilities with advisory services, Sage Clarity delivers comprehensive solutions enabling enterprises to achieve a higher level of manufacturing and supply-chain performance with real-time visibility and valuable insights into manufacturing operations.

About Epicor

Epicor Software Corporation drives business growth. We provide flexible, industry-specific software that is designed around the needs of our manufacturing, distribution, retail, and service industry customers. More than 40 years of experience with our customers' unique business processes and operational requirements is built into every solution—in the cloud or on premises. With a deep understanding of your industry, Epicor solutions spur growth while managing complexity. The result is powerful solutions that free your resources so you can grow your business. For more information, connect with Epicor or visit www.epicor.com.

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