

DuPont Responds Faster to Changing Demands with End-to-End Supply Chain Management

DuPont's Glass Laminating Solutions business deploys aspenONE® Planning & Scheduling software to improve accuracy, visibility, and decision making across its global supply chain.

DuPont Glass Laminating Solutions (GLS)—part of the company's Packaging and Industrial Polymers (P&IP) business—makes extruded plastic sheets used in a number of applications, including automotive and residential/commercial construction. For the past decade, DuPont P&IP has used legacy AspenTech modeling software to support its operation.

With the impending removal of existing UNIX servers and applications, the DuPont P&IP supply chain team was going to lose its planning and scheduling capabilities. Rather than revert to spreadsheets or wait for an SAP APO implementation (which had proven inadequate at handling complex manufacturing processes), DuPont chose to migrate its legacy AspenTech supply chain applications to a Windows-based environment.

The migration allowed DuPont to take advantage of the enhanced functionality and usability in AspenTech's latest supply chain offering. As a result, DuPont's GLS business has achieved improved accuracy in demand forecasting and planning with the ability to generate a more granular, daily schedule to stay on top of changing demands.

"DuPont has a global SAP implementation in progress intended to eventually fulfill most of the ERP and supply chain management requirements. GLS needed to improve processes now instead of waiting for the SAP solution."

— Ron Carrick, Global Operations IT Manager, DuPont

Customer Profile

DuPont

Speciality Chemicals Producer

Challenge:

Replace an aging UNIX-based system with an integrated forecasting, planning, and scheduling solution

Solution:

aspenONE Planning & Scheduling to model complex manufacturing environment, manage dynamic supply chain, and deliver quicker benefits than SAP APO

Best Practice:

Utilize simple, easy, and focused user interfaces that eliminate disconnected and labor-intensive processes

Benefits:

- Enables consistent process for developing a demand plan
- Improves accuracy in forecasting and planning
- Generates a daily detailed schedule to respond faster to market requirements



Disconnected Business Processes Present Challenges

DuPont's starting point was an aging AspenTech supply chain application integrated with a number of in-house ERP systems and a UNIX-based system. Global demand and supply plans were not integrated with the weekly scheduling process and were extremely labor intensive to develop. In fact, supply planning was done in Excel and it only modeled the extrusion process, limiting planning of downstream processes. Similarly, the scheduling application only recognized select constraints, so it did not accurately model DuPont's complex manufacturing process.

Despite being on the roadmap for DuPont's global SAP implementation, the GLS business determined that SAP did not have the sophistication to model its complex and dynamic manufacturing environment. Plus, it would take 5-7 years for an SAP APO solution.

Integrated End-to-End Supply Chain

Based on its long track record of success with AspenTech, DuPont GLS proceeded with deploying the latest version of aspenONE Planning & Scheduling to manage the global supply chain. The goal was to enable automated data processes and have vital information available in the aspenONE Planning & Scheduling applications, eliminating the reliance on spreadsheets and other external systems.

The GLS business worked with AspenTech to implement an end-to-end, integrated supply chain solution that could support its global business, including five locations worldwide and a broad distribution network. Currently in production, the company has four regional Aspen Collaborative Demand Manager systems covering all GLS products, as well as one global Aspen Supply Chain Planner model and one global Aspen Plant Scheduler model covering all five plants and over 100 warehouses.

Enhanced Consistency, Accuracy, and Visibility

DuPont GLS has achieved improved accuracy in forecasting thanks to a consistent, streamlined approach for developing a global demand plan and a global supply planning process that holistically considers capacity planning, inventory planning, and transportation planning in the same system.

At an execution level, they are better able to identify scheduling problems thanks to a more granular daily schedule and enhanced visibility within and across plants. This results in a more agile business environment that can mitigate problems before they occur—and help DuPont GLS maintain a competitive edge in a dynamic market.

About AspenTech

AspenTech is a leading supplier of software that optimizes process manufacturing — including oil and gas, petroleum, chemicals, pharmaceuticals and other industries that manufacture and produce products from a chemical process. With integrated aspenONE solutions, process manufacturers can implement best practices for optimizing their engineering, manufacturing and supply chain operations. As a result, AspenTech customers are better able to increase capacity, improve margins, reduce costs and become more energy efficient. To see how the world's leading process manufacturers rely on AspenTech to achieve their operational excellence goals, visit www.aspentech.com.



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