

Sam Mouldings utilise EFACS Enterprise ERP to continuously expand business operations and capability.

EFACS CASE STUDY SAM MOULDINGS

SAM MOULDINGS

SAM Mouldings are the UK's leading Manufacturer of MDF Architectural Mouldings for the construction and home improvement industries.

Industry

Construction

The Challenge

A robust and scalable solution requirement, which can easily be configured to integrate with third party software and also fits the needs of business expansion.

The Solution

EFACS Enterprise

The Benefits

Instant availability of order status and sales analysis data, greatly enhanced visibility and transparency of management information held throughout the company, vast improvement in managing of cut-offs, the ability to provide customers with real time updates on orders.



Moulding the future today

Originating as a family company, SAM Mouldings manufactures the highest quality and the widest range of MDF Moulded products in the market place today, including skirting, architrave, door frames, window boards, stair treads, dado rail and cornice. They also produce mouldings for picture frames and numerous kitchen components. Their products' versatility enables it to be used effectively in all types of construction.

Based in Antrim, Northern Ireland, the company was founded by Sam McCrea MBE in 1990 with the express purpose of being the best MDF moulding manufacturer in Europe.

SAM Mouldings pride themselves on prompt and consistent round-the-clock delivery on time, every time to their customers - the leading builders and merchants throughout the UK, Ireland and beyond.

This reputation has provided a solid foundation and now SAM hold a 25% share of the UK market, with a turnover in excess of £16 million.

As any thriving company would understand, success and rapid growth bring their own management challenges.

This proved to be the case for SAM Mouldings when an IT system review highlighted the fact that the previous, primarily paper-based system for managing stock and scheduling jobs and order management was on the verge of overload.

A robust and scalable solution was required, with the answer arriving in the form of the browser-based ERP solution, EFACS Enterprise, which was identified as the ideal framework around which the new system could be built.

Tim Patton, ICT Controller at SAM Mouldings, continues:

"As we started to get to grips with EFACS, we realised that a partner was needed that could handle our ambitious timetable and provide a tailored solution that fitted the specific needs of our expanding business."

Four months after the implementation commenced, the new system went live and immediately SAM benefited from greatly enhanced transparency of management information held throughout the company.

"We can now drill right down into our stock lists and know exactly what we need and what we already have, vastly improving our management of off-cuts." Adds Tim.

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Next came the key challenge of remodelling job scheduling on the saws and moulding lines. The company operates a double shift with a three-hour break in between. Originally, the scheduling was a manual process and there was a risk of potential failure as the volume and range of products increased.

Due to EFACS’ open nature and its configuration capability, the solution was integrated with Preactor scheduling software, creating an easy to use interface available at 22 terminals throughout the factory and linked back to the master scheduling system.

Now, each operator can see every order, view stock availability, define the material required, create job schedules and make real time changes to stock holdings that are visible to all other operators and the logistics team.



As well as the overall process improvement, Tim Patton has identified a number of ‘stand out’ benefits to SAM through the use of EFACS. For example, the company can now access automated order status and sales analysis data, along with associated order projections. With 90% of SAM’s business in mainland UK, the sales team can log into the system when visiting a customer, allowing them to provide real time updates on order status.

It goes without saying that total care and attention to detail is paramount throughout SAM’s entire manufacturing process. They design and manufacture templates and mouldings using the latest CAD/CAM technology, which EFACS was able to handle with ease.

SAM Mouldings also pride themselves on the quality of their service, processes, products and people which is reflected in the fact that they were the first manufacturing company in the world to achieve Investors in People Champion status.

But the impressive nature of this company does not stop there... SAM Mouldings take an active interest in environmental sustainability and are committed to managing their environmental impact on society. All waste MDF is extracted from the factory using cyclo filters and stored in silos. The waste is then burned in their combined heat and power plant to provide heat for the factory, offices and paint drying process as well as generating 40% of their electricity requirements.

This award winning plant is the first in its kind anywhere in the world and has greatly reduced landfill and pollution effects.

How fitting it is then that SAM Mouldings have all corners covered. With their innovative products, environmentally sound factory and efficient business ERP solution, it is clear that SAM are most certainly Moulding the future today.

About RAD

RAD is a specialist provider of Enterprise software solutions and implementation services for Manufacturing companies throughout Scotland and the UK. Since 1997, RAD has worked with an extensive client base, supplying a broad range of software applications including but not limited to: ERP, MRP, Financial Management, Job Costing, Stock, Warehouse, Sub-contract and Shop-floor Control, CRM, Document Management, and Business intelligence/ Reporting.

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