



SUCCESS STORY

THALES

“Thanks to the use of the SNP Transformation Backbone standard software in conjunction with extensive testing tools and SNP’s outstanding consulting expertise, we were able to safely harmonize our business-critical data.”

Vincent Piante, Supply Chain Manager, Thales Deutschland, Electron Devices division

Harmonization of Master Data Across Locations

About Thales

Thales is a leading global technology company in the defense and security, aerospace, and transport markets. In 2013, the company generated revenues of 14.2 billion euros and had 65000 employees in 56 countries. With its 25000 engineers and researchers, Thales has the unique ability to design, develop, and install systems and services that meet the most complex security requirements. Thales has an outstanding international presence and operates in numerous locations around the world, which allows the company to work as partners with its local clients.

Further information: www.thalesgroup.com/germany

The Challenge

Similar to other international locations in the Thales Electron Devices division, the German production facility in Ulm is connected to the parent company in France via Thales' global SAP® system. However, different material master records and numbers to those in the main global SAP system were being used at the Ulm location. As a result, the material stock always needed to be inspected manually, which made the process time-consuming and prone to errors.

Furthermore, Thales wanted to secure a quick, reliable, and standardized view of the product structure across all locations, since an integrated database across all locations with a view of the core logistics is business-critical to the company. In addition, the company wanted to achieve improved data consistency and increased efficiency in configuration management and engineering as well as in logistics.

The Solution

Thales used the SNP Transformation Backbone® solution to secure the harmonization of material management in the SAP system. The first step was conducting a thorough analysis of the existing master data. SNP subsequently used the results to create the technical and migration concept. During the project, the system was also transitioned to SAP Business Warehouse, which makes conclusive reporting possible. In this case, migrating the data sets in the history as well posed an additional challenge.

In order to ensure that the business-critical system was stable and reliable in its entirety, including all processes and master data, before going live, SNP conducted far-reaching stress tests. In this context, SNP used special analysis tools to identify inconsistent data sets.

The system went live in February 2014 over the course of 68 hours, which included merging the data in the operational system. During this process, 250000 documents and 130000 materials were migrated.

The Advantages

- Flexible and secure implementation with the help of SNP in conjunction with outstanding expertise in consulting and solutions
- The use of standard software offers added security compared to customized solutions
- Thanks to the harmonization, Thales can now access its material management from all locations
- The company also achieved an additional competitive advantage