Papyrus adopts regional supply chain planning with AIMMS

About Papyrus

Papyrus, with net sales of EUR 1,604 million in 2013, is a leading European merchant in paper, facility supplies and industrial packaging. The company is currently present in 20 countries across Europe and employs some 2,000 people. Papyrus supports more than 68,000 customers by providing products and services that enhance efficiency and contribute to a more successful business.
Challenge

Papyrus needed to reevaluate and update its supply chain design in order to be able to respond quickly to changing demand. In order to sustain their reputable service level and flexibility and arrive at the right cost level, they had to design a new and innovative supply chain.

Historically, this company was regionally organized with lots of local warehouses and local direct supply chains. Adding to the complexity was the use of different planning systems in place in different countries — each being differently configured with respect to replenishment.

A supply chain network study indicated that a transformation to a centralized supply chain organization, together with a new planning system providing modeling capabilities, was needed to realize potential cost savings.

Solution

Papyrus used AIMMS to investigate and identify the best scenarios for improving the Papyrus supply chain planning process. After six months of supply chain transformation, the company rolled out a supply chain control tower application.

The application allows Papyrus to centralize capabilities such as demand forecasting, demand planning, safety stock optimization, replenishment and purchase order optimization. The control tower also lays the foundation for several advanced supply chain optimization concepts, including multi-echelon inventory optimization, transport optimization, S&OP optimization, and further optimization of the procurement function.

“We first investigated the best scenarios for bringing the Papyrus supply chain to the next level. With the adoption of AIMMS PRO, Papyrus will rapidly make the transition from a locally oriented organization to a European supply chain concept.”

— Bob Woodburn, SVP Supply Chain Papyrus group

Results

The first phase was completed within six months and delivered the required insights to progress to the next steps. The central planning department now runs the planning and optimization cycle on a daily basis. Benefits achieved included:

• A daily cycle of planning and optimization executed by a central planning department
• A reduction in stock and a slight reduction in stock locations
• A better and leaner physical network and, thus, reduced cost (physical inventory itself and managing the inventory)

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About AIMMS

The AIMMS Prescriptive Analytics Platform helps you evaluate and identify the best options to tackle your most pressing challenges with sophisticated analytics that leverage mathematical modeling and scenarios while pulling from multiple data sources. You can immediately gauge, not just what is likely to happen, but what you should do about it for the best possible outcome. Whether you seek to improve your strategy, planning, operations or transform your entire supply chain, AIMMS software is the ideal combination of being tailored to your unique situation paired with speed to value (ROI). That’s why teams at Shell, Johnson & Johnson, GE and Heineken and many more fire up AIMMS every day.

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