NEWSLETTER

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Edition 6/2004

Work Clearance Management Newsletter

Dear Readers,

In our sixth WCM newsletter our top story is the implementation project of the E.ON Kraftwerke GmbH. In addition, due to popular demand, we have highlighted a new functionality in the newsletter. Please note the dates and events where WCM is featured.

We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter,
Yours sincerely,

Uwe Kirchner Michael Lesk Christoph Wobbe

Content Summary

Top Story

In a project named "BFS@EKW", E.ON Kraftwerke GmbH is installing the SAP component Work Clearance Management (PM-WCM) in 17 of its power plants.

On February 22, 2002, the management at E.ON Kraftwerke GmbH in Hanover decided to replace the existing operational systems IBFS, DIS, BFS and BFS++ with the SAP components PM/PM-WCM. The project goals are:

- Implementing standard optimized business processes for operation and maintenance at E.ON Kraftwerke GmbH (organization project)
- Integrating SAP components PM/PM-WCM in the existing SAP architecture of the power plants (SAP-Classic) and replacing the BFS legacy systems (integration project)

- Implementing a standard payroll system and connecting it to the SAP sales order processing system (sub-project payroll system)

From the outset, the suitability of the SAP component PM-WCM for lockout/tagout and other precautions for occupational safety was deemed critical to the success of the project. This is understandable since the existing BFS legacy systems have very efficient work clearance modules that have been continually developed in the course of 10 years' usage.

Nevertheless, the project team took on the challenge and developed an EKW model based on the WCM standard. Power plant employees with several years' experience of work clearance with IT-supported systems joined the WCM project team, so there were high expectations from the outset.

The challenge was to not make any cuts at the level of work clearance management and the existing range of functions of the legacy systems. In addition, safety was to be an integral part of the whole maintenance process to be handled with the SAP component PM.

We were unable to completely meet the requirement to use the existing WCM standard based on 4.6C. The modifications and additions made to the EKW model using SAP tools were rather modest in view of the results achieved.

IS:energy in Hanover and a WCM expert from T-Systems in Hamburg supported us with the sub-project WCM. The expert has very good contacts with SAP. This ensured continual knowledge transfer and we were able to include solutions from WCM version 4.70 in the prototype.

After a one-year design and blueprint phase, both the project teams and also the technical committees approved the prototype and agreed on a comprehensive roll-out for the SAP components PM/PM-WCM.

On November 8, 2003, the pilot power plant "Kraftwerk Staudinger" went live with SAP PM/PM-WCM, followed just four weeks later by the waste-fueled power station "Müllheizkraftwerk Göppingen". Since the end of 2003 some 60 PM and 70 WCM users have been working with the new system.

The transition from the BFS legacy system to the SAP components PM/PM-WCM went smoothly. This is particularly good news as we could not assess how users would initially cope with SAP after just three days of training. This positive trend was apparent during the manual transfer by shift staff of existing Operational WCDs and the standard WCD templates from the BFS legacy system to SAP. The night shifts for the most part transferred some 30 to 50 WCDs daily, totaling approximately 270 WCDs, without the support of the implementation team. The first live lockout/tagout comprised 93 WCD items and safeguarded three work orders. This is not really anything special for a lockout/tagout, but this occurred during an un-planned brief shutdown in the night of Saturday to Sunday and again was handled by the shift staff without any outside support.

From this point on we knew: "Our WCM solution is suitable for our daily use and the users accept it."

The pilot users requested minor adjustments and improvements to additional, aggregated information lists from PM und WCM. These have already been made and implemented.

The project is currently in the roll-out phase. Training at the next three power plants is under way. By the end of 2004 a total of 17 power plants with approximately 1,100 users in technical areas will be working with the new software.

Other power plants, which are shareholdings of E.ON Kraftwerke GmbH, have already expressed interest in the model developed by the project team.

This model comprises:

- SAP components PM/PM-WCM and its integration with SAP-Classic
- LEA (service entry and billing tool) to record external service, based on SAP functions
- Integrating e-procurement in the PM order processing
- An "electronic shift book", developed by Siemens and adapted by IS:energy to meet the requirements of the EKW model

The project helps considerably reduce the existing range of software and the heterogeneous data processing landscape. The implementation of the SAP component PM enables all the technical and commercial areas involved at the various manufacturing sites to handle the entire integrated process of maintenance processing using SAP applications.

At this point we can say that our decision to implement SAP PM/PM-WCM was the right one. The new users rate the range of functions and the range of information options highly. Even though not all the functions and options in the legacy systems could be mapped, this was not the aim either. Any cuts that we had to make have been more than compensated for by the benefits gained.

If you have any questions please contact
Norbert Stoll (project manager E-ON Kraftwerke GmbH)

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New Functionality – Electronic Signature

Solution
As of *SAP R/3 Enterprise PLM Extension 2.00 (EA-APPL 200)* you have the option of connecting an electronic signature system. The most common example of this is connecting a card reader to confirm the identity of the user.

Example: Issuing an approval with the aid of a card reader
When issuing the approval, the system ask you to identify yourself to the system. You must swipe your card through the card reader and enter your PIN. After you have entered the correct PIN, the system checks whether the cardholder is authorized to issue the approval.

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Forthcoming Events/Training Courses

Distribution Europe 2004
Date: April 27 – 28, 2004
Location: Amsterdam, Netherlands

POWER-GEN Europe

Date: May 25 – 27, 2004
Location: Barcelona, Spain

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Contacts

EMEA

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Feedback: Uwe Kirchner

Our Website: mySAP PLM

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