

Trinity Takes Supply Chain Planning to the Next Level

Quotation

“At Trinity, we are continually looking for improved ways to do business. With the new configuration of our Oracle Advanced Supply Chain Planning and E-Business Suite, we are able to improve our supply chain visibility, planning, and overall communication with our supply base. In turn, we are able to strengthen our continuity of supply for our customer base.”

Erin Cones A.P.P. C.P.M., Supply Chain Manager, Trinity

Summary

Using Oracle Advanced Supply Chain Planning (ASCP), Trinity transitioned their Oracle planning engine to one that considers supplier lead times before recommending the appropriate source of supply. Trinity also replaced an outside database by utilizing Oracle’s robust exception management capabilities to create prioritized work lists. The results of these actions allowed Trinity to take their Oracle functionality to the next level by streamlining the plan to procure process and creating a supply chain planning environment that supports continuity of supply.

Details of Challenge

Trinity was managing data outside of Oracle. The challenge was to replace the external database with Oracle exception management capabilities to create prioritized work lists. The results within the former external database were divided with queries by planners to create a prioritized work queue. The planners then took these results and worked each part individually by querying an item in the Oracle planning engine. This process required the planners to use two systems to work their recommendations. Trinity sought a more efficient way to complete the process.

Trinity Logistics Corporation

Headquartered in Davenport, Iowa, Trinity has nine locations across North America. Trinity is a leading distributor of industrial fasteners and related supply chain management and logistics services. Trinity also provides a full range of standard and customer-specific fasteners and components through its Trinity Hardware Headquarters catalog distribution service.

Additional company information can be found www.TrinitySCS.com.

Trinity and Trinity Hardware Headquarters are trade names of the legal entity of Trinity Logistics Corporation.

Our R12 ASCP Project has enabled Trinity to significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our supply chain planning and management. The R12 ASCP Solution Design provided Trinity with new system functionality and processes to best capture and capitalize on substantial business growth without significant growth in head count.”

- Tim Dunn, President

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Solution

One of the main objectives was to enhance the Oracle planning engine functionality. One of the benefits to using this enhanced Oracle planning engine is that Trinity could manage supplier lead times within Oracle and rank those sources. This provides the planner with visibility to lead time constraints and recommendations when an alternate source could be utilized. This saved the planner from having to reference information outside of Oracle or rely on inherent knowledge for each item. The initial step was to review the ASCP data flow to determine how the inputs and outputs made the plan operate. During this analysis, Trinity realized that while the focus of the project was on enhancing ASCP, the pre-requisite task was to perform a data management review to ensure the inputs into the planning engine were accurate and appropriately maintained. In addition to setting up the data for the planning engine, Trinity now had a place to maintain and store supplier-item information within Oracle. This provided added value for visibility throughout Oracle, reporting and integration with Sourcing and iSupplier.

Benefits

Efficiency

The design and implementation of queries creates prioritized work lists which allow planners to search and navigate quickly to the information they need to work their recommendations efficiently.

Visibility

The enhancement of supplier lead time constraints provides the planner with visibility to the appropriate source of supply to ensure continuity of supply.

Communication

Trinity is now communicating more effectively with suppliers. This resulted in improved continuity of supply and improved inventory turns. Trinity is positioned to react quickly to drop in demand or forecast changes. Ultimately, the goal is to have a product at various stages within the supply chain to minimize lead time to deliver the product to the customer.

About Trinity

Trinity is a full-service fastener distributor specializing in the supply of standard and customer-specific components through catalog distribution and customized inventory management programs. Major industries served by Trinity include agricultural, construction and off highway businesses. The Trinity product line is extensive; encompassing more than 45,000 line items. Success in this low margin, high transaction volume business requires a commitment to continuously improving business processes through automation.

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