

# Food Manufacturer Overcomes ERP Limitations Increased Efficiency throughout the Manufacturing Process

## AT A GLANCE

### CUSTOMER SNAPSHOT

- Deli Meat Manufacturer
- Food & Beverage Industry
- 3 U.S. Locations

### RADLEY PRODUCTS

- IFS Integrated Data Collection
- iR\*EDi EDI
- Traceability
- Containerization/Kitting
- Inventory Control
- Machine Monitoring
- IntelliLabel®
- Intermec Hardware Solutions

### PROJECT SNAPSHOT

- Operational Analysis
- Project Management
- Software Configuration
- Intermec Mobile Computers & Printers
- Label Configuration
- On-Site Training
- Technical Support

### BENEFITS

- Integrated Data Collection to IFS ERP
- Compliance To Industry Regulations
- Streamlined Shipping & Receiving
- Eliminated Manual Data Entry
- GS1 & SSCC Compliant Labeling
- Real-Time Inventory Visibility
- Kit Picking

### Customer Summary

A North American deli meat processor has over 50 years of history and over 1,000 employees at 3 U.S. locations. The company's products are represented by 5 distinct brands, and range from lunch meat, sausage and franks to specialty meat items.

### Challenges

After replacing a legacy Infor ERP system with IFS, the customer recognized many gaps in their new ERP's functionality. Multiple systems and databases were needed to fill these gaps. They needed a solution which could fill the gaps in IFS functionality and consolidate the function of their separate systems into one; they were seeking a way to integrate data processing between these systems. They also needed to streamline and add validation to their processes from Receiving through Production, Inventory and Shipping.

- There was no real-time inventory visibility; Complete **physical inventory** was performed daily
- Industry regulations required SSCC and GS1 **labeling compliance**
- Company was not prepared for recalls. Traceability was segmented and lacked real-time visibility to **backward/forward product tracking**
- QA and check-in for receiving were performed manually
- **Production processes** were tracked manually including QA, Work in Progress and ingredient picking, as well as "cures", "shrink" and "blast" process data. Manual process was error-prone and time consuming
- Color coded, manual process for **picking and shipping** slowed the picking process, did not validate QA and loads were not processed in order of delivery location making for cumbersome receipts at other processing locations
- **Document processing** needed to be upgraded from legacy systems to EDI integration with IFS

### Solution

The company required a solution that would allow them to automate each process in their operations. To eliminate manual data collection, streamline order picking and shipping and address the inefficiencies in their production workflow, Radley suggested its Data Collection solution combined with Integrated Labeling, IntelliLabel®, Inventory Control and EDI. The company chose Radley's solutions because of its standard integration with IFS Applications.

- Receiving
  - QA data captured automatically through barcode scans
  - Shipments to company locations checked in by single scan
- Production
  - Ingredient picking is automated to create kits which are then issued to production
  - Alerts are issued if product has not completed the curing process; transactions are prohibited until cure is complete
  - Data from scales is automatically collected to monitor weight before and after the cooking process
  - Temperatures tracked during "blast" cooling process
  - Automated line checks; alerts triggered if QA is not completed
- Inventory
  - Real-time visibility to inventory reduces time-consuming physical and cycle counts
- Shipping
  - Pre-shipment preview ensures QA is complete; changes are automatically made to labels so that product can be picked from inventory
  - Ability to load trucks in trip order, "sequencing" product based on delivery order
- Compliance
  - Labels adhere to SSCC and GS1 requirements
  - Full ingredient and finished product traceability for recall readiness
  - Successful mapping to over 50 EDI trading partners

### Results

The customer benefitted from automation of manual processes and increased efficiency throughout their manufacturing process—from receiving, through production to shipping. Real-time product traceability was implemented at the customer's three locations, achieving preparedness for potential product recalls and compliance to industry regulations. Significant time savings were realized in the customer's inventory counts and shipment processing.