



Advanced Manufacturing System

Advanced Manufacturing System (AMS) Shoe Insole Manufacturing Case Study



Foot Science International is a successful, privately owned company exporting the unique Formthotics range of insoles to markets around the globe. The two primary shareholders in the company are Mr David Boyd and Dr Charlie Baycroft. Since the invention of Formthotics in the early 1980's, Foot Science International has developed a wide range of similar products for medical professionals and for widespread use in general and specialist sports markets. Today, Foot Science International has unequalled experience, a strong manufacturing base and an international marketing focus that has seen Formthotics patented and trademarked in numerous countries around the world.



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The Challenge

With a commitment to quality and excellence in all that they do, FSI needed a manufacturing system to match.

Being an exporter to many countries, FSI has market specific packages for each of its products. This created the need for the ability to record the unpacking of products and the recycling of various components.

FSI's existing procedures involved a monthly stock take to determine raw material and finished good levels, with manual adjustments then being made to stock levels. This labour intensive task was error prone, time consuming and inefficient, and required frequent manual intervention on business critical data. Miscalculation in forecasting demand could result in an excess or shortage of supply chain inventory. This would lead to failure in on-time delivery to customers which could potentially cause major losses. A better way to manage materials was desperately needed.

The Solution

FSI was looking to implement a fully-integrated, enterprise-wide solution that would optimise the flow of information throughout the company. FSI specifically wanted a solution to manage accounting, production, finished goods inventory and sales order processing. They wanted to improve the speed, quality and accessibility of information for effective management of operations.

These requirements were met through the implementation of the Advanced Business Manager (ABM) with the Manufacturing System.

ABM handles all accounting information, with the Manufacturing System handling its other processes.

The Jobsheet entry module of the Manufacturing System allows FSI's basic production to be streamlined for quick data entry. Production information can be quickly entered without the need for manual changes.

The recording of the repacking of units was achieved by recycling runs to reverse the Bill of Material production process.

Using the demand analysis module of the Manufacturing System, FSI is able to link orders to production runs. This allows FSI to manage production to free stock and to order, as well as being able to identify customers affected by changes to production schedules. A customisable display of demand results is available to make production planning simpler.

The Results

The implementation of the Manufacturing System has resulted in a much better management of raw and finished goods. As a result, more accurate costs can be determined for products.

Time is saved through efficient data entry, and the use of Demand analysis allows FSI to produce to specific requirements.

Apart from the practical user interface, providing quick access to filtered information on the screen, FSI uses the reporting capabilities that give current information useful in resolving production conflicts. Manual stock adjustments are now a thing of the past.



To see how AMS can help your business, please contact us at:

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