



Advanced **Manufacturing** System

# Advanced Manufacturing System (AMS)

## Book Covering Manufacturing Case Study



**Tasman Industries Ltd** is a NZ owned company that manufactures fashion book covering products for the 'Back To School' market, and a wide range of specialists book coverings for the library market. The company exports 80% of its production to more than 30 countries. These markets include the UK and Ireland, Scandinavia, Europe, USA, Canada, Asia, South Africa, and Australia. Tasman Industries Ltd continues to grow its exports of world-class book coverings due to its proven reputation for quality and innovation. An example of this is Tasman's recently developed 'NatureCover®' – the world's only biodegradable book covering.



Developed by  
**Concept Engineering**  
Limited



## The Challenge

As an ISO 9001:2000 company that continually seeks to improve its operational and administrative systems, and as an exporter in an increasingly competitive world's market, Tasman Industries Ltd identified the need to improve the way in which it synchronised its purchasing of raw materials with its production planning. Its aim was to achieve reduced stockholdings whilst still improving order turnaround times. Having a variety of potential software packages, Tasman identified the Advanced Manufacturing System (AMS) from Concept Engineering Limited as being the most appropriate for its current and future needs.

Increasing plant volumes and shorter lead times demanded by international customers drove the need for a manufacturing system that was suited to this scale of operation. As a medium sized, privately owned company, a system was required that was smart enough to provide integrated customer order entry, production planning and materials planning, which would also integrate with the current accounting system.



Really  
Smart  
Solutions

## The Solution

Several years ago Tasman became aware of the AMS system at an early point in production development, and decided to adopt the package at the 'beta' development stage. The company could see the potential as a powerful and cost effective solution that no other supplier was able to offer.

Tasman worked closely with Concept Engineering throughout the development process and was able to offer practical suggestion that results in enhancements that benefit all users of the system. The relatively large database was beneficial in this process as the system could be tested and proven on a full-sized database.

AMS was installed by Concept Engineering and included core functionality that was customisable, with further enhancements being made to support the specific elements of Tasman's manufacturing operation. The solution that was implemented included data entry screen that are logical and user friendly, a demand analysis function that collates multiple demands for the same product, and a supply analysis function that establishes accumulated raw material requirements which saves time and improves accuracy.

AMS developed by Concept Engineering integrates accounting, production, ordering, and inventory management to control all aspects of the production process.

## The Results

AMS assists Tasman with the management of resource planning, consistent quality production, accurate consumption logging, efficient production planning and scheduling, and the analysis of plant and labour performance.

It provides timely and accurate information to assist in decision making, and presents better visibility of materials and resources. Systems and departments are integrated, and Bill of Materials are flexible to match engineering change requirements.

By making full use of AMS's functionalities and the reports that can be generated, Tasman has been able to gain better visibility of its inventories and improve its utilisation of these in the manufacturing process. Accurate, on-time deliveries to customers are now ensured. Tasman's General Manager, Gordon McMahon explains: "AMS has enabled us to improve our bulk purchasing, lower our overall inventories, minimise stock-outs, smooth operational peaks, reduce waste, and improve quality. The combined result is lower operating costs and improved order turnaround."

The final result exceeded all expectations, as AMS now incorporates many capabilities not originally anticipated from the system. Furthermore, excellent ongoing support from very competent Concept Engineering staff has been received. AMS has enabled Tasman to compete successfully on the world stage at a cost appropriate to the size of the business and with capabilities that mirror system that are considerably more expensive.

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

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