

ERP Integration & Business Continuity Planning

Over the past decade companies along all industries have been streamlining their corporate level operations with advanced software application such as SAP or Oracles Enterprise Resource Planning systems. Once systems like those have been implemented a company can expect to see vast improvements in areas such as financial forecasting, order management, operation analysis, ect.. The reason why ERP systems are so successful is because they make a company's data more readily available. Having quick and direct access to data is even more beneficial when faced with the tough economic times of today; it allows for management to efficiently adapt their company to changes in the market.

ERP systems are most useful when feed accurate, real time data. The problem in manufacturing is that most ERP systems do not interact easily and directly with the shop floor. Due to this connectivity problem many manufactures use manual data entry to feed data to and from their ERP systems. Manual data entry not only leaves companies at risk of faulty data submission but it also does not provide ERP systems with real time data. For a manufactures to take full advantage or their ERP system accurate, real time data must be provided.

Hyla Soft develops transparent middleware applications that compliment ERP systems by providing them the need real time and accurate data. Hyla Soft has integrated solutions with different ERP systems across server industries such as food & beverage, discrete, and oil. These middleware applications act as a pipeline that easily allows the flow of data back and forth between systems. Middleware solutions allow ERP systems to retrieve data faster and more efficiently while also cutting costs. No longer will companies have to wait for reports at the end of the day to be printed or hand-written then re-entered into EPR systems. Hyla Soft's integration solution allows the data to flow directly, throughout the day, into ERP systems. Having the data flow directly cuts down the need for paper trails, redundant data submission, and errant data; saving companies' money and time. Most importantly these solutions supply ERP systems with the real-time data needed to help managers adjust their production to realize maximum gains.

Another great advantage of using a middleware system is that it allows a company to set forth a BCP or Business Continuity Plan. BCP is a way to keep a factory up and running during planed or, more importantly, unplanned ERP outages. Since software systems are always at risk of going off line, do to any number of reasons, backup plans must be in place to overcome these situations. When companies are relaying on ERP systems to plan and release orders plants must still have the capability to create orders locally during such outages. Any downtime in production is costly and when your ERP system goes down companies can't afford to stop or slow down production because of it. During ERP outages the middle ware application can allow designated user to copy previous orders, edit the copied order if needed, and release them for production. This way plants can stay running. Once systems are back online Hyla Soft's middleware solutions also have the capability to reconcile manual orders with ERP orders. This helps ensure continuity between the different systems and also protects against running duplicate orders.

A wide variety of other useful functionalities can be built into the middleware solution such as declaring production or consumption on production orders, creating messages about material movement inside the plant and/or warehouse, or requesting messages from ERP systems to aid the works in production. Some plants may not have the necessary equipment to atomically record consumption, scrape, and/or production information. Nevertheless, using one of Hyla Soft's middleware solutions workers can manually enter data directly into the middleware system and have it atomically forwarded to the ERP system. Helping schedulers keep more accurate counts on materials to aid in production planning.

Hyla Soft's middleware solutions are a must have for any manufacturer running ERP systems. The middleware systems Hyla Soft provides help bridge the gap between the shop floor and top floor, helping close the circle in the field of manufacturing. For more information please visit www.hylasoft.com or email Hyla Soft at info@hylasoftusa.com.