Dacro Industries Inc.
Encompix® ERP

Dacro Performs Under Pressure With Encompix ERP

Big Jobs, Big Capabilities

Located in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, Dacro has been an integral part of the pressure vessel fabrication industry since 1974, serving resource-based industries in North America including oil and gas, refining, petrochemical and pulp and paper.

A recognized leader in the custom design and fabrication of large, complex pressure equipment, Dacro proudly offers the benefit of its widespread experience, including unique design capabilities, materials knowledge, welding engineering, intelligent fabrication sequences, materials handling, change management, scheduling logistics and quality assurance. As customers continue to demand more innovative and effective pressure vessel dimensions, weights and materials, Dacro continues to meet the challenge.

Large, complex pressure vessels are built as projects. Each one is unique, designed to order, and the fabrication process can take months on a large vessel. There is a lot of engineering involved as the vessel is designed, then materials are ordered, and finally parts are fabricated and added to the assembly. Engineering and purchasing are important elements of the process and must be well supported by the information system, specifically its scheduling and tracking functions.

So, when Dacro needed to move from its small, outmoded and unsupported software to a modern enterprise resource planning (ERP) system, they focused on those characteristics of the business as prime criteria during the selection process.

DACRO INDUSTRIES INC.

ROI at a Glance:

Encompix helped Dacro Industries, Inc. (Dacro), an industry leader in custom fabrication, improve company performance by making timely and accurate information available across the company. Specifically, Dacro has achieved the following results:

- Enhanced the ability to complete jobs on schedule.
- Properly scheduled material and linked it to the correct project.
- Increased accuracy of shipment documentation by eliminating hand-written packing lists.
- More accurate tracking of shipments and returns.
- Eliminated manual entry and redundant information, creating administrative cost savings and more effective management.

Consona™

"We looked at a number of systems and many of them were simply lacking in project management and design-to-order capabilities," recalled Brian Purnell, Purchasing Manager, Dacro. "We found that Encompix ERP was the best fit—it was really right for our engineer-to-order environment."

Incremental Improvements

During the first half of 2009, Dacro proceeded through a step-by-step process of getting day-to-day functions enabled on Encompix. First, the existing engineering requisition system was converted from paper onto the system. Shortly thereafter, a link was established to bring drawings and data from the AutoCAD engineering system into Encompix.

"This move allowed us to upload standard parts into the job bill-of-materials automatically, saving a lot of time and effort, while reducing the potential for errors," said Purnell. "Engineers no longer have to enter this information manually."

The next milestone involved some custom programming to enable the system to automatically assign expected requisition, purchase and receipt dates to materials and services based on material or service type.

"This is an important function for us," said Purnell. "We set up the project and the schedule early on. Then, as materials are identified by the design and engineering team, the proper dates are assigned so that materials arrive at the proper time to keep the project moving and minimize our inventory and maximize cash flow."

Another significant accomplishment was implementation of a shipper process that automatically pulls information from customer POs and inserts it into the shipping documentation. This eliminates hand-written packing lists—ensuring accuracy and completeness—and sets up to automatically track shipments and returns.

Good for Business

"Encompix is a good fit for Dacro's business model and is used in our engineering, purchasing, warehouse and accounting departments," said Purnell.

One example of the value of the system can be found in the purchasing department. Buyers are pleased that they can quickly and easily get scheduling information directly from the system, instead of having to look elsewhere.

By pulling the different areas of the business closer together, Encompix enables Dacro to keep tight control of costs and schedules, delivering real value to the customers.