

# Optimization of maintenance by Becolve Digital with IFS Ultimo EAM

Digitalization of asset management and integration with SAP in seven plants on the Iberian Peninsula.

## Ensure optimal functioning

The customer in this case is a leading multinational enterprise in the food packaging manufacturing industry. It boasts over €2.5 billion in total sales and 30 plants located around the globe operating 24/7.

Specifically, seven of its plants are located on the Iberian Peninsula, which forced the enterprise to ensure their optimal functioning, as failing to do so would give rise to devastating losses. To this end, the enterprise engaged the services of Becolve Digital to make its maintenance management more flexible and agile while meeting the needs of the teams in charge of these functions.

## Cover all the needs of the maintenance teams

Initially, the enterprise worked only with SAP as a corporate solution for digital management of maintenance. The team in charge of this area had indicated that the tool did not cover all their needs, due to the following:

- Lack of visual schedulers for the agile and suitable handling of the thousands of work orders generated by the enterprise every week.
- No mobility tool available to move about the plant and execute the work orders or refer to information on the assets (they did everything on paper).
- Non-user-friendly environment for the working conditions and available resources and for the day-to-day work.

Therefore, the first objective was clear: provide a solution that would be flexible, adaptable and easy to use that would cover the unmet needs of the maintenance teams.

However, it was also necessary to integrate the new tool with SAP to make all the centralized information available through the ERP system.



## Challenges to overcome

Integrations with SAP, which is software that is of vital importance for organizations, are often handled as independent projects, owing to their inherent complexity but also due to the multiple adaptations to be made. This is an unappealing scenario for IT teams, which often find such challenges daunting. In this particular case, there was no alternative to the integration, as all the corporate information had to be in SAP.

### What would be required of the targeted integration?

- For preventive maintenance, IFS Ultimo would receive from SAP the programming of the plants' activities. The heads of maintenance would then be able to program and schedule the work orders with ease, and the plant operators would be able to execute them using mobile devices. Lastly, the results of these tasks had to return to SAP automatically.
- For corrective maintenance, IFS Ultimo would manage the work orders and, upon completion, they would appear in SAP as completed, with all data recorded.

### How was this achieved?

In order to complete the integration, the project had to facilitate the exchange of the following information between both systems:

- Assets.
- Maintenance requests.
- Orders and plans for corrective, preventive and conductive maintenance.

The idea, then, was to be able to implement a solution that would easily adapt to the customer's specific circumstances, without the need for programming or large-scale modifications.

## The solution: IFS Ultimo

Once the objectives had been established and the challenges no longer seemed daunting, the next step was to devise a suitable solution for the organization. The solution chosen was Beolve Digital's asset-management software IFS Ultimo.

Currently, the company has an enterprise asset management (EAM) system that is modular, scalable and user-friendly and meets the needs of the maintenance team. In addition to the integrated modules that are typical of CMMSs (maintenance, stocks and purchasing), the solution's many features include integrated modules for the management of automated maintenance; health, safety and environment (HSE); facility management; project management and IT service.

The new system covers the breadth of the assets' life cycles, from design, installation and commissioning to decommissioning and disposal. It also performs ongoing optimization of maintenance management through the use of advanced data analytics. It works for fixed assets, such as machinery on a production line, and for movable assets.



IFS Ultimo also includes a new visual development tool that allow users to modify screens, to create new tables and fields and to adapt the working logic of the system.

Besides the plausible diversity of functionalities, what led the project heads to choose IFS Ultimo was the possibility of implementing the solution in stages. The first of these included:

- Asset management.
- Corrective, preventive and conductive management.
- Management of human resources.
- Standardized schedulers and work plans.
- Scorecards.
- Reports.
- Access and security roles.
- Multilingual.

In 2022, a pilot project carried out at one of the plants met with resounding success. Afterwards, the software was deployed at the other six plants. At present, the solution provides service to over 350 users

### Short- and long-term benefits

Although the teams involved were chiefly interested in covering maintenance needs while integrating the new tool in the corporate management system, the benefits obtained upon completion of the project significantly exceeded expectations.

With the annexing of IFS Ultimo as an intermediate element between the maintenance teams and SAP, additional features were provided that met users' requirements in every detail.

Flexibility, user-friendly environment, mobility, more agile daily scheduling, on-site availability of technical documentation, etc. The system provides abundant advantages to ensure on a daily basis the enhanced capacity of maintenance staff in relation to management and control of assets. The enterprise continues to make use of new features as new challenges arise, with considerable scalability that paves the way for fast and economic use of the tool in future plants.

### Benefits seen using IFS Ultimo

- Reduction of corrective maintenance.
- Enhanced compliance of preventive maintenance
- Reduction of costs, MTTR and MTBF.
- Increased efficiency of field staff.
- Visibility of maintenance monitoring via KPIs.

### About Becolve Digital

Becolve Digital promotes operational excellence by using tested technological solutions through a qualified ecosystem.

The company empowers individuals and organizations to make them more competitive, efficient and sustainable. Becolve Digital is IFS Ultimo Channel Partner for the Spanish and Iberian market.

### Find out more

Further information, e-mail [info@ultimo.com](mailto:info@ultimo.com), contact your local IFS Ultimo office or visit our website, [ultimo.com](http://ultimo.com)

