Case Study: IoT/Life Sciences

Pharmaceutical company’s smart manufacturing transformation

A Fortune 50 pharmaceutical company, after making an acquisition, was facing the urgency and complexity of streamlining a variety of manufacturing processes and systems. It needed to replace the disparate and legacy applications with a unified, flexible manufacturing system to accommodate specific production processes and lower operations cost.

The client engaged Cognizant to lead its smart factory transformation program. The consistent business processes and procedures globally maximize specific outcomes. This enables collaboration of diverse stakeholders and systems across the business and allows global deployment of processes and solution accelerators to speed up implementation. It also automates process yield and compliance as well as reduces cycle time.

At a Glance
The client needed to reduce the complexity of its enterprise systems to increase visibility of multiple plant floor systems and lower operations costs. It chose to partner with Cognizant to unify processes and systems while charting a roadmap to improve operational efficiencies across 70 global locations.

Outcomes
- 30 of the 70 sites are live with a unified manufacturing execution system integrated to ERP.
- 20% increase in throughput.
- 50% decrease in batch review efforts.
- 10% decrease in inventory costs.
- 15% decrease in rework.
- Saved over 4,000 person hours.
- Realized ROI within 6 months of rollout.
OnePlant™ improves plant operations with technology and strategy
The client leveraged Cognizant’s expertise in manufacturing applications, beginning with the Rockwell FTPS solution, and then expanding to include plant logistics, electronic batch records and manufacturing intelligence.

Cognizant oversight provides global leadership and a coordinated approach
The Cognizant team managed projects including assessing initial site readiness and executing parallel implementations of the manufacturing systems as well as go-live and support. We aligned the client’s ongoing ERP milestones and supported sites across the globe during transition and post implementation in this complex and multi-year engagement. The Cognizant OnePlant framework provided the templates, process documents and best deployment practices that allowed the team to roll out project deliverables as much as 30% faster than it would be without the framework.

OnePlant ensures consistency across the various sites, where there was none before. The best practices included as a part of the solution will help the client reduce cycle time, increase yield, introduce paperless systems, and enhance compliance and quality.

Cognizant established a structured training and change management process and utilized OnePlant templates and assessment kits to promote adoption and lessen the burden of change. Solution envisioning sessions, followed by formal training and discussion sessions, promoted understanding for key plant personnel.

Accelerators drive results
As part of the OnePlant framework and to reduce cycle time, Cognizant also delivered application customization and multiple accelerator tools, including data migration, language translation, master recipe migration, material mass update and order diagnostics. The OnePlant solution accelerators alone have already saved over 4,000 person hours, enabling the client to recognize return on investment within six months of rollout, on average.

Cognizant’s success at the initial plant sites enabled the client to retire several end-of-life systems. The efficient and evergreen standardized platform lowers the company’s cost of ownership and those savings can now be invested in further developing the smart factory strategy and other areas critical to the business. Cognizant has empowered the client to harmonize critical manufacturing processes, giving a major boost to the ongoing pursuit of operational, quality and compliance excellence.

Learn More
To learn more about Cognizant and the internet of things, please visit www.cognizant.com/iot.

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