Managing production and logistic partners

Subcontracting with SAP® and platbricks

Manufacturing companies are currently feeling immense pressure to deliver the correct product in precise quantities adapted to customer-specific requirements while being cost-effective. This demand can be challenging, especially in seasonal or highly unpredictable markets and increasing automation in companies. To adjust or even to change the company’s own production facilities usually takes too long and causes additional costs. Furthermore, order peaks cannot always be covered in terms of personnel and space.

Integration of production or logistics partners

Given these challenges, many companies integrate external partners with specialized know-how to execute logistics and production processes into their operational procedures. High efforts are often required regarding system integrations to obtain full transparency of stocks and production progress for the external partner. Either systems have to be connected, or the service provider has to be integrated into the own SAP® system. This is time and cost intensive and certainly not suitable for every logistics partner.

So what to do if the production or logistics partner is only to be connected for a short period of time to cover peaks? Or if they do not have the appropriate technical requirements for system integration?

Your benefits

- Increase of transparency along the process chain
- Onboarding of new logistics service providers in a short time
- Increase planning reliability and ability to act in the supply chain
- Reduction of communication outside the SAP® system (mail, phone)
- Smart devices: Ready-to-run within a few minutes
- No direct access from external employees to the SAP® system
- Real-time data transmission
- Achieve high scalability
- Short implementation time
- Concise familiarisation period due to the use of intuitively operated devices
- Low investment through pay-per-use price model
Transparency and efficiency by the combination of SAP® and platbricks

A solution for the questions mentioned above can be found with our Microsoft Azure-based cloud solution platform platbricks in combination with SAP®. platbricks provides a fast, uncomplicated and cost-effective way to connect logistics and production service providers to SAP® systems via standard interfaces. The data reported by platbricks is transmitted in real time to the SAP® system and is displayed in the extended Arvato Systems Subcontracting Cockpit. That leads to increased transparency and the ability to act fast in the supply chain.

Full control of the service provider from incoming to outgoing goods

As shown in the process flow, the goods movements and the production confirmations are returned to the SAP® system by platbricks. The single confirmation points, which should be visible in the SAP® system, can be detailed according to the requirements. In SAP®, both the provided stocks and the production progress of the service providers are visible at any given time. In this way, replenishment deliveries, as well as outbound deliveries to the own company or directly to the customer can be planned reliably.

Core functions

Arvato Systems Subcontracting Cockpit in SAP®

- Explicit representation of the production progress
- Traffic light functionality to point out critical orders
- Graphical representation of the current overall situation
- The starting point for follow-up actions

platbricks Platform

- Cloud-based, scalable solution that enables a quick start with the necessary security
- Concise familiarization period due to the use of intuitive devices
- Minimal training required
- Standard interfaces to the SAP® system
- Inventory control and production confirmation at the service provider

You have questions, need information or a contact?
Get in touch with us.

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