

Tackling digital transformation

Mitani Case Study



advance

MitaniTM
Est. 1979

IntrexX

CASE STUDY: HOW LOW-CODE TRANSFORMED MITANI CHICKEN SALT

Mitani Chicken Salt, one of Australia's most-loved seasonings, needed a change. But the change had nothing to do with the recipe: Instead, it had to do with how Mitani Chicken Salt and Mitani Group's other products were being measured and processed throughout production. Even though Mitani had the perfect recipe for a delicious seasoning, their recipes for efficiency and collaboration were quickly becoming stale.

With help from Advance Business Consulting, Mitani was able to utilize **Intrex** and **M-Files** to completely streamline their processes, and in doing so implement a very unique (and very tasty) example of a successful digital transformation.



THE CHALLENGE

Before their digital transformation, much of Mitani's workflow required some form of manual intervention. As the number of handwritten documents, notes, and measurements continued to grow, the Mitani team had an increasingly difficult time keeping track of everything.

One example of this issue was a paper-based QA process that involved taking 12 sample weights of product during every hour of production. This sampling procedure ensured that the amount of

product (such as chicken salt) was consistent between units and within customer specifications. Being paper-based, however, this crucial process was plagued with inefficiencies: Not only did someone have to weigh each sample, but they also had to record each weight by hand on paper forms.

These forms eventually needed to be sent to other departments, which could only be done once the person recording them had finished their work. Needless to say, the process was time-consuming, inefficient, and error-prone. Thankfully, Advance Business Consulting had a solution.

Intrex

THE SOLUTION

AUSTRALIA'S FIRST BLUETOOTH-EQUIPPED SCALES

Advance Business Consulting was quick to recognize that the scales themselves could do the recording – they were already taking the measurements, after all.

As a result, Advance and Mitani teamed up with the scale manufacturer to produce Australia's first Bluetooth-equipped digital scales. The scales communicated with "PC sticks" (thumb-drive computers) running a streamlined production app in a web browser, allowing measurements to be recorded instantly in real time.

REALTIME UPDATES

The solution didn't stop there, however: Using an Intrexx app running on a centralized server, the sample weights were relayed automatically to a central MQTT server – a cornerstone of many Industry 4.0 solutions. Upon receiving the weights, the Intrexx app would automatically add them to Mitani's production database, where they could be processed and access by multiple departments.

STREAMLINED DATA PROCESSING AND REPORTING

With information conveniently stored in a central location, the production app could quickly eliminate duplicate data and automatically generate reports. Many of these processes were accomplished using M-Files, an intelligent information management solution used by Advance.

INSTANT ACCESS TO DATA AND REPORTS

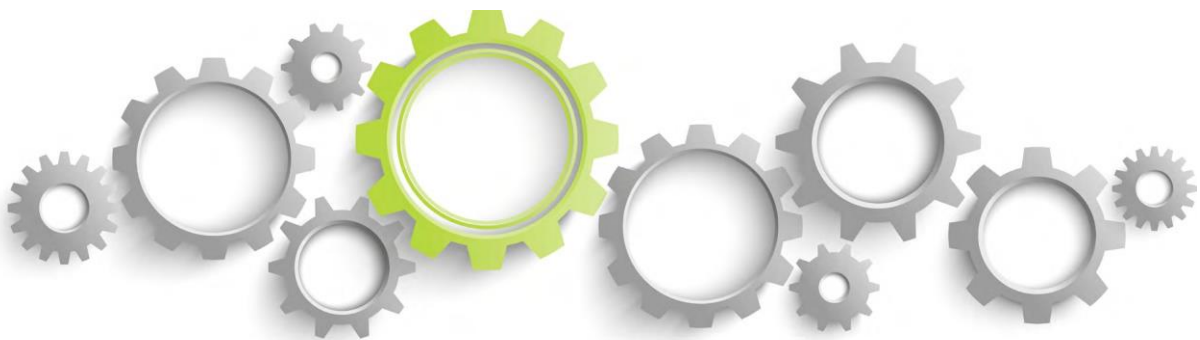
In addition to streamlining sampling, the production app was also able to send the resulting data and reports to different users in the Mitani workflow. With this information, each user could use the data in ways related to their job functions.

Production users, for example, could now see and manage scheduled production runs in their "Spirals" (sections) from a central dashboard. Similarly, Schedule users could create and schedule these production runs, with information such as "best before" dates automatically generated based on production statistics.

AUTOMATIC WORKFLOWS ALLOW EVEN MORE FOCUS ON HIGH QUALITY

In the end, QA users – the primary target of the improved sampling procedure – were now able to view sampling-related reports from previous production runs, which were automatically generated and added to the workflow by M-Files.

What was once a large part of the QA job was suddenly automated, allowing the QA team to focus more on actually assuring quality.



THE RESULTS

With the digital transformation facilitated by Advance Business Consulting, Mitani's workflows became more streamlined and collaborative than ever before. Where many aspects of production were once "siloes", the new production app helped to establish collaboration between departments and eliminate redundant tasks.

Like with any automation or transformation effort, these results allowed the Mitani team to spend less time on menial tasks and more time focusing on the more important parts of their jobs – such as making sure that every unit of seasoning is as delicious as the last.

ABOUT ADVANCE BUSINESS CONSULTING

Advance Business Consulting is a trusted technology advisor and business system integrator with over 20 years' experience in delivering solutions to assist organization's in becoming more efficient, profitable, and secure. Advance has a proven track record of providing solutions for information management, data analytics, data integration, cyber security, low-code development platforms, project management software, outsourced IT, and custom software development.

Website
www.advance.net.au

Email
sales@advance.on.net

Phone Number
+61 8 8238 6500

