



NODALLY
Technologies Inc.

Case Study



Location: Burnaby, BC

Founded: 1976

Website:
www.alpha.com

Employees: 800+

Industry: Power
Technologies

Project: ERP Update
Automation

Project Start Date: July,
2011

Alpha Technologies, Ltd.

Alpha Technologies achieves first stage of order management automation.

Alpha Technologies deals with suppliers from overseas. These suppliers give Alpha order updates, via email, once a week. These updates are imperative to Alpha's supply planning, especially with the long lead times associated with overseas suppliers. An Alpha procurement professional would spend >16 hours a week entering and tracking this data. This introduced not only higher costs, but higher risk of human error with mission-critical data.

>16 hours per week spent on manually inputting data from a single supplier

Alpha's management felt that they were losing efficiency by having a talented procurement specialist spend over 1/4 of their week manually updating data. Alpha has a culture of continuous improvement & to achieve this, they needed to find a way to automate data entry.

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"Nodally Technologies showed their professionalism and knowledge working with our ERP and Information Technology team to enable communication and data updates within a highly secure environment. [They] provided a robust and scalable tool for expansion to other suppliers."

- Sunny Lou, Senior Buyer & Project Team Lead



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“Accuracy & timeliness were essential to ensure the highest level of customer satisfaction would be achieved. Nodally Technologies worked with our team to develop a tool to retrieve a supplier schedule, compare differences, & recommend corrections to the procurement professional”

Alpha Technologies, Ltd.....continued.

Alpha procurement team required to review and compare 2000 Open Purchase Order lines

Nodally technologies created a solution that would reduce the time needed to compare and input the order data by over 95%. The system automatically detects the weekly email from the supplier, pulls the necessary data from the attached spreadsheet, and sends an email to the procurement specialist with an email link to a html page. This html page is the user interface of the system, and presents the updated data side-by-side with the existing ERP data. The user can then compare, investigate and update the entries all with a few clicks of the mouse.

“What took a procurement professional >16 hours to complete now happens with a few clicks of a button.”

The direct cost savings of this project are the hours saved by the procurement professional when comparing and updating the data. Additional savings include the gained >16 hours of time the procurement professional has to complete other more valuable tasks. Also, since the system applies a set of rules directly to the data, every entry is checked and shown to the user (removing the risk of an entry getting skipped or missed).

“With each meeting, we used test cases to identify logic, code shortfalls and make rapid corrections.”

The solution was created using Nodally’s Xenograte platform. The solution was completed by orchestrating 7 Xenodes, 5 of which are generic for any solution. The other 2 nodes are customized to this specific solution, only 1 of which would need to be adjusted for subsequent suppliers. On top of providing real ROI for this specific need, the flexibility of the Nodally solution has given Alpha Technologies the opportunity to achieve continuous improvement by extending the solution to other suppliers, and by easily changing the orchestration of the data flow to give increased visibility and control to management.



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