World's Largest Fertilizer Company Selects Prometheus Group Solutions for Scheduling, Analytics, and Mobility

Company

🏢 PotashCorp

📍 Global

🌾 Materials

CMMS system Oracle eAM

🛠 **Solutions:** Prometheus Planning & Scheduling, and Mobility for Oracle

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Note: PotashCorp merged with Agrium to form Nutrien in 2018. This case study was prepared prior to the merger.

CHALLENGES

PotashCorp is the world's largest fertilizer company, by capacity, producing three primary crop nutrients: potash, nitrogen, and phosphate. With operations and business interests in seven countries, PotashCorp is an international enterprise and plays an important role in helping the world grow the food it needs. PotashCorp had grown significantly with several acquisitions and equity investments since their 1989 initial public offering. As the company grew, so did the operating challenges with multiple vendors, different processes, and varied reporting definitions across the facilities. As a result, PotashCorp began a business improvement initiative to align their facilities in Canada, the US, and Trinidad utilizing PotashCorp best practices. Their end goal was to drive continuous improvement by aligning processes, consolidating spending, and improving data analytics. To enable its business processes PotashCorp elected to build on their existing Oracle EBS installation and implement Oracle eAM utilizing Global

SOLUTIONS

PTM. They selected Global PTM based on their industry track record, reputation, and the quality of their resources. Global PTM was part of VIZIYA when that company was acquired by Prometheus Group in 2020.

PotashCorp also selected Prometheus Planning & Scheduling for Oracle based on its enhanced functionality. The unique Quality Check feature tests the readiness of work orders by checking for missing data and resources, safeguards against scheduling incomplete work orders, and allows for corrective action to optimize the workflow. Prometheus Planning & Scheduling for Oracle makes work order backlog management and scheduling easier by allowing the ability to process multiple work orders at once versus one work order at a time. Real-time KPIs are visible and chart the impact of schedule and resource changes as well as monitoring budgetary impacts. Crew Builder brings flexibility to set up crews that reflect how departments work and Gantt chart views facilitate the creation of the weekly schedule.

Once Oracle eAM and Prometheus Planning & Scheduling for Oracle were implemented, PotashCorp chose Prometheus Reporting & Analytics for Oracle as they needed a robust tool that would generate reports quickly and intuitively across the entire company. PotashCorp liked the simplicity and ease of implementation of the analytics solution. A key driver was the software's extract, transform, and load (ETL) capabilities. With ETL, PotashCorp was able to connect more than 4,000 data dimensions across their business, which included assets, meters, work orders, work requests, preventive maintenance tasks, failure analysis, costing, financials, inventory, procurement, human resources, key performance indicators, and compliance. Users can tailor their business intelligence with filters, groupings and sort sequences, and drill down to the fine data details to troubleshoot root causes of issues. More recently, PotashCorp deployed Prometheus Mobility for Oracle based on its unmatched functionality including disconnected mode, bar-coding, and workflows for both

maintenance and inventory management. The solution was deployed on Apple iPad minis which provided the size, optimized screen layout, and resolution the user base required. Prometheus Mobility for Oracle is enabling supervisors to spend more time with their crews and with the site's equipment.

BENEFITS

Work scheduled four weeks ahead for 80 percent of the work orders, versus one week previously

Enabled resources to be shifted and shared to multiple areas, creating synergy across sites

Combines six process steps into one, allowing a larger work order volume

Global maintenance KPIs have been initiated for the first time

Planners save an estimated 30 minutes per work order in the field

By combining five and sometimes six steps into one step, Prometheus Planning & Scheduling for Oracle has allowed PotashCorp to schedule a larger volume of work orders efficiently, which can run 100 work orders per week per site. More importantly, work is now being scheduled four weeks in advance for 80 percent of the work orders, versus one week previously. With varying degrees of maturity in the organization, Crew Builder has enabled resources to be shifted and shared to multiple areas, creating synergy across sites. Users that utilize the solution every day "love it" and appreciate how the solution better enables their workflow process.

With the analytics solution, global maintenance KPIs have been initiated for the first time to support their initial reporting objectives. Now there is one source of the truth and the source is Oracle eAM, delivered by Prometheus Reporting & Analytics for Oracle. Users find it easy to build KPIs and armed with data, issues have been newly discovered, and behavior and processes addressed. This is all part of the journey of continuous improvement for PotashCorp

A lesson PotashCorp learned in the early deployment is that classroom training was not as effective as hands-on training. As a result, they advise new users to visit previously implemented sites, when possible, where they can work and learn from their peers on scheduling best practices with Prometheus Planning & Scheduling for Oracle.

Another benefit for maintenance planning has been utilizing the mobile solution for work orders on site. Planners can take pictures, detail the issues, and save an estimated 30 minutes per work order in the field. In addition, warehouse personnel can perform issues, receipts, transfers, and counts away from their computer and closer to their inventory. Supervisors can add unplanned parts and complete the parts request on-site. Supervisors are also able to complete work orders on the tablet. In the future, crafts will use the mobile solution for dynamically entering of failure codes and record meter readings in the field.

PotashCorp would advise others going through a business improvement initiative to "keep it simple." They advise others to refrain from purchasing a software solution before establishing a common process and they invested a year to make that goal a reality. PotashCorp also focused on alignment and communication. They deliberately referred to the project as "alignment" with "PotashCorp best practice." Critical in their planning was setting up a process flow that fit PotashCorp's business practices, while embracing industry benchmarks.

Additional advice: turn to external experts for advice and structure. Maintenance is a full time job as it is, so make your life easier and arm your project for success.

Learn more about how Prometheus Group can help your organization today

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About Prometheus Group

Prometheus Group is a leading global provider of comprehensive and intuitive enterprise asset management software solutions that work within ERP systems and span the full work management life cycle for both maintenance and operations. Developed jointly with end users, Prometheus software enhances the customer experience for planning, scheduling, and executing work for both routine maintenance and shutdowns and turnarounds, all while protecting the workforce with safety solutions and electronic permit to work. Our straight-forward functionality, graphical visualization, and simple processes enable customers to increase productivity, reduce costs, and improve reporting. For more information, please visit www.prometheusgroup.com.