

Digitized planning & control processes

REHAU: Premium brand for polymer-based solutions



Companies worldwide are concerned with digitization. The polymer specialist REHAU is also taking digitization seriously and even launched its own initiative addressing it, for which REHAU received the prestigious “Digital Leader Award 2018”. The initiative includes, for example, smart solutions for air pollution, life saving bumper systems or furniture elements equipped with SMART SENSE just to name a few of the highly innovative REHAU products.

At a glance

Project goals

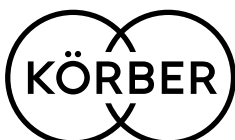
- Fully digitized planning and control processes in transport logistics
- Planning level optimizations
- Improvements in shipment creation and freight cost calculation

Solution

- SAP TM

Features and benefits

- Functional options to also include future requirements in the template via the standard
- Modern, technical basis including ergonomic interfaces



The project

As a premium brand for polymer based solutions, REHAU is an international leader in the construction, automotive and industrial sectors. Fully committed and with maximum speed, the implementation of an efficient transport management system is therefore also a priority. The template (SAP TM), which was developed jointly with Körber especially for the logistics of REHAU has successfully gone live at the first pilot locations. Further rollouts will follow for standard processes that the REHAU Group will implement across all locations over the next few years.

The solution

The large scale logistics project targeting fully digitized planning and control processes in transport logistics also serves as a model for future projects. The aim: The development of a SAP TM template as a central platform for planning and controlling the transport logistics network. With over 170 locations, over 40 plants and over 110 sales offices worldwide, setting up a uniform template is no easy task. REHAU's varied product and transport packaging also posed special challenges.

During a feasibility study, SAP TM became the solution of choice. The main reasons were the modern technical basis, the ability to include future requirements in the template via the standard and the ergonomics. Furthermore, REHAU adheres to an SAP strategy on the basis of which the future system can be optimally integrated into logistics processes.

The template developed by the Körber software experts was specially designed to meet the requirements of the REHAU Group's logistics network. For example, the technical content covered the requirements of a delivery based transport planning system, which REHAU uses to process different types of shipping (parcel shipping, general cargo, partial and full loads, transports by sea and air). Planning required the display and use of packing instructions. To ensure that calculations lead to the same results across processes, the rules saved in SAP ERP were taken over.

The VSR optimizer (VSR = vehicle scheduling and routing) determines the optimal shipping type. At the planning stage, the combination of package creation and VSR optimization results in a decision that takes a variety of business and commercial aspects into account.

Other features of the template include shipment creation and freight cost management. In addition to classic transport related calculations, shipment related freight cost calculation was set up. Deliveries are summarized according to defined criteria and freight costs are balanced accordingly. The calculated freight costs are then passed on to the material level.

In order to obtain information about the requirements of the target system early, an agile project approach (including prototyping) was used to implement the requirements.

In the future, with the template implemented on the basis of SAP TM, REHAU will have access to a uniform solution for planning and controlling its global transport network. The first implementation in Poland in 2017 was followed by further rollouts in Brazil and Austria. The system template continues to grow with each implementation in order to reach the planned, full maturity in 2020. Whereas the first rollouts were implemented with comprehensive support from Körber's software experts, the process standardization achieved via the template enables subsequent rollouts to be implemented by the customer. As a strategic partner for updating the template, Körber's software experts are currently supporting the implementation of new requirements that arise, for example, due to country specific regulations.

“Working with Körber was always cooperative and solution oriented.”

Agnieszka Marciniak

IS Logistics WS/BS/IS/FS, REHAU AG + Co

