



NEW MES FOR BRAND-REX >>

MANUFACTURER OF STRUCTURED CABLING SOLUTIONS



A new MES (Manufacturing Execution System) solution from Atos Origin is providing Brand-Rex with major improvements to their cable manufacturing operation at Glenrothes, Scotland. This has helped Brand-Rex maintain their position as a major global supplier of structured cabling systems for data networks and a world leader in cabling solutions for the military, naval, aerospace, communication, automotive and mass transit industries.

“THE NEW MES SYSTEM HAS REVOLUTIONISED THE WAY WE RUN THE COMPANY.”

David Jones, Operations Director, Brand-Rex

Components

The MES at Glenrothes was developed by Atos Origin using ASP.NET, Microsoft SQL Server, MS MQ, Java and Wonderware's FactorySuite2000 components InTouch and InSQL. Current and historical production data is stored in Microsoft SQL Server databases.

The MES uses a web interface for operator workstations and operations management displays. Data is passed between the MES and Baan by using an XML file interface. A number of production reports have been developed by Brand-Rex themselves using Cognos Impromptu.

The benefits

Improvements to control:

- > Ticket status visibility
- > Removal of paperwork
- > Raw material checking (GRN entry)
- > Introduction of operator accountability
- > Identification of Bill of Material errors.

Ease of operation:

- > Order release to production
- > No ticket writing
- > On-screen design information and customer information (item codes and order numbers)
- > Automatic generation of shipping releases
- > Reduction of manual data entry into Baan.

Improvements to performance

- > On-screen customer/order-progress report
- > On-screen work-to lists for operators
- > Operator involvement.
 - Excellent buy-in from the operators
 - Willingness to feedback suggestions
 - Visibility of scrap is 'eye-opening'

Next phase

The challenge is now for the business to use the information to effect a fundamental business improvement.

This project is the first in a series of activities designed to introduce better process and business control. Later projects will improve inventory control within the factory, introduce bar-code data capture and Finite Capacity Scheduling. The company is also due to change its business system from Baan to SAP R/3.

The new solution, which integrates with the Brand-Rex Baan business system, provides data capture from the shop floor and essential management information to run the factory.

It has replaced complex, paper-based routines for planning, distributing manufacturing instructions, recording progress and reporting. What is more, it is enabling the Business System data structure to support the needs of the business and has removed an inhibitor to both the efficient operation of the Business System and improvements in manufacturing.

“The new integrated MES system has transformed the way that Brand-Rex manufactures products and has had a positive impact in all areas. Project success is a testament to the dedication of the project team and the close working relationship between Brand-Rex and Atos Origin.”

Steve Bircumshaw, Atos Origin Integrated Manufacturing team

About Atos Origin

Atos Origin is an international information technology services company. Its business is turning client vision into results through the application of consulting, systems integration and managed operations. The company's annual revenues are EUR 5.4 billion and it employs over 50,000 people in 40 countries. Atos Origin is the Worldwide Information Technology Partner for the Olympic Games and has a client base of international blue-chip companies across all sectors. Atos Origin is quoted on the Paris Eurolist Market and trades as Atos Origin, Atos Euronext Market Solutions, Atos Worldline and Atos Consulting™.

Next steps

For further information please email solution-enquiries@atosorigin.com