

Leading SMEs in the wood/furniture industry choose itelligence as their SAP consultancy

Bielefeld, April 18, 2007 – Those in charge of IT in the German wood/furniture industry are investing again. itelligence, the successful midmarket full-service IT provider for SAP, for example, has gained three new customers in the wood/furniture industry.

In the future, Fiberboard GmbH and H. E. OTTEN Matratzenfabrik GmbH will be utilizing it.wood, the industry solution from itelligence for the wood and furniture industry that is based on mySAP All-in-One, to optimize their business processes. proFagus GmbH is also relying on the industry expertise of itelligence for migrating to its own SAP system and for process optimization.

Fiberboard, the newly founded subsidiary of the Classen Group, in Baruth (Brandenburg), Germany, is one of the leading European full-line providers of wood and wood-based products for all aspects of interior construction and furnishing and is the third-largest provider of laminate flooring. Fiberboard is currently building an entirely new plant in Baruth for the production of fiberboard. The startup of panel production is planned for the middle of 2007.

The industry solution it.wood from itelligence supports Fiberboard throughout the entire production process for medium density fiberboard panels (MDF panels). Thanks to the integrated mySAP ERP overall solution, the company can in the future map all of its administrative and logistical processes in a single system. This way Fiberboard fulfills the prerequisite for reacting flexibly to the rising demands of the market and the competition, including increasingly short delivery times, improved service and increased quality. By July of 2007 the entire, two-stage SAP rollout should already be completed.

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itelligence also reports of a further customer, H. E. OTTEN Matratzenfabrik GmbH in Lippstad, Germany, specialists for sleeping systems such as mattresses and bed frames. The company operates internationally and in 2005 achieved, with its 250 employees, revenues of roughly MEUR 27. In order to be able to implement product ideas even more quickly in the future and to develop higher-quality sleeping systems, OTTEN-Matratzen has chosen it.wood as its ERP solution. Increased productivity and cost controlling – finance, controlling, sales and distribution – all business areas are preset and integratively mapped. Rollout was accomplished in a timeframe of three months in the first project phase. The higher transparency simplifies administrative workflows for OTTEN and enables a heightened level of efficiency.

proFagus GmbH, in Bodenfelde, Germany, a market leader in the barbecue charcoal sector and a manufacturer of qualitative products made of beech wood, has also chosen itelligence as its SAP consultancy. For 100 years the company has been making charcoal in Bodenfelde, situated in the middle of the Weserbergland area. This does not mean, however, that they still produce just as they did 100 years ago. Quite to the contrary. The plant in Bodenfelde is the most modern of its kind in Europe. Here, 120 employees process 100,000 tons of untreated beech wood yearly using the technologically-sophisticated and environmentally-friendly retort method. This way the beloved barbecue charcoal becomes the “summer hit” and the “Grillis” barbecue briquettes are produced. proFagus, known up to now by the name Chemviron Carbon, has used the SAP system of its former parent company Calgon Carbon Corporation for years.

As part of a company reorganization, proFagus is now undertaking a migration to its own SAP system together with its strategic consulting partner itelligence. itelligence hosts operations of an SAP landscape for 20 users at the itelligence data center in Bautzen. With this adaptation, proFagus completes a further step toward continuing its past growth. The charcoal specialist can, as an independent company, concentrate on its core competencies and further expand its market leadership in the field of high-quality barbecue charcoal and briquettes. Further information on ProFagus can be found in the Internet under www.profagus.de and www.grillkohle.de.

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“In spite of the current positive trends, the wood and furniture industry will be confronted with growing market fluctuations which they will have to react to quickly and precisely,” commented Johannes Cordes, Managing Consultant for the wood/furniture industry at itelligence. “In order to continue to meet both domestic and foreign demands, and to master challenges such as offering a broad variety of versions, a practically-oriented solution is necessary. With its many years of experience in the wood/furniture industry and a high level of SAP technology expertise, itelligence offers SMEs in this sector customized SAP software that is tuned to the complexity of the company processes.”

About itelligence

itelligence is one of the leading international full-service provider for SAP employing about 1,100 highly qualified employees in 15 countries and in 4 regions (America, Western Europe, Eastern Europe and Germany/Austria). As a mySAP Business, Service and Support Alliance as well as Global Partner Hosting and Global Services Partner, itelligence realizes complex projects in the SAP environment for over 2,500 customers worldwide. In 2006, itelligence obtained the status as Gold Partner SAP in Germany, Switzerland and U.S. followed in 2007. The company’s services range from SAP consulting and licensing to outsourcing and services to proprietary industry-specific SAP solutions. In 2006, itelligence generated total sales of EUR 163.8 million.

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