

Wollschläger GmbH & Co. KG, Bochum

Electronic interface with CEP service providers? No problem with it.x-press!

»it.trade, it.x-press and it.x-pack: these solutions of the itelligence AG help us ensure smooth and integrated shipping and logistics processes. While it.x-pack ensures that processes at our packing tables are carried out properly, it.x-press provides an electronic interface enabling external communication with our courier, express and package service providers.«

Stefan Würder, head of IT and project management, Wollschläger GmbH & Co. KG

With its precision tools, occupational safety solutions, machine tools, office equipment and drive technology, Wollschläger has made a name for itself throughout Germany. The company, which was founded in 1937, has more than 60,000 quality products in stock at any time, making it one of the leading trading companies in the industry. Wollschläger processes up to 2,000 deliveries a day. Handling such large volumes means that distribution processes need to be perfectly coordinated. During the implementation of SAP ERP, it was established that a courier,

express and package service provider (CEP) interface was required so that all business processes could be mapped in a single integrated SAP solution. A proprietary development designed primarily for CEP communication was currently implemented in distribution. As a complete solution, the itelligence team proposed the implementation of its own integration solution – it.x-press – offering an electronic interface connecting CEPs and forwarding companies directly to the new SAP ERP system.

Wollschläger GmbH & Co. KG

Founded in 1937, Wollschläger is currently one of Germany's leading trading companies for precision tools, machining, welding systems, occupational safety, machine tools, office equipment and drive technology. By making Wollschläger your partner of choice, you can rely upon the expertise of more than 600 employees – including 130 advisors and field application engineers – in 12 branches throughout Germany. Optimised processes, transparent processes and the never-ending quest for improvement – these form the bedrock for perfectly coordinated trading activities and the success of the company as a whole.



Name:
Wollschläger
GmbH & Co. KG

Industry:
Trade

Products:
Precision tools,
machining, welding
systems, occupational
safety, machine tools,
office equipment and
drive technology

Company size:
Around 600 employees,
including around 400 SAP
users

Headquarters:
Bochum

Subsidiaries:
12 branches

Direct electronic interface for CEP service providers

Wollschläger knew straight away that it.x-press was the right choice because the solution is based on SAP NetWeaver Process Integration. SAP NW PI acts as a central data hub enabling the standardised integration of different express service providers. Even new service providers can be integrated quickly and easily. Customers benefit too by receiving much better and faster information on the current status of the parcel shipments because the monitoring and altering functions allow all customers to be informed about the current status of shipments. And since it.x-press is operated in the SAP NW XI/PI environment, no additional external licenses, servers, storage areas or operating systems are required, which helps keep costs at a manageable level.

The packing table solution it.x-pack was implemented alongside it.x-press. The optimised packing dialogue format and more user-friendly input functions offered by this solution allow the employees at our packing tables to pick packages more quickly and without making mistakes. All of this helps save time and money.

As a result, the entire distribution department was moved over to the new business software on a step-by-step basis during the SAP implementation process and the interface with the CEP service providers was successfully established. A forwarding company has also been successfully integrated. The itelligence scales adapter interface also enabled a direct connection with the Mettler Toledo scales terminals used allowing the ERP system to trigger weighing processes itself. The number of the relevant scales is sent to the scales adapter, which then activates the scales and reads off the next stable weight recorded. The weights calculated are then returned synchronously to the ERP system.

One-stop services and solutions

From a technical point of view, the integrated SAP system is extremely straightforward for Wollschläger. Because the solutions implemented are itelligence AG products, support and maintenance services are also provided by the itelligence team, which means that the trading company has contacts for all matters relating SAP, SAP NW PI and the technical adapter. "Thanks to the proprietary solutions from itelligence, we can now optimise our distribution and logistics processes and communicate electronically with our express service providers and forwarding companies", says Stefan Wörder.

Facts & figures

Project: Implementation of it.x-press for the electronic integration of courier, express and package (CEP) service providers
Project runtime: 6 months
Solutions implemented: it.x-press and the packing table solution it.x-pack

Benefits:

- Automatic data exchange with courier, express and package (CEP) service providers
- Effective data exchange allows customers to receive more accurate and up-to-date information
- Optimised distribution and logistics processes ensure greater customer satisfaction and delivery reliability

