



Drive Operational Excellence using SAP MII as the interface between ERP and MES Systems.

To upgrade, or to replace middleware: That is the question.

Upgrading vs. replacing software is not always an easy decision to make. Below are two examples of SAP ERP based companies that have recently been through this decision process.

The 1st is a US company in the **pharmaceutical** industry which, due to a significant change in their corporate structure, needed to upgrade or replace their **WebSphere based integration solution.**



The 2nd company, a **brewery with more than 350 years of heritage**, had deployed an ERP to shop floor interface using **third party (e-link) middleware.**

Decision Making Considerations.

The decision criteria for the two companies included the following:

- Total cost of solution upgrade
- Modification of interface to be compatible with the latest ECC release
- Long term solution compatibility and support
 - SAP and Microsoft
- Reliability of solution to support real time bi-directional data flow
- Scalability of the integration tool to support new production requirements
 - New releases for ECC
 - Integration of additional plant level solutions

Replace middleware with SAP MII, Best-in-Class interface between ERP and MES systems.

Both companies relied on **RTS Consulting as a trusted advisor** to evaluate their MES and ERP landscape and recommend the best solution.

RTS Consulting proposed the **replacement** of both integration systems with a standard interface **using SAP MII technology.**

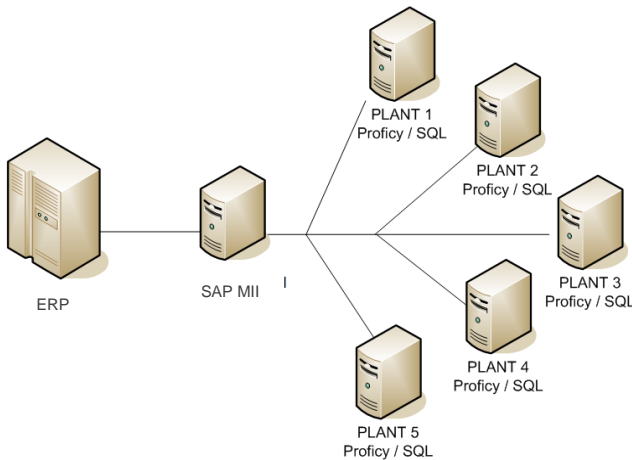
For the **pharmaceutical** company, the project included data transfer from SAP ERP to the Rockwell MES system installed in the plant; **processing messages for:**

- **Bill of Material (BOM),**
- **Stock Status,**
- **Material Master,**
- **Process Order,**
- **Recipe,**
- **GI/GR.**



In the **brewery's** case the project was to replace the current functionality including:

- **Control Recipe Download from SAP PP-PI to GE Proficy MES System,**
- **Process Message Download from SAP PP-PI to Proficy and vice versa,**
- **Monitoring and logging required for support interface.**



Both projects were successfully delivered in **less than 12 weeks each**. Using MII for the integration ensured the companies received a cost effective, flexible, scalable solution while minimizing risk.

Benefits of SAP MII as middleware platform

LOWER TOTAL COST OF OWNERSHIP:

By leveraging their existing SAP ERP system, while eliminating custom development and using the “out of the box” integration tools from MII, both clients were able to **reduce the total cost of ownership.**

SEAMLESS INTEGRATION WITH SAP ERP:

MII provided a SAP centric, corporate standard for shop floor integration to ECC. This delivered reduced risk and cost savings as **upgrades to ECC normally don't require changes to the integration layer.** MII also provided **inherent data buffering** capabilities. In the event of network issues, ECC maintenance, unplanned downtime, etc. all shop floor systems continue as planned and synchronize the data when communication is re-established.

LOW RISK TO THE BUSINESS:

Standardizing on SAP solutions brought **reliability** and peace of mind to both companies. The risk and cost of obsolete software and custom integration is no longer a concern.

SHOP FLOOR GRANULAR VISIBILITY:

Standardizing all processes using one single system of record, the pharmaceutical and brewery companies are able to **view and analyze their manufacturing operations information** using SAP MII's robust analytics and reporting capabilities.

SCALABILITY:

SAP MII has provided the **flexibility to expand**, integrate, combine, bundle and layer different functionalities as needed.

IMPROVED EFFICIENCIES:

Both companies can now leverage MII to provide bi-directional integration to all shop floor systems which will provide increased visibility and operational efficiencies. The platform will also enable the augmentation of the MES solution to deliver operational excellence.



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