

Louis Poulsen, Copenhagen, Denmark

SEAMLESS MIGRATION TO S/4HANA ENABLED A FUTURE-PROOF PLATFORM FOR DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION



We needed someone to help us upgrade to S/4HANA with a well-proven model and a reliable timeline to minimize the disruption to our business. NTT DATA's Conversion Factory approach delivered exactly that.

Kurt Spangsbjerg Petersen, Director, IT & Master Data, Louis Poulsen



Challenges

- Louis Poulsen was operating on a 10-year-old SAP ECC platform that did not support new technology or the ability to improve on change processes
- As SAP is used extensively across the organization, the migration had to disrupt everyday business as little as possible
- Due to seasonal production peaks, only a very limited window was available for the migration



Benefits

- The Conversion Factory approach enabled the migration to be completed successfully in the allocated 24 weeks and within budget
- Migration was handled by an experienced, SAP-certified team of conversion specialists
- By migrating to SAP S/4HANA, Louis Poulsen now has the foundation in place for utilizing new technology to support their future optimization, development, and growth



Solutions

- Conversion Factory migration to S/4HANA



Why NTT DATA Business Solutions?

- The Conversion Factory approach including the team of 200+ specialists with 90+ conversions under their belt gave peace of mind regarding the fixed timeframe
- NTT DATA Business Solutions (NTT DATA) has 30+ years of experience in supporting SAP products and solutions

**louis
poulsen**

Industry: Design & Architecture

Products: High-quality lighting design and manufacturing including lights and solutions for both indoor and outdoor applications

Employees: 458 (2020)

Website: www.louispoulsen.com

NTT DATA Business Solutions



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To upgrade or not to upgrade

When the Danish lighting manufacturer, Louis Poulsen, faced the dilemma of whether to continue enhancing their system operating on the 10-year-old SAP ECC platform or upgrade to a new S/4HANA platform, they decided on the latter.

“Even without an upgrade, we would have to review all our processes. Upgrading to S/4HANA would enable us to optimize our change processes and give us access to new technology that supports our future growth and development in a way the old platform couldn’t,” explains Kurt Spangsbjerg Petersen, Director, IT & Master Data.

Timing was a key factor as the new platform had to be up and running in time for the production peak season, leaving only a limited migration window in the early fall – and no room for schedule slippage. They therefore decided to split the process into two phases, the first of which was a 1:1 migration: “Our approach was to first do a strictly technical 1:1 migration, and only after that was done, we would start exploring exactly how this new technology could improve specific areas of our business.”

Louis Poulsen chose NTT DATA’s well-proven and tested method for streamlining system migrations, where a hybrid model of a local project manager and a dedicated team of migration experts from NTT DATA’s Conversion Factory in India ensures a fast, cost effective, and low-risk migration. “We weren’t chasing new functionalities. On the contrary, we wanted to be sure that what we had before the migration would also work afterwards. And that’s this team’s area of expertise.”

A fast-track to new possibilities

In SAP as in lighting design, it’s all about the details. So, the India-based team’s first task was a readiness check of all the SAP processes used throughout the organization identifying all processes or screens that would be different in the new system. Then followed several workshops with super users from the different departments where the team went through all changes before the actual migration began.

Unlike most Conversion Factory projects, Kurt Spangsbjerg Petersen decided to communicate directly with the project manager for regular check-ins on any issues found during the ongoing tests, and he was very impressed with the entire team. “The consultants were extremely competent and



highly technically skilled. We use SAP across our entire organization from production to HR and Finance, but there was nothing they couldn’t solve.”

The team’s proficiency was critical to maintaining the momentum that resulted in a successful migration completed on time and on budget – combined with a relatively solid technical foundation on Louis Poulsen’s side: “A consolidated process like this requires a certain level of internal readiness, commitment, and SAP insight. But in return, you get to reap the benefits much faster.”

Laying the foundation for future growth

Louis Poulsen has chosen the first areas for exploring the possibilities enabled by new platform – and SAP’s Fiori apps are the main driver: “For our Supply chain, the dashboard-like interface ensures a more intuitive user experience. And for areas like Finance with very heavy processes, we see a huge optimization potential with the right tools” says Kurt Spangsbjerg Petersen.

Timing of phase two is not yet finalized, but this too is part of the bigger plan: “With this migration, we have the foundation in place for us to build on – and that was what this project was all about for us.”

Want to know more?
Do not hesitate to contact us:

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