


KWS SAAT SE, Einbeck, Germany

Farming the Field Properly with it.transform – Retroactive Merger of Accounting and Controlling Areas

 We have chosen itelligence due to the combination of methodical expertise and tool competence in IT transformation projects. As always, the experienced and engaged employees have led us to success.

Jens Schwetje, Senior Project Manager, KWS SAAT SE

Challenges

- Retroactive merger of two accounting and two controlling areas
- Transition of connected HR systems
- Parallel projects, which required SAP basis as well as SAP application upgrades
 - Several international SAP ERP rollouts
 - SAP CRM upgrade
- Limited availability of employees at the customer's site

Benefits

- Retroactive merger of accounting and controlling areas at the beginning of the fiscal year without changes in the preceding years
- Conversion of logistical organization structures
- Implementation done in the necessary time frame
- Nearly fully automated transition of data and organization structures
- Audit-proof merger due to a certified tool and revision-safe recording

Solutions


- it.transform Merge Check workshop
- it.transform Analysis Suite
- it.transform Merge

Why itelligence?


- Excellent professional and technical competence
- Special project method related to the requirements of transformation projects: it.transform
- Holistic approach from analysis through to go-live
- Successful provider with professional and technical competence, allowing a direct communication with the specialist division



More than **95%**
of itelligence's
operations were
done remotely



**Successful
merger without
any impact on
parallel projects**

 Thanks to careful management, itelligence went live with this complex project in outstanding quality with the high remote quota of 95%.

From First Workshop to Pinpoint Go-Live

For 160 years, KWS has stood for quality breeding and production of seeds and has belonged to the world market leaders. Due to economical and legal framework conditions, the requirement arose to merge KWS MAIS GmbH and KWS SAAT SE commercially.

In a first step, KWS and itelligence have organized an it.transform workshop to clarify objectives, specify framework conditions and develop a possible approach for the merger. Based on this, the requirements and the further strategy for the merger project were derived and documented.

It was an essential task to get further information about the shared SAP ERP and to obtain an understanding of all technical aspects. In an it.transform analysis project, an overview regarding the general complexity of the SAP system and the scope of the in-house developments was worked out. In addition, the number of hard-coded values and relevant aspects of customizing were identified.

With its method it.transform and the used tools in there, itelligence eventually managed to merge KWS MAIS GmbH and KWS SAAT SE retroactively into the SAP system.

Transformation – One of Many Projects

Apart from the merger of both companies, there were further projects at KWS with mutual dependencies.

Among other things, this involved the data transition on the connected HCM system, an upgrade of the SAP CRM and, moreover, further rollouts of SAP ERP. All relevant processes of KWS MAIS GmbH and KWS SAAT SE that are based on documents booked in the SAP ERP were included by means of the SNP Business Process Analysis. Subsequently, used as the basis, they were transferred into the test management of the SAP Solution Manager.

A common objective of both project partners was to make sure that the merger preferably had no impact on other already ongoing projects. Furthermore, the implementation was to be carried out in the fastest way and as automated as possible, considering the period of the current fiscal year, specified by law.

On 2 November 2015, the commercial merger was registered and KWS MAIS GmbH's existing accounting area was namely altered into KWS SAAT SE. In doing so, after confirmation of registration, it was possible to carry out technical adjustments without any downtime. Without a major influence on business operation, the technical merger of both controlling areas and accounting areas took place with a planned downtime later in the current fiscal year.

After the merger and from the system side of view, it looked as though only KWS SAAT SE existed at the beginning of the fiscal year. This was a testament to the seamless nature of the merger.



Company:
KWS SAAT SE

Industry:
Agricultural sector

Products:
Seeds for sugar beets,
corn, grain, rape,
sunflowers

Number of employees:
4,700 in
70 countries

Turnover:
EUR 986 million
(2014/2015 without
joint ventures)

Headquarters:
Einbeck, Germany

Website:
www.kws.com