

Success Story: Precision Drilling Automates SAP® Testing to Save Significant Time and Effort



Precision DRILLING

Precision Drilling Corporation is Canada's largest oilfield services company and one of the largest in the United States. The company also has a growing presence internationally. Precision is headquartered in Calgary, Alberta and provides contract drilling, well servicing and

strategic support services to its customers in the oil and gas industry. The company offers access to an extensive fleet of contract drilling rigs, directional drilling services, well service & snubbing rigs, coiled tubing services, camps, rental equipment, and water treatment units backed by a mix of technical support services and skilled, experienced personnel. Precision Drilling is pursuing aggressive expansion plans based on organic growth and strategic acquisitions.

APPLICATIONS & CHALLENGES

Precision Drilling utilizes SAP as their core enterprise application, along with several integrated custom applications that are specific to their business. The company's existing approach – which was mostly ad-hoc manual testing, including spreadsheets – was very costly and time consuming. Precision Drilling's Enterprise Applications Team – the department that manages production system operations – needed to ensure the quality of their production processes, but the manual approach demanded extensive resources and effort. In order to complete thorough testing, the Enterprise Applications Team also had to involve business users who were responsible for final testing and sign-off. Precision Drilling needed to complete all testing requirements, but wanted to do so in a much shorter timeline and with streamlined collaboration across departments. The company needed to complete testing quickly and efficiently so they could focus instead on deploying larger volumes of required changes into production.

APPROACH

Precision Drilling was seeking a trusted test automation solution to support end-to-end business process testing across multiple application platforms. The company selected Worksoft Certify® for SAP and Worksoft's Microsoft Interface Extension.

Precision Drilling was interested in automation of SAP maintenance and ongoing weekly application changes as well as larger projects, the first of which was an upcoming SAP Enhancement Pack planned for the spring of 2012.

The Enhancement Pack project needed to meet very tight time constraints which meant testing had to be executed quickly and effectively. Precision Drilling's application landscape also necessitated the creation of complex test scenarios to run across application platforms. Billing, for example, started in Precision's .NET billing system with invoice creation and purchase order requisitions and then flowed into SAP for completion. The company needed business process testing across all key business functions, including finance, costing, plant maintenance, material management, purchase order processing, and human resources.

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Worksoft's services team collaborated with Precision Drilling to create and implement tests that could be re-used for projects beyond the initial Enhancement Pack effort. Reusability was an important driver in selecting Worksoft Certify because tests could be automatically re-run on an ongoing basis for future initiatives, with limited additional team effort.

With Worksoft Certify in place, Precision Drilling has automated many years of manual testing, saving significant time and effort for both the business and IT organizations. They estimate that the investment in test automation software has had a payback period of approximately 12 months based on labor savings alone.

BUSINESS BENEFITS

- Improved business agility with rapid, effective testing that allows changes and new functionality to enter production at an accelerated rate
- Achieved successful implementation of SAP Enhancement Pack with thorough testing and without interruption to business
- Reduced the time and effort associated with testing, allowing SMEs and Business Analysts to spend more time on higher value-added activities that support the company's growth strategy
- Effectively mitigated the risk of introducing potentially costly errors into production

ABOUT WORKSOFT, INC

Worksoft® is the industry's top-ranked provider of test automation software for packaged enterprise applications. Companies use Worksoft solutions to shorten project timelines, reduce costs, innovate faster, and improve business process quality for SAP® and related software, including cloud, mobile, and portal technologies. Unlike legacy test automation systems, Worksoft is easy to use and supports business agility, performance testing, and end-to-end functional testing with high levels of automation – often exceeding 80% process automation. Worksoft customers include more than 150 premier companies and nearly half of the Fortune 100 in manufacturing, financial services, government, healthcare, retail and transportation sectors.

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