# SEAL SYSTEMS
### THE DIGITAL PAPER FACTORY

## *Case study*

# Printer consolidation management at MANN+HUMMEL

⊕ The following case study describes the challenges faced by the filter manufacturer MANN+HUMMEL during their printer consolidation.

⊕ You will learn how MANN+HUMMEL were successful in ending dependency from printer manufacturers and creating hardware independence by using solutions by SEAL Systems.

⊕ And you will also learn how valuable the SAP form analysis can be in such a process.

# MANN+HUMMEL

**Every four to five years, many of our customers carry out a printer tender, in order to review expiring leasing contracts and achieve cost savings. The project, which is mainly driven by the IT department (infrastructure), involves the homogenization of all printer models for the entire organization or for individual departments of a company.**

### The task: The integration of 10,000 SAP users

Our client MANN+HUMMEL from Ludwigsburg was facing the challenge to carry out the regular printer consolidation. Various parameters and requirements had to be considered: Among other things, it was an essential prerequisite to integrate the existing SAP ERP system with more than 10,000 users into the process, in order to secure the output and electronic distribution of documents and drawings also for the future.

As different form technologies were used, the precise dependency between form and output device had to be checked beforehand. In this connection, it is advantageous to be able to obtain an overview of all historical SAP forms and their application.
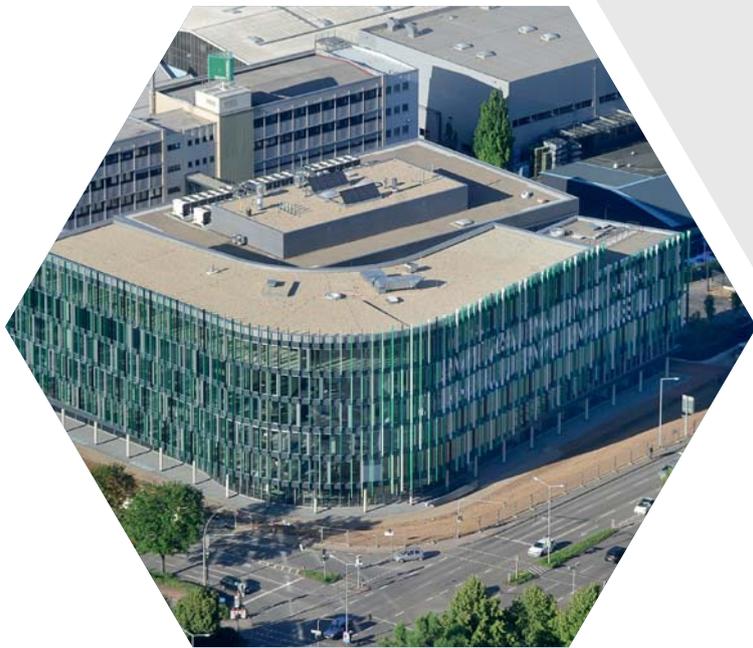
### The objective: To create hardware independence

This requirement was met with the SAP spool analysis (SAP form analysis) by SEAL Systems. This offers an efficient opportunity to recognize forms that are no longer in use and if appropriate, to subsequently deactivate them. It identifies which forms are used at what time in the SAP, and by whom, how often, and on which printer. The form data is stored in a table, and its current status can be operationally evaluated at any time.

During the SAP spool analysis it was identified that some of

# MANN+HUMMEL

# The solution: PLOSSYS® netdome by SEAL Systems

the existing forms were printer-specifically aligned and thus could only be correctly printed with the printer models of one manufacturer. This specific printer dependence made a neutral tender by multi-function printers (MFP) and workplace printers impossible. It was therefore logical to remove the hardware dependence by means of an output management system (OMS).

### The solution: PLOSSYS® netdome by SEAL Systems

During the selection procedure, SEAL Systems with its Output Management Engine PLOSSYS® netdome has successfully proven itself. The fact that it is possible to prepare the device-neutral data stream from SAP (SAPGOFU) including specific printer parameters and convert it to printer-specific code using PLOSSYS®, contributed to this. As a result, the forms in SAP can be completely independently designed by the subsequent destination printer. This saves enormous effort in creating and maintaining forms. In addition, combined with the PLOSSYS® integrated printer drivers, the entire print output from SAP is manufacturer-independent. This creates room to negotiate in tender processes for new printer hardware.

### Implementation in 60 subsidiaries

As part of a pilot project, the preparation of printers for various printers was verified and adapted to the conversion by parameterization. The basis of this were the results of the SAP spool analysis carried out beforehand. The subsequent production startup of the SAP output management was carried out separately in each case for the 60 subsidia-

ries. The internal IT tasks were therefore distributed transparently and the risks for the production system, which would have been associated with a simultaneous global conversion, were minimized.

### A significant workload reduction for IT

IT operations emphasized the central printer management for more than 3,000 printers by the printer management software easyPRIMA by SEAL Systems as a significant workload reduction for all output management servers and Windows print servers. Central printer management is where all printers and output queues are managed centrally and transparently in a Web front-end also maintained in the SAP ERP system at the touch of a button.

### Reliability and load balancing

The output management system must always meet the high requirements of reliability and load distribution. Only this way business-critical procedures can be processed also at times of high workloads. For this purpose, SEAL Systems provides failover and load balancing functionalities and provides advice in incident management. MANN+HUMMEL is already utilizing the extended support for 24/7 operations. With the SEAL Gold Service (a managed service), a Carefree Package is available as an option for the solutions by SEAL Systems.

## Conclusion

The output management of SEAL Systems enables MANN+HUM-MEL to define a resilient printer tender. It is therefore possible to realize advantages in the procurement of hardware by way of the regular tender for printers. In addition, MANN+HUMMEL capitalizes from a solution that is manufacturer and hardware- independent and does not always need to use the managed printer software (MPS) of the respective printer manufacturer. The company can also continue to use all historical and current form technologies (e.g. SAP script, SMART forms and Adobe forms). As a result, new forms can be drawn up to the current standards and at the same time, old reports and their approaches can still be used.

In addition, existing Windows print servers can be replaced at any time by using the corporate output managements from SEAL Systems. The range of printer drivers on Windows Clients and Citrix environments can thus be replaced by a SEAL Master Driver (Universal printer driver. This saves administrative costs and expenditure for the rollout of software.

## The Facts

⊕ Printer consolidation with the objective to create hardware independence and continue to use existing SAP forms

⊕ The solution: The use of an output management system (PLOSSYS® netdome by SEAL Systems)

⊕ Implementation in 60 subsidiaries

⊕ Central printer management for more than 3,000 printers

⊕ Benefits: High reliability and load distribution, workload reduction for IT, advantages in the procurement of hardware, use of all form technologies, manufacturer independence and hardware independence

## Information

### MANN+HUMMEL Group

**MANN+HUMMEL is a worldwide leading expert in the field of filtration. The corporate group with its registered office in Ludwigsburg develops solutions for automobiles, industrial applications, clean air in interior spaces and the sustainable use of water. During 2016, 20,000 employees at more than 80 locations generated a turnover of around 3.5 billion euros. The products include, amongst other things, air filter systems, suction systems, liquid filter systems, technical plastic components, filter media, interior filters, industrial filters and membrane filters.**

## Customer opinion

*After the introduction of easyPRIMA, the administration costs for SAP printers have decreased sharply. SAP forms can now be uniformly developed and amended, thanks to the hardware-neutral processing. The development period for new forms has also decreased noticeably, the same as the costs for support.*

*Julian Peer, Consultant IT/Process Support – SCM Production*

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**Do you have any questions?**

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