

Success Story

Server based, automatic generation of neutral files from MS Office with signature page

In this case study you will read ...

- + ... how the medical technology manufacturer MAQUET maps release processes using digital signatures.
- + ... how the company converts documents to the long-term PDF/A format.
- + ... How conversion processes are monitored directly from the SAP System.

As a major international manufacturer for health products, MAQUET has to adhere to strict FDA rules and regulations. This is particularly important for product documentation, specifically, stringent requirements concerning the quality and safety of used and archived documents.

The Requirements

During their initial rollout of SAP, MAQUET also implemented the standard SAP Document Management Systems (DMS). Within the DMS, close to 23,000 documents are stored, requiring roughly 100 conversions per day. With an upcoming SAP rollout, these numbers are expected to increase multiple times. Many documents have to pass a multi-stage release process. This approval procedure is done through a complex digital signature process within the SAP system. At certain stages of the release process, the documents are converted into the long term format PDF/A and enriched with document-specific data. That file is then attached directly to the document information record (DIR) within SAP DMS as an additional file. This process works with MS Word, PostScript and PDF documents.



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The Solution

The ideal solution for these requirements of MAQUET is SEAL Systems conversion server for the conversion of application data and graphical file formats into print and long term formats.

The conversion is done automatically and status controlled in the background. This process is seamlessly integrated in the release procedures of the documents. During the conversion process to PDF/A, the files at MAQUET are applied with additional visible information, depending on the type of document.

This can be a prefix signature page and/or stamping of graphics and text document information. The system is fully unicode compatible and stores documents according to the ISO certified long term format PDF/A.

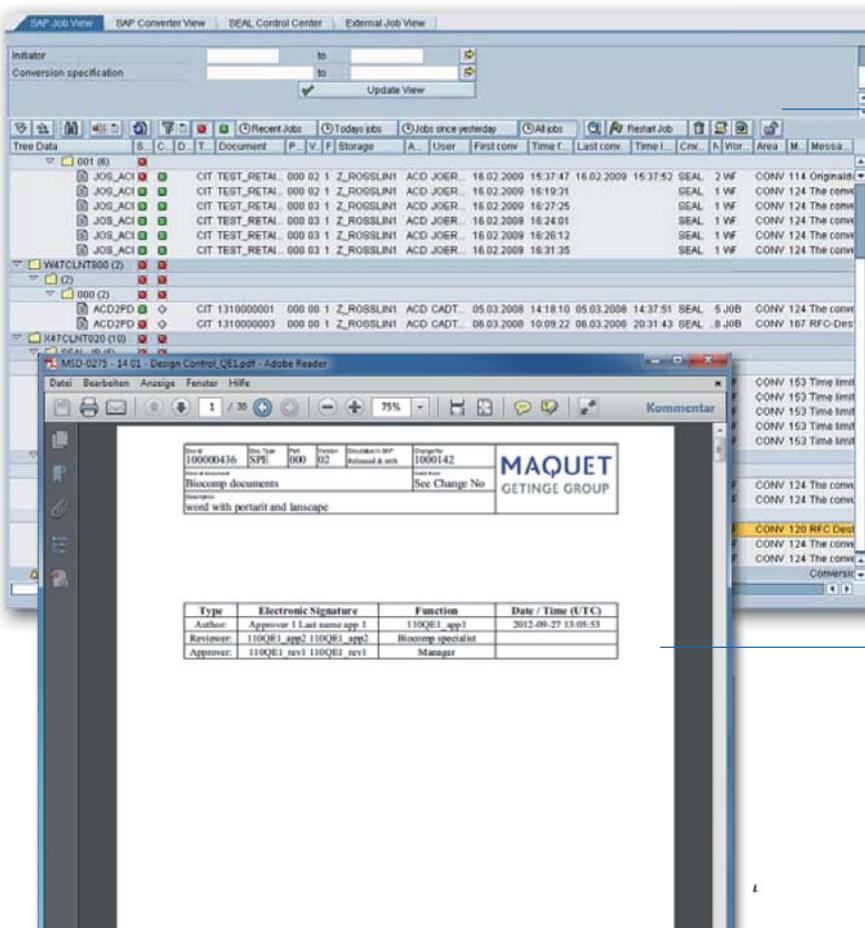
In addition to the conversion process, a viewing process is installed which recognizes already existing signature pages within a PDF document. In this case, when the file is opened, the process recognizes a signature page and exchanges it with an actual one. During a release process, users can view all signature information without actually applying the information to the document.

In addition, at viewing, further stamps can be added (for example, remarks and notices). Detailed monitoring for all conversion processes – directly in the SAP system. The Conversion Cockpit from SEAL Systems enables the easy control of all conversion processes directly from the SAP system.

This solution is already used at MAQUET Germany and MAQUET Sweden with plans to connect in other locations.

Customer Benefit

- + Standardized document quality and safe archiving through certified PDF/A
- + Documents in circulation always contain the complete necessary control information
- + Control and distribution information is always current within the document as well as at viewing and check out
- + High security through unchangeable stamps as headers for MS-Word documents (not possible with MS-Word text)
- + Automatic processes, which run, status controlled, in the background
- + The release process is in accordance with FDA rules
- + During the release process all signatures can be viewed at any time
- + SAP-integrated, detailed monitoring for all conversions
- + A scalable solution: extendable at any time with further input and output formats, output management functions or process integrations possible



Detailed monitoring for all conversion processes – directly in the SAP system

Example of a signature page

About MAQUET

MAQUET is a subsidiary of the Swedish, publicly traded group, GETINGE AB. The brand MAQUET represents the medical systems division. Together with the two business areas, Arjo Huntleigh Extended Care and GETINGE Infection Control, the GETINGE group is concentrating on the development and marketing of innovative solutions for medicinal technology. As an approved partner of hospitals and doctors since 1838, MAQUET is a worldwide leading supplier of medical equipment for surgical systems and cardiovascular methods, which are suited for bringing forward intensive care.

Easy monitoring of all conversion processes directly from the SAP system



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Contact



Any more questions?

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