



IFS APPLICATIONS SUPPORTS GROWTH IN ULTRA ELECTRONICS PAS PROJECT ENVIRONMENT

Ultra Electronics Precision Air Systems, a division of the Ultra Electronics Plc. group of businesses, is the leading manufacturer of compact on-board gas solutions, including compact gas compressors for the aerospace and defence industry worldwide. The company, which has used IFS Applications since 2006, has several requirements of its enterprise resource planning system, with many users across different areas including design, manufacture, testing and customer support. To support business changes the company has recently upgraded to the latest version of IFS Applications.

SUPPORTING GROWTH IN A PROJECT ENVIRONMENT

Ultra Electronics Precision Air Systems initially made the decision to purchase IFS Applications because of a need to improve efficiency and gain better visibility over both business and manufacturing processes. Over the last four years IFS Applications facilitated this transparency across the business, from processing customer orders to after sales support.

However, as the company evolved, it moved to a project-centric business model. In 2008, Ultra Electronics Precision Air Systems made the decision to invest further in IFS Applications, upgrading their existing system to include project-based solutions.

Ian Bradley, head of customer service and management systems at Ultra Electronics Precision Air Systems said, "Precision Air Systems has recently moved to a project-based approach and needed a solution that offered greater visibility. Our existing system has served us well since 2006, but as we continue to grow our business we need to stay ahead of the curve and ensure that our enterprise resource planning has all the functionality that our business requires. IFS has been able to meet the needs of our changing business model, giving us the flexibility to procure materials directly for individual projects and still have full, accurate traceability."

BETTER TOGETHER

Ultra Electronics Precision Air Systems has been particularly impressed by IFS' ability to work closely in partnership with them, taking time to understand particular business needs and challenges and to develop appropriate solutions. By forming an on-going partnership, Ultra Electronics Precision Air Systems and IFS were able to develop a clear planning methodology for the implementation of the recent upgrade, identifying the right solution for the business needs and then working together to deliver on time and within the budget.

ABOUT ULTRA ELECTRONICS

Ultra Electronics Precision Air Systems is a division of the Ultra Electronics group of businesses.

Ultra Electronics is an internationally successful defence and aerospace company with a long, consistent track record of development and growth. Ultra businesses constantly innovate to create solutions to customer requirements that are different from and better than those of the Group's competitors. The Group has over one hundred distinct market or technology niches within its twenty four businesses. The diversity of niches enables Ultra to contribute to a large number of defence, aerospace and civil platforms and programmes and provides resilience to the Group's financial performance.



Ian Bradley explained, “One of the most beneficial services that IFS provides is expertise and understanding of our business. Working together we have been able to develop the best possible solutions for Ultra Electronics Precision Air Systems as we go, ensuring that our systems are always in line with our business as it changes and grows. This close relationship has ensured that everyone is on the same page, and helped to ensure an efficient implementation, completed on time and on budget.”

TIGHTER CONTROL OF BUDGETS AND FORECAST

Another key benefit for Ultra Electronics Precision Air Systems has been clearer reporting and forecasting from IFS Applications. All Ultra Electronics Precision Air Systems employees now use the IFS system encompassing the transactions previously undertaken using six databases, removing the occurrence of dual entry and reconciliation errors in reports.

Ian Bradley added, “In addition to tighter control of our project-based orders, IFS Applications allows us clearer visibility across the financial and business processes. Reporting can now be produced in a more efficient, simpler and standardised way, enabling us to track costs, produce more accurate forecasts and ultimately protect the bottom line. For example, our end of month financial reports now give more information but take less time to complete and generate a third less paper. We expect further efficiencies to be realised in the near future too.

“Across the board our employees are very happy with the IFS system and use it on a daily basis. I dare say that if I told them I was removing the system, there would be uproar.”

BENEFITS

- Better budget control
- Time efficiencies
- Partnership working
- Support for growth in project environment



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