

HOFFMANN GROUP

A Team Developer & SQLBase Success Story



Complete e-Procurement and Inventory Management Solution Created with Team Developer and SQLBase

“Customers choose Hoffman as their tool supplier because of the availability and ease of the e-procurement solution.”

ORGANIZATION PROFILE Hoffmann Group is one of the largest suppliers of quality tools in Europe. They have over 2,000 employees and serve more than 150,000 customers in the field of industry, manufacturing, precision engineering and public administration with an inventory of 40,000 products. Annual sales exceed 500 Million Euro.

PROBLEM Hoffmann customers need to manage their inventory of tools with an application that links to an automated ordering process.

SOLUTION A Team Developer application developed by the Premium VAR msg-systems manages customer inventories and includes an ordering module ensuring new orders are being placed at threshold levels.

BENEFITS

- Fast, cost-effective software development using Team Developer.
- Easy installation of embedded database, SQLBase. No need for professional database administrators at customer sites.

HIGHLIGHTS In 1995, msg systems ag, used SQLWindows v5 and SQLBase v6 to deliver the e-procurement solution called BELOP. Development of the solution was quick and cost effective using Team Developer. The e-procurement solution includes the complete product catalogue of Hoffmann Group - including images of every product, product datasheets and security notes. This e-procurement solution is provided to

their customers free of charge. Hoffmann Group customers can use the e-procurement solution to manage products and orders of other providers too, which made the solution very popular amongst the customers of Hoffmann Group.

The BELOP e-procurement solution has been upgraded to Team Developer 3.1. This update has made Hoffman Group customers extremely happy with the noticeable performance enhancements and the robustness of a true 32-bit application. The e-procurement solution now includes the complete product catalogue of Hoffmann Group – including images of every product, product datasheets and security notes. It also manages the local inventory of tools and can automatically place restock orders when inventories are below target.

The solution has been upgraded to use SQLBase v8.5 application isolation technology to enable installation on systems that already have a different version of SQLBase installed. msg systems ag used the SQLBase EDP product to create a combined installer for the application and SQLBase. The users of the upgraded application have been very impressed by the noticeable performance increase from previous SQLBase versions.

Upgrading the installed base to SQLBase 8.5 was extremely easy. Customers that did upgrade to the latest solution release did not have to do any manual processes to get the latest version running.

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