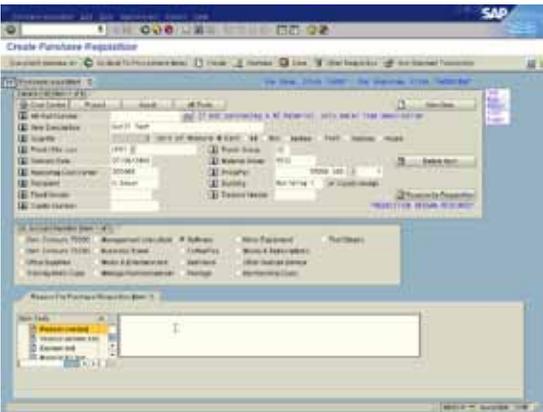


Purchase Requisition Creation Simplified at Advanced Energy

Background

SAP is a comprehensive business application that can inherently be complicated and difficult to use. The need to simplify the presentation and processes, to reduce training costs, and to enable simplified standard system capabilities prompted Advanced Energy (AE) to take a look at user enablement solution, GuiXT. For the procurement process and approval transaction, Advanced Energy was able to quickly identify cost savings by streamlining user input time from 45 minutes to 2 minutes with zero training to the user. The simplified purchase requisition screens were easily deployed in business units in China and other division in Asia.



About Advanced Energy

Advanced Energy is a global leader in the development and support of technologies critical to high-technology manufacturing processes used in the production of semiconductors, flat panel displays, data storage products, compact discs, digital video discs, architectural glass, and other advanced product applications.

Advanced Energy operates in regional centers in North America, Asia and Europe and offers global sales and support through direct offices, representatives and distributors. Advanced Energy's factory in Shenzhen, China is fully operational and manufactures most of AE's products.

SAP Simplified

Purchase requisition is an internal purchasing document in SAP. It is used to give notification to responsible departments of material and/or external services and keep track of such requirements.

Matt Cook, Director of Global Business, Advanced Energy noticed, "We create approximately 10,000 purchase requisitions every year which is very time consuming. There are only a few individuals able to complete the transactions quickly. If those individuals were absent or involved in other projects, we would put the creation process on hold until their time was freed up, or we would pull them off of existing projects."

He added, "By using GuiXT and Input Assistant, we were able to combine screens / transactions, cutting the purchase requisition creation time in half from 8 minutes to 4 minutes. The equated annual dollar amount to the loss of time equaled approximately \$20K. At an executive level, this annual dollar amount equated to approximately \$81K. Overall - by using GuiXT, we are saving an annual amount of over \$100K."



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Matt Cook
 Director of Global Business
 Advanced Energy



Business Challenges

The user community was struggling and complaining about the use of SAP and the transactions being extensive and difficult to use, so Advanced Energy needed a way to address these issues while still being compliant with SAP standards and best practices. They needed a system that was easy for the IT group to implement, roll out and support and at the same time deliver the simplicity required by the users.

The options available to AE were to either do core modification and a large amount of ABAP changes to be developed to support the ongoing requests, or to let users go through the standard transactions with extensive training and re-training with the multi-step screens. To add to this challenge was the limited amount of resources; they have few designated individuals who were SAP/ABAP savvy and this was going to be a constraint.

According to Matt Cook, "The users were complaining more and more about SAP usability, which forced us to make a change... fast!"

GuiXT as the Solution

Since GuiXT allows companies to develop and streamline their SAP without any ABAP modifications, this was the best option available to Advanced Energy. They were able to customize and roll-out the simplified purchase requisition screens to their user community in less than two months, at a fraction of the cost of developing the customized screens in ABAP.

Business Benefits

Advanced Energy was able to realize the following benefits from the use of GuiXT:

- Ease of use
- Ease and quickness of implementation
- Low Total Cost of Ownership
- Integration with existing SAP environment
- Limited resources required to run and implement the software



"With GuiXT, we are able to complete projects in a faster manner and roll out all over the world very quickly! It has really made our lives easier!"

Matt Cook
Director of Global Business
Advanced Energy