Industry: Farm Machinery and Equipment
Agricultural Equipment Manufacturer

Key Criteria Needed:

- Cloud-based e-Kanban solution to replace their internal manual Kanban card system

- Ability to extend e-Kanban to their supply chain partners

- Ability to quickly scale to support two large tractor assembly plants, two engine assembly plants and over 500 suppliers

- Fully integrated barcode capability

- Portuguese language support

- Seamless integration with their JDE ERP system

- Fast implementation and demonstrated ROI through inventory reduction and improved employee productivity

CUSTOMER PROFILE:
This Agricultural Equipment Manufacturer (AEM) is a global leader focused on the design, manufacture and distribution of agricultural machinery.

BUSINESS SITUATION:
AEM's manufacturing operation consists of two large tractor assembly plants and two feeder engine assembly plants. Their main tractor assembly plant had some success with an internal manual Kanban card system but had struggled with trying to extend it beyond the four walls of their plant to their supply chain partners and to other plants. The combination of high overhead support costs for their manual Kanban card system, lost and duplicate Kanban cards, and a reliance on email, phone and fax to place, track and close material replenishment orders created an environment ripe with cost savings and cost avoidance improvement opportunities.

OUR SOLUTION:
AEM evaluated various COTS supplier portal and e-Kanban systems before eventually selecting Ultriva's Collaborative Supply Portal (CSP) solution, but not before performing a detailed 'Inventory Optimization Assessment' (IOA) using Ultriva's patent-pending 'Inventory Optimization Tool' and in-depth hands-on tests of the Portuguese

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The CSP deployment at the main tractor assembly plant was so successful that AEM moved ahead a scheduled deployment of CSP at another plant by 12 months.

About Ultriva Inc.

Ultriva empowers leading businesses to operate more effectively and collaboratively by providing real time visibility and targeted actionable intelligence into inventory and material flows. Ultriva's cloud-based platform leverages and seamlessly integrates with leading ERP and MRP systems, to deliver an end to end pull based replenishment model.

language version of CSP against various use-case scenarios. The IOA revealed significant opportunities for inventory reduction and a sub one year ROI through the right-sizing of AEM's material replenishment loops with the use-case tests proving CSP to be an excellent fit to AEM's needs.

THE RESULTS:

The implementation project from kick-off to go-live on Ultriva's CSP solution with tight integration to AEM's JDE ERP system took only four months. The entire implementation and integration effort which involved the design, development, testing and cutover of six ERP interface points, the training of buyers and suppliers, and the configuration of scanners and printers required only one four day visit to the main tractor assembly plant. The supply chain team at the main tractor assembly plant now enjoys closed-loop supply chain processes to include automated e-Kanban releases based on consumption scans, web-based supplier acknowledgements of e-Kanban signals, in-transit tracking of orders through ASN messages, and automated updates to JDE of order receipt data from a simple barcode scan of the CSP-generated supplier label. In addition, the main tractor assembly plant has already started to realize forecasted reductions in inventory combined with significant improvements in employee productivity.

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