

Evolving Financial Planning Step by Step

Rolling out Planning, Budgeting and Forecasting Globally with Jedox



Client

Schunk Xycarb Technology

Region

Worldwide

Industry

Software and Technology

Department

Finance

Solution

Financial planning

System environment

MS Excel, SAP ERP

Executive Summary

Schunk Xycarb Technology produces high-tech process-chamber equipment parts for the Microelectronics industry. With the company's global growth came financial planning complexity that the former platform no longer could perform. With Jedox Schunk Xycarb built a central database for the financial department to unify planning-, budget- and forecasting processes.

Serving the Microelectronics Industry since 1981

Schunk Xycarb Technology is the one-stop leading global supplier of Silicon Carbide coated Graphite, Quartz, Ceramic and Silicon consumable products and related technology services for the Microelectronics industry. Schunk Xycarb Technology produces high-tech process-chamber equipment parts for wafer production and processing, including dedicated customer engineering support. Its solutions enable leading-edge manufacturing of next-generation Semiconductor, Optoelectronics, Solar and Silicon devices and applications. Schunk Xycarb Technology was founded in 1981 in the Netherlands and is a business group of the Schunk Group.

Schunk Group is a globally active technology company employing around 8,000 people in 29 countries and has an annual turnover over 1.1 billion. The company produces high-tech products and systems in the area of carbon technology and ceramics, environmental simulation and climate technology, sintered metals, and ultrasonic welding.

Good housekeeping

"In order to grow and be prepared to meet expected challenges and operate in a volatile market good financial housekeeping has proved essential. In the old days our whole financial reporting was done in Excel, partially based on retyping data from our SAP R/3 system. The lack of a corporate BI strategy compelled finance to seek a low cost, accessible intelligence platform. I believe the choice for PALO 2.0 in 2007 made us one of the first Jedox users outside the DACH region. At the time we used the open source version to migrate from Excel to an Excel+ based on a central Jedox database," says Rinie Verspaget, CFO at Xycarb.

"With international growth the complexity increased and we had to cope with multi-currency, world-wide operating sales organization with local payroll, an increasing product portfolio and huge investments to name a few."

"Jedox prevented my team from being drawn down by the usual drawback Excel can have in such an environment. It would have become too laborious, too error prone and too complicated to audit and manage."

Users

- ▶ 300

Benefits

- ▶ Planning and reporting in an integrated system with a central database
- ▶ Reliable & scalable platform

Why Jedox?

- ▶ Flexible implementation of individual requirements
- ▶ Fast results through agile development
- ▶ Easy connections to various data sources

“What works really well is that all the models are integrated. Changes in the human resources planning now directly show in our forecast Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss.”

Rinie Verspaget,
CFO & Financial Expert,
Schunk Xyberg Technology

Performance Management

“I would love to take credit for the fact that we not only choose Jedox for its ‘business intelligence’ capabilities but also for the fact it offers functionality in the area of forecasting, planning and budgeting. When selecting the tool, performance management functionality was not ‘top of mind’. But Looking back, I am very glad Jedox has this functionality. In fact, the value add of this functionality already paid off in the first project we did,” continues Verspaget.

“As we expanded the functionality of the platform to include insight into sales, human resources, production and so forth, we were also keen to include performance management to support our plan-, budget- and forecasting processes. For example, all our international sales use Jedox to forecast through a web-based application which in turn is used for our production planning.”

200 users in initial rollout, 100 more users added quickly

“With the constraints we faced 10 years ago in having to select a low budget tool, I truly cannot say we have missed out on functionality. In fact, I believe it proves to be a very good and frugal choice and it is great to see how Jedox has developed over the last 10 years. Without the need of IT support the business has been able to realize all requirements. Only recently we have decided to look for an information manager to manage the whole environment and future extensions. Our step by step approach in rolling out functionality would now probably be classified as ‘agile’. This phased approach may very well be the reason we have never met any resistance from the users. Another thing we didn’t realize at first is the fact that we seamlessly created a centralized Jedox database that, step by step, now holds all our critical data and history! Great for trend analysis and all sorts of scenario analysis in combination with ‘splashing’. With business functionality constantly being our starting point we have in no way seen technology to be a showstopper or reason for delay.”

“Looking at recent developments I was happy to see Jedox has developed some standard models. We have adopted the Jedox model for human resources. Only having to tweak it a little to our needs makes it faster to implement such solutions. The other thing which works really well is the fact that all these models are integrated. Changes in the human resources planning now directly show in our forecast Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss.”

CFO Verspaget concludes: *“The decision for Jedox was certainly a good one. It has evolved into a platform that now supports many business processes and effectuates confidence throughout the organization.”*