

Katun

Katun's New Integrated System Boosts Efficiency By Eliminating Manual Data Entry

Industry

Imaging Equipment Manufacturing

Challenge

Manual data entry and lack of integrations led to an inefficient supply chain full of errors and wasted time.

Solution

Integrated Radley Material Traceability suite of inventory management, data collection, and task management systems.

Results

Better inventory tracking, smoother employee onboarding, fewer errors, and improved efficiency. Katun is a world leader in printers, copiers, and business imaging supplies. If it's involved with printing, they can make it. As an Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM), they serve 14,000+ distributors and resellers in 138 countries.

Founded in 1979, the Minneapolis-based company has grown into an industry leader. Katun operates multiple facilities, including locations in Davenport, Iowa, and Gorinchem, Netherlands. Their growth has also led to challenges common to managing a global supply chain.

"We mostly used a manual system before switching solutions. The employee training got us up to speed within a week of the conversion—ensuring our customers received their orders on time.

We've seen efficiency gains in Receiving, Putaway, and Replenishment. We also saw an increase in our LPH (Lines Per Hour) on the Shipping side. The system is user-friendly and tells you what to do and where to go, so we're accurate in our daily tasks."

Zach Petersen, Operations Manager

Challenge

Katun's global shipping had become too much for their home-grown manual processes. Their in-house inventory software had served the company well, but could no longer keep up.

The shipping system had become a significant bottleneck to their work. Operations relied on the insider knowledge of a few senior team members. Katun's leadership knew they needed a software upgrade.

No Software Integration

Their IFS ERP platform and outdated inventory software didn't integrate. This disconnect slowed everything down and led to errors in quality control.

No Warehouse Software

Katun realized they had a gap because they lacked a material tracaebility system. This left them without a solution to scan inventory, assign work, and run reports.

Manual Overseas Shipments

International shipments were logged on paper ledgers. These were manually inputted into their manufacturing software. Employees had to individually print labels and physically clip them to shipments. This amounted to a confusing, slow, and error-prone supply chain.

Solution

CAI Software upgraded Katun's technology stack by implementing its Radley Material Traceability solution. This integrated suite saves time, reduces errors, improves efficiency, and creates greater transparency. It also works with their existing Supply Chain Management (SCM) software from IFS.

The Radley Material Traceability software scans inventory and tracks goods through the supply chain. The CAI team replaced Katun's in-house system with a new data collection software, eliminating manual data entry. Katun also opted to add the Task Management feature to streamline order picking and shipments and Intellilabel for automated label printing.



Results

- · Tracking and barcode scanning streamlined inventory management
- \cdot Reduced order processing times and minimized errors
- · Automation of processes eliminated time-wasting manual data entry
- · An integrated suite of software that works together
- Provided greater workforce direction and boosted efficiency

