

Manufacturing Success Story

Case Study: Global Industrial Manufacturer Unifies Data for Supply Chain and Financial Reporting with Oracle Cloud EDM

This success story illustrates how a large, global industrial manufacturing company, burdened by a complex and decentralized IT environment, leveraged Oracle Cloud EDM to create a single source of truth for its critical enterprise data, leading to a more agile and efficient operation.

Business Pain and Need

The client, a leader in industrial manufacturing with operations across multiple continents, was experiencing significant data fragmentation. Due to years of organic growth and acquisitions, each plant, business unit, and sales channel operated on a different ERP or legacy system. This created a major disconnect between the operational data in the supply chain systems and the financial data in the reporting systems. When the company needed to analyze profitability by product, plant, or region, it was a tedious, manual, and often inaccurate process involving massive spreadsheets and countless hours of reconciliation. The company also lacked a governed, auditable process for managing changes to its product and cost hierarchies, which created significant risk and slowed down a critical project. They desperately needed a modern solution to unify their enterprise data.

The Solution

The company chose Oracle Cloud EDM as a centralized hub to manage and govern their master data. The implementation focused on several key areas:

Chart of Accounts and Cost Center Harmonization: They used EDM to create a single, unified chart of accounts and cost center hierarchy that was published to all their disparate ERP and financial systems. This ensured that all financial data, regardless of its source, was aligned and ready for consolidation.

Product and Location Hierarchy Governance: The company used EDM to govern its complex product hierarchies and manufacturing plant locations. This gave their supply chain and sales teams a consistent view of the entire business, which was crucial for

accurate demand forecasting and inventory management.

Automated Data Flows: The company configured EDM to automatically synchronize changes to their master data with their Oracle Cloud ERP and EPM applications. This eliminated the need for manual data entry and reconciliation and provided a transparent, auditable trail for all data changes.

Implementation Timeline

The project was completed in a phased approach over approximately eight months. The initial phase focused on designing the core financial hierarchies, with subsequent phases integrating the supply chain and operational data from various plants. This phased approach allowed the company to begin with a critical business unit and then scale the solution to others, including newly acquired entities. The project was completed on time and within budget, with the company seeing a rapid return on investment.

ROI and Business Value

The implementation of Oracle Cloud EDM provided a clear and compelling return on investment by delivering significant business value across the organization. The key ROI metrics included:

Faster Financial Close: The company reduced its financial close time by 50% by eliminating manual data reconciliation and validation, which had been a major bottleneck.

Improved Business Agility: The unified data foundation allowed the company to more quickly respond to market changes, such as new product launches or changes in supply chain logistics.

Enhanced Strategic Decision-Making: For the first time, leadership had a unified, accurate view of profitability by product, plant, and region.

Reduced Audit Risk and Improved Compliance: The automated, auditable workflows ensured data integrity and provided a transparent audit trail for all changes, which simplified the annual audit process and reduced compliance risk.

For more information, a video about how Oracle Cloud SCM helps industrial manufacturers can be found here: [Industrial Manufacturing Case Studies from Oracle](#). This video is relevant as it provides a look at how Oracle Cloud applications can help industrial manufacturing companies.