CASE STUDY:

The Robots

Company Type:

Large International FMCG Company

Industry:

Retail

Countries:

Global

Solution:

SAP

Merge & acquisition of company with leverage the new integrated stock transfer process development to ensure completeness and accuracy of data being transferred between the ERP systems.

Overview:

In today's world merge and acquisition of companies is a common way to gain financial benefits following their strategy for sustained growth and market expansion. Operating reorganization might be a huge challenge due to natural systems differences, various releases, business habits and maintenance level.
Taking into account the potential benefits and risks from the reorganization, we consider the following operational company merge approach:

- Transfer to (non)SAP solution of one the parties,
- Joint-system solution with a combination of both.

While the first solution seems to be obvious then what if we need to combine two separate, operating SAP systems?

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Challenge:

Transformation program scope included running all market business operations in the (A) SAP system, while factory business operations will still be running in the (B) SAP system. This would mean that the integrated factory-to-market process will be running in two systems and inventory will need to pass from one system (B) to the other (A).
Leverage the new integrated stock transfer process development to ensure completeness and accuracy of data being transferred between the ERP systems ultimately optimize Intra-Unit and Inter-Company Process to support Company A globally via the hybrid model. Finance statements, reporting and interfaces as well as reconciliation for period close processes will be developed and aligned country specific gaps with global best practice to drive standard approach for factories and markets. Facilitate both cost and growth value unlock for the combined Company A and Company B segments.

Vision:

Few years back, our Client bought
a Company which was using their own SAP system not only for sales, but fully enhanced production including all possible productive areas like production planning, inbound/outbound logistics, finance, controlling and quality. The decision was to keep production in “old” system while move all the markets into his own SAP box. Both landscapes differed in release level, maintenance and template approach.

A’ part of many areas which were in scope of the project, the most exiting is case were:

- Since factory is operating in SAP (B) and market plants are placed in SAP (A), costing is done in each system separately. To avoid differences there is a need to monitor this in a period basis.
- Since a new integrated stock transfer process is being developed for which we require a report to ensure completeness and accuracy of data being transferred between systems and ultimately the financial statements of the units involved.
- To create a report/tool that will compare COPA summarization tables data between SAP (B) and (A) after sales data transfer between the systems.

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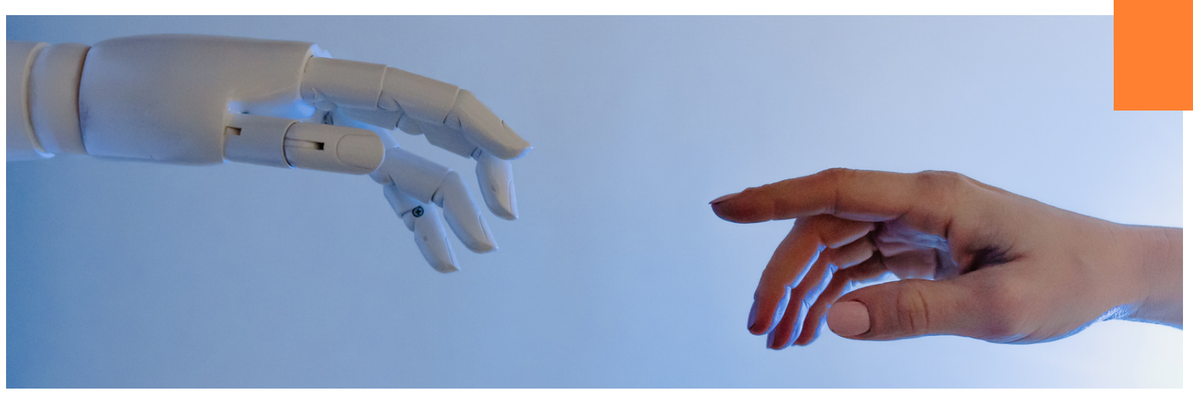

Solutions:

- Robot is an automated process which is validating data accuracy between SAP (B) and SAP (A).
- Robot works on a virtual machine, that in not accessible by any users. With that, users are not able to see any steps performed by the robot in the background.
- Robot is verifying data accuracy for an agreed process and send a list of mismatches (reconciliation report) to an agreed address by email.
- End User needs to review the output generated report in order to analyze all possible reasons why processed and displayed data differ between both SAP systems.

Processes covered by solution:

- Standard Cost Reconciliation
- Intercompany Price Reconciliation
- (A) system to (B) system Retrofit Reconciliation

Benefits:

- 3 reports created automatically; run – every Monday; separate reports for each Country,
- Short time of creating reports,
- All found difference send to users based on the predefined data in bespoke table,
- Possibility to run report ad-hoc (i.e., when new material will be created or after fix),
- Easy communication with Robot (via mail),
- Confidential data additional security approach - no risk of mistake in data comparison between systems,
- Flexible solution (easy way to add new country to the process),
- User friendly guidance-book.

Leading countries were: **China, Russia, UK and Poland** but the solution itself should be flexible enough and open to any country which would join the process anytime (like Kenya).

Resources:

- Project Manager with FI/CO background
- Consultant SAP FI/CO
- Consultant SAP FI/CO

Duration:

- 5 months

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