

CASE STORY



Facts about Corus Namascor

Corus is an international metal company, providing steel and aluminium products and services to customers worldwide.

With an annual turnover of £9 billion and major operating facilities in the Netherlands, Germany, France, Norway and Belgium, Corus employs 48,300 people in over 40 countries.

The Company comprised four Divisions, Strip Products, Long Products, Distribution & Building Systems and Aluminium, and has a global network of sales offices and service centres.

Being one of Europe's leading suppliers of high quality steel and aluminium products, Corus Namascor located in The Netherlands constantly aims at increasing productivity, never compromising the company focus on overall quality, safety and

sustainability. Implementing the API PRO maintenance management system presented the company with immediate pay off with respect to productivity as well as safety.

In the steel industry effective maintenance procedures are crucial and a lot of work is put into preventive maintenance in order to avoid unforeseen stops in production; stops that are extremely cost demanding because they affect the productivity on a very large scale.

Contributing to the general efforts to improve performance and productivity in Corus Namascor, the technical department therefore successfully argued that an advanced, best of breed maintenance management system would offer considerable improvements not only on maintenance procedures, but on the overall productivity as well. This way the efficiency of the maintenance, because of more stable production equipment,

would result in better profit margins.

A Flying Start

The selection process revealed API PRO to be the most suitable solution in order to fulfil Corus Namascor's requirements. Integrated functionality for maintenance, inspection, stock control and purchasing combined with the need for user-friendliness and the possibility to further expand when required were all crucial specifications which were fully met by the API PRO system.

"We knew what we wanted and soon realized that API PRO was the best system to match our high standards. We also knew that implementing a brand new system was a demanding process, but working closely together with API Maintenance

Facts about API

API Maintenance Systems A/S is the head office of the API group and responsible for the development, sales, implementation and support of the API maintenance management system throughout the world. The software is used by many leading companies worldwide in a variety of industries and organizations to maintain high-value capital assets such plants, facilities and equipment.

Systems we succeeded in achieving almost immediate results. API PRO has been the perfect tool to improve our maintenance performance and overall productivity. The system made it possible to make a flying start in less than five weeks," says Pieter Koomen, Technical Manager at Corus Namascor.

Competent Maintenance Procedures

Soon after the implementation process Corus Namascor experienced how the maintenance management system improved the procedures as well as the documentation. It became remarkably easier to get status reports and also the communication between

production and maintenance departments improved. Besides the maintenance Corus Namascor's Technical Department handles all purchasing of MRO materials. Before implementing the API PRO system this was all done manually, but once the procedures were integrated into the system the improvements on effectiveness and efficiency were immediate.

As Plant Manager Peter Betjes was thrilled with the resulting improvements in performance:

"The API PRO system provides an excellent status report function for all activities over 24 hours. Furthermore the system facilitates quick and easy

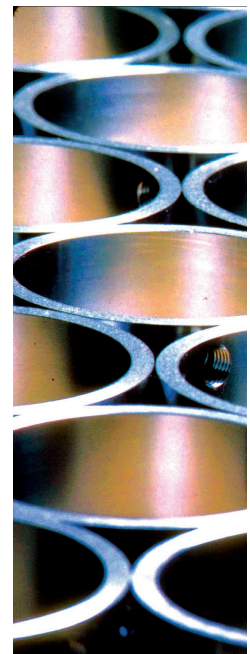
communication between production and maintenance on the status and performance of the installation, essential for further improvement".

A Profitable Investment

As Corus Namascor places great emphasis on safety, the company has introduced an extensive worldwide programme to comply with the stringent demands on safety made by the International Safety Rating System (ISRS). Using API PRO for their ISRS processes proved to be an excellent choice as it helped Namascor to achieve outstanding results in their important ISRS audit. So what

was initially adopted as a tool for improving productivity also turned out to improve safety, and the investment soon proved to be profitable. As Peter Betjes phrases it:

"During the short time that we have now used the API PRO system, we have already earned back our investment! We will strive to maximize the use of API PRO to continue our improvements. We know there is a lot more we can do to reach the full potential of the system and its benefits."



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