

SharePoint Online -Power Apps and Power Automate Solution for a Oil and Gas Company

Company
Oil & Gas

Industry
Oil & Gas

Country
North America

Solution
Power Bi, Power Apps and Power Automate

Technologies
SharePoint Online, Power Apps

Background

Our customer is a leading North American multinational Oil and Gas services company.

Our client had the following vision/requirement in the mind:

- The firm is large organization that wanted to implement processes that would improve efficiency without needing to increase staff, so simplifying and automating applicable daily business processes was a must.
- As an early adopter of cloud computing solutions, the company wanted to use the power of the Office 365 ecosystem of tools and applications.
- Management also needed to increase the efficiency of process to solve business problems related to inventory tracking and eliminate the physical back-and-forth within the warehouse.
- Currently the MRO (maintenance, repair and operating) supplies usage tracking which is done on paper and reported to the main office as materials are consumed.
- Even though the desire is to have JIT (just-in-time) replacement of certain critical items, the vendors/partners do not currently have any access to the ERP system and hence requires the main office initiating all such requests.

The Challenge

The customer is intermittently facing issues with MRO outage at critical items. In addition, there is no visibility of inventory levels to either field services or vendors since direct access of the ERP system is not allowed due to security reasons. This set of issues is leading our client to either having no stock of required materials or forcing them to procure the items in excess of required/reasonable quantity. On certain occasions the excess buying has led to expiry of some materials and additional cost/loss in their disposal. Resources were being used to manually recount which was extremely wasteful and inefficient, not to mention the amount of delay associated with these intermittent verification recounts was getting the attention of their management team.

Solution

The complete required solution had to address four items:

- Setup a connection to ERP inventory system to get full set of SKUs involved in MRO with relevant quantities including MOQ (minimum order quantity). In reverse, the consumed items information captured on this system was fed back to the ERP system.
- Provide real time information both internally (field personnel) and externally (partners/vendors) regarding MRO inventory
- Take MOQ (minimum order quantity) requirement for each item and directly notified the necessary vendor if the need to resupply (Note, the actual order has to be generated from the ERP. This was only a notification)
- Provide a mobile based application to scan the bar code of the consumed product. When an item is actually used, it is then automatically recorded into the system via a barcode scan. This information was fed back to the ERP inventory system

To meet these objectives Verinon engaged a series of processes that required a mix of Power platform inclusive of Power Bi, Power Apps and Power Automate to create visibility to the process while creating simplicity to the process. By deploying our services methodology and approach, Verinon's delivery team was able to complete the solution development on time and within the budgetary needs of the client.

- Once the data was loaded into Azure SQL Server, the team was able to employ Power BI and bring visibility to this information on a set of reports. Courtesy of the reflexive capabilities of O365, the information was available on any platform including computers, tablet or mobile.
- Employ varying level of permissions provided in O365 to limit or allow varying personnel controlled visibility. This information was available to both field services as well as partners/vendors each with varying level of privileges.
- Using Power Apps was able to deliver an application that intuitive interaction regarding MRO stock and the ability to scan/record any consumed items real-time as they are used up in maintenance activities.
- If inventory is deemed at MOQ level, the system uses Power Automate simply to notify of reduced stock levels. Actual POs for the materials are generated in the ERP system

The combination of the Power platform allowed Verinon to deliver solutions much faster on a reliable platform. Verinon's development approach has been used to delivery similar solutions across many verticals in both North American and Asian Pacific regions.

Result

The solution has been successfully implemented using the Power platform to meet the client needs and requirements as per the client expectations of timeline.

Among the most important business benefits noted by the Customer are:

- Vastly reduced the amount of time necessary to getting a real-time, realistic overview of their available materials and stocks vis-à-vis what is consumed.
- Delivery of relevant information at the fingers of both field services and vendors/partners without compromising the need to open up ERP access external groups
- Automated MOQ notification where the vendor is alerted early of the need for replenishment. This early notification has significantly reduced outages of relevant MRO items.
- A combination of Power Apps, BI and Automate delivered the one additional step of efficiency that the client needed as quickly as possible.

About Verinon

Verinon Technology Solutions is a CMMi Level 3 and ISO-9001 Certified IT Services Company specialized in system integration services around Document and Content Management, Collaboration, Business Intelligence, Data warehousing, Conversions and Interfaces/adapters coupled with a select pool of custom development areas to clients around the globe.

Verinon is a Gold Certified Partner since 2008. Our SharePoint practice consists of 50+ full time consultants serving our esteemed clients at every corner of the world providing Enterprise Content Management and portal solutions to our customers across world.

Verinon Technologies offers you organizations a multi-versed and customized Microsoft Power Apps development solutions. Based on our experience and innovative approach we are constantly developing new low-code business apps that promote business process automation, workflow management, reporting and data management, marketing, and many more. We offer Microsoft Power Apps development solutions to SMBs and large enterprises. In other words, we have a low-code solution for your every high-complexity business problem.

Verinon's Easy2Share SharePoint migration tool simplifies the process eRoom migration to SharePoint 2007/2010/2013 and Office365, Documentum migration to SharePoint2007 / 2010 / 2013 and Office365, Lotus migration to SharePoint, Stellent migration to SharePoint 2007/2010/2013 and Office365. Our SharePoint migration services team helps to analyze your existing data structure and suggests you a planned approach to opt for migration, which helps in mitigating the risk involved in complex migrations.

The Easy2Share Advantage

- Detailed reporting and audit logs to facilitate an easy process of auditing
- Takes into account issues of maintaining meta data, security, permissions, ownership information, access rights in recreating the same environment within Microsoft SharePoint
- Product methodology that takes into consideration:
- Leverage SharePoint's power: SharePoint provides incremental features such as expanded meta data that can be populated as part of the migration process
- Control Change Management: The process includes a customized look and feel and structure to minimize user confusion
- Migrate at own pace: Most such migrations can't be done as a onetime event where support is built to facilitate an easy-as-you-go approach.

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