



AB World Foods Ltd

Patak's is a long-established premium brand, a market leader focussed on innovation and quality.

The business grew, both organically and by acquisition, from its foundation in 1972 and, in the 1990's, a US joint venture was established along with many other international distribution arrangements.

In 2000, production moved to a purpose-built factory in Leigh, a few miles from the head office in Haydock. In September 2007, the business was acquired by Associated British Foods and merged with G. Costa, distributors of the Blue Dragon brand, to form AB World Foods.

Challenge

CSI had been working with Patak's since 1994, when CSI sold and implemented BPCS, a leading ERP solution, in the business. In subsequent years, CSI continued to work closely with the business enhancing and supporting BPCS, implementing a millennium-compliant BPCS version in 1998, supplying and supporting infrastructure and addressing a growing range of IT requirements.

Following its acquisition by AB Foods, the newly formed business faced an immediate challenge. G. Costa had been using a different ERP solution, System 21, and, following a detailed review supported by CSI and the product authors, it was decided to migrate the G. Costa users and the S/21 database to BPCS.

Solution

CSI was responsible for the data mapping, software development and project management for the consolidation of the two systems, working with users from both business teams and representatives of the software authors.

Following successful go-live in March 2008, CSI has continued to work with ABWF, supporting the implemented system on an on-going basis and further enhancing BPCS, implementing new functionality and solutions to meet new and changing business requirements.

Business Drivers:

- Consolidation of two businesses
- Merging of two different ERP databases
- Implementation of best practice and consolidated business processes
- Reduced cost of supporting and maintaining business systems
- Business process re-engineering.

Solution Benefits:

- Improvements in business efficiency
- Provides a single solution for the combined businesses, eliminating duplication of effort
- Gives a more robust, reliable and flexible solution
- Provides a single platform for the production of timely, accurate management information
- Visibility of inventory throughout the supply chain
- Substantially reduced support costs

AB WORLD FOODS

