Justrite

Companies that store oil, fuel, and other hazardous liquids are required to have plans in place to contain accidental spills or leaks. Justrite (formerly Basic Concepts, Inc), a global leader in the spill containment industry, has been helping them do it safely and cost-effectively for more than two decades.

Justrite's 50,000 square foot facility in Anderson, SC.

Justrite's spill containment berms are neccessary to almost all military & government institutions.

Founded in 1988, Justrite designs and manufactures a variety of patented custom spill response and spill containment products that assist companies in complying with the Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) rule, which includes requirements to prevent oil discharges to navigable waters and adjoining shorelines. The SPCC rule is part of the Oil Pollution Prevention regulation, which also includes the Facility Response Plan (FRP), all of which are monitored by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Operating out of their 50,000-square-foot facility in Anderson, South Carolina, Justrite provides portable secondary containment solutions to more than two hundred military installations and hundreds of industrial sites around the globe. Their berms are constructed to withstand the harshest of environmental conditions, including the sub-freezing temperatures of Antarctica, where military and scientists use the berms to protect the area's fragile ecosystem. Justrite's berms have also been used to support U.S. troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

More than just a provider of quality spill containment products, Justrite gives their customers peace of mind knowing that their sites are prepared for fast, effective spill response and cleanup in the event of an emergency. And Justrite is the only spill containment manufacturer to offer after-sale repair and refurbishing service.

On Track with Global Shop Solutions

Ask Global Shop Solutions ERP software customers to identify the most important features of the system and the answer will depend on who in the company you talk to.

The engineers and shop floor personnel will generally talk about the system's advanced scheduling features, the ease of creating routers and work orders, and the ability to go paperless on the shop floor. The IT people will talk about Global Shop Solutions' powerful database engine, its flexibility, and its ability to customize screens and features without additional programming.

As vice president and general manager for Justrite, Russ Guffee sees it differently. Tasked with keeping his eye on every aspect of the business, he points to Global Shop Solutions' powerful tracking and reporting capabilities as the software's key features.

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"We make a lot of custom products," says Guffee. "Customers come to us and say, 'We need a berm or containment tank of this size and of this material' and we design and build it. Needless to say, this creates a lot of challenges in terms of scheduling jobs, ordering raw materials, tracking everything as it moves through the shop floor, and following through with invoicing and accounting. Global Shop Solutions handles all these challenges with ease."

For example, Justrite does a lot of work for the government and defense contractors. Because the company is on a Federal Supply Schedule, it has to be able to code and track all jobs in such a way that it can easily pull out and identify the government jobs. According to Guffee, Global Shop Solutions makes it easy to identify and track those kinds of sales. But he also uses it to track all sales in various ways, and to create a variety of reports for the different areas of the business.

"Global Shop Solutions integrates seamlessly with Crystal reports," explains Guffee, "so I use it on a regular basis to create and review the reports that give me the information I need to run the business. I also write some special reports that allow me to track and measure data in a way that suits our operating environment. For someone at my level, Global Shop Solutions' ease of reporting is a big plus."

"Global Shop Solutions also gives us a good tool for monitoring labor and equipment efficiencies. It enables us to track back to individual operators for quality control purposes, and it allows us to document who made what product on what day. This information is essential when trying to run a lean shop floor."

Global Shop Solutions' custom reporting also lends a hand during weekly production meetings.

Light-duty ground and track berm guards used for lighter weight vehicles.

"We wrote our own production report in Crystal reports to provide the information we need," says Guffee. "We then hold weekly production meetings based on this and other reports that we use to manage the shop. These reports identify work in progress, and what orders are scheduled for this week, next week, and as far out as we want to go. They give us complete visibility of every order in the system, including where they are, how many, and when they're due."

Back-Room Benefits

In addition to handling the basic shop floor activities with ease, Global Shop Solutions also simplifies and improves backroom functions such as accounting, purchasing, and inventory. According to Guffee, some of the company's biggest efficiency gains have come in these three areas.

At Justrite, the accounting team uses Global Shop Solutions on a daily basis to manage accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll, and general ledger. And with the company's high job volume and ongoing needs for raw materials, the buyer uses the purchasing application many times throughout the day. The efficiencies, notes Guffee, come from Global Shop Solutions' ability to handle all the daily activities in these areas electronically rather than manually.

"We normally place a lot of blanket orders with our suppliers," says Guffee. "We determine how much of a particular raw material we will need for the upcoming month and then order accordingly. But we don't need it all at once, so instead of placing many separate orders for the material, we place a blanket order with multiple releases. Global Shop Solutions automatically tracks how much we order and when each release is scheduled to come in, which saves our buyer the time and effort of tracking the data manually."

"Global Shop Solutions also tells us what our purchasing costs were the last time we ordered a particular raw material, so we can quickly review prices and identify any pricing trends with our suppliers. We can also review which purchase orders are still open and which have been closed. Because the purchasing application integrates so well with all the other

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applications in the system, it gives us all the information we need to make the best purchasing decisions."

Because Justrite builds custom parts, it doesn't stock a lot of finished goods in inventory. But it does have a large raw materials inventory. And like any lean manufacturer, it strives to minimize inventory carrying costs while ensuring that shop floor personnel have the right raw materials when they need them. Global Shop Solutions' auto purchasing feature makes it easy to manage inventory by providing complete traceability of all parts and raw materials that come through the back door, and by automatically logging all received materials into inventory.

When customers call in to inquire about orders, customer service reps can find the information they need in a matter of seconds.

"With Global Shop Solutions, we can find out instantly where a particular order is on the shop floor," says Guffee. "This lets us know how much time will be required in to finish it, which means we can give the customer a pretty accurate estimate of when the order will come out and when we'll be able to ship it. When we can provide that information in one quick phone call, customers definitely appreciate it!"

Better Visibility = Better Decisions

Where has Global Shop Solutions made the biggest difference for Justrite?

"Accounting," says Guffee. "There's absolutely no way we could keep track of everything going on in that area without Global Shop Solutions ERP software. But I would give shop floor tracking a close second. The visibility of the information is amazing. Having it all at our fingertips allows us to pull everything together and know what everyone is doing at any time on the shop floor."

To improve shop floor tracking, Justrite installed five Shop Floor Data Collection stations throughout the shop floor. These allow operators to electronically clock in and out of jobs at their workstations, as well as access routers and work orders and other information related to each job. The company has also improved efficiencies by using Global Shop Solutions to track how long it takes to complete a particular order. This has resulted in a more attentive workforce and contributed to lower labor costs.

"When you don't track things, people don't focus on the amount of time it takes to complete a job like they should," notes Guffee. "With Global Shop Solutions, when they pick up that router and log in on the job, they know exactly how much time we've allotted for that particular operation. We grade them against that, and tie their bonuses to how well they perform in regards to that metric. This ability to hold people more accountable for their time has generated improved efficiencies and cost savings."

Ultimately, says Guffee, it comes down to Global Shop Solutions' ability to put the right information in the hands of the right people at the right time.

"From a general manager perspective, Global Shop Solutions gives me complete visibility of everything that's going on. From work orders to accounting to inventory to anything we have on order with purchasing, I have the ability to log in and instantly get that information. And anyone else in the organization can access that data as well because the system is so thoroughly integrated.

"Having all this information in real time gives us the ability to run as efficiently as we can. It enables us to make decisions about manpower and raw materials utilization with accurate, up-to-date information. And it helps us provide better service to our customers. Without question, we're a more efficient company because of Global Shop Solutions."

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