

Glanbia, Mobile Asset Management

Project: Mobile Asset Management	
Client	Glanbia Plc
Contact	Mossy McNamara or Brian Farrell Glanbia Ingredients Ballyragget Co. Kilkenny 056 8836000
Technologies	SAP, Netweaver Mobile Infrastructure, Mobile Asset Management
Solution at a Glance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspection plans are created on SAP R/3 and downloaded to mobile computers • Client Solutions Wessendorf created an optimised screen to allow inspection results to be entered simply and easily • At the end of inspection, the computers are docked and the data is synchronised to the SAP back end.
Business Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elimination of paperwork. • Higher quality data collected faster. • Improved performance of the Maintenance Team.



Glanbia PLC Implement SAP Mobile Asset Management with Assistance From Wessendorf

Glanbia PLC, with assistance from Wessendorf Software+Consulting (WSC) and their Irish partner Client Solutions, has implemented SAP Mobile Asset Management at their state of the art Dairy Processing Plant in County Kilkenny. The solution allows Maintenance Craftspeople to download inspection orders from SAP to handheld Mobile Computers, which are then used to record inspection results, prior to uploading again to SAP. The solution uses SAP's Netweaver Mobile Infrastructure Technology to enable occasionally connected operation.

Ballyragget is a very traditional Irish town – at least in one sense. It is set in a picturesque part of County Kilkenny amid the gentle hills, rolling pastures and crystal clear streams at the heart of the Irish Dairy Industry. But Ballyragget is also the home of one of the largest Dairy Processing plants in Ireland which is operated by Glanbia PLC, one of the worlds leading Dairy and Food ingredients manufacturers. The Ballyragget plant occupies a large site and in common with similar plants around the world, requires a world class Asset Maintenance programme to ensure that it operates at peak effectiveness. Core to any World Class Asset Maintenance Regime, is a World Class Asset Inspection programme. Now, thanks to

“Our craftspeople have really taken to the solution and we are now getting high quality information far more rapidly as a result.”

Brian Farrell
Engineering Manager

Wessendorf & Client Solutions and SAP's Mobile Asset Management solution, the Maintenance craft workers at Ballyragget use state of the art mobile computers to carry out their regular inspections.

In 1997 Glanbia installed SAP for the first time and since then has continued to expand its SAP footprint. The Mobile Asset Management project was driven by a need to improve the efficiency of the Plant inspection processes, in order to in turn improve the efficiency of the plant itself.

Brian Farrell, the Engineering Manager outlined how the decision to install MAM was reached. "We initially installed SAP Plant Maintenance at our New Mexico facility and learned a great deal from this. One of the key items we learned was the need to automate as much as possible the inspection procedures. The inspection procedures are key to what we do, as they drive both preventive and predictive maintenance. Previously we had been doing this using a time consuming and error prone manual process. SAP's MAM allows us to greatly improve our speed, efficiency and accuracy."

The maintenance craftspeople in Ballyragget use Symbol MC50 mobile computers for their inspections. Inspection plans are created on SAP R/3 and downloaded to the mobile devices. Wessendorf & Client Solutions created an optimised screen on the mobile devices to enable the inspection results to be entered simply and easily and for the most part by ticking boxes on the screen. At the end of the inspection route, the mobile computers are docked and synchronised. SAP's Netweaver Mobile Infrastructure takes care of the synchronisation to SAP R/3.

Says Brian Farrell, "Our craftspeople have really taken to the solution and we are now getting high quality information far more rapidly as a result."

Mossie MacNamara, IT Manager was equally delighted. Using SAP's Mobile Infrastructure enables Glanbia to leverage in house SAP expertise and to provide a solution to the business with a low Cost of Ownership. Says Mossie, "Wessendorf & Client Solutions really delivered for us on our SAP Mobile Project."

Glanbia PLC traces its origin to the Co-operative movement that emerged in Ireland at the end of the 1800s. Over many years various smaller cooperatives merged and grew to the point where they became very large businesses. In the eighties and nineties, the Co-operatives began to take the next logical step and evolved into PLCs. In 1997 two of the largest of these businesses, Avonmore and Waterford, merged to form Glanbia. Glanbia is now one of the World's top dairy and food ingredients companies. The Cooperative origins of the company are reflected in some of the brands that continue such as Avonmore Milk and Butter and Kilmeaden Vintage Cheddar.

Now, at the start of their third century of operation, these very old businesses are using some very modern technology to drive their business forward.