Cooper Standard deploys SAP across its global business

Connecting 120 sites provides better data and business decisions

Cooper Standard is a leading global supplier of systems and components for the automotive industry. Headquartered in Novi, Michigan, it manufactures a range of products including rubber and plastic sealing, fuel and brake lines, fluid transfer hoses, and anti-vibration systems. With more than 32,000 employees globally, it operates plants in 21 countries around the world.

“The major difference between us and our competitors is our innovation,” says Soma Venkat, Vice President of Information Technology, Cooper Standard. “We have developed innovative products like Fortrex, a superior kind of rubber – better heat transfer, better insulation, and it’s lightweight. These kinds of innovations make us highly competitive.”

Boasting more than 50 years of automotive excellence and innovation, Cooper Standard has grown via acquisitions around the globe. Many of the acquired companies came with existing technology systems that ran independently. The company could not easily gain a good global view into either its business processes or data.
It is critical that you get a good partner, since your own talent is not going to be well-versed in the new technology. Capgemini is a high-level partner of SAP and had the ability to work in all of the different countries where we needed support.”

Soma Venkat
Vice President of Information Technology, Cooper Standard.
For example, Cooper Standard had approximately 24 sites in China, so it was critical to have people experienced in the multiple languages, well-versed in that country’s business processes, and with expertise working with other companies in China.

Cooper Standard plans to investigate the benefits of SAP S/4HANA and a move to the cloud. The company expects to move to S/4HANA within a year and will work with Capgemini on the rollout.

“One of the key elements for S/4HANA is the speed it offers and its ability to give us increased business intelligence,” explains Venkat. “This will be the next step in our plans.”

About Capgemini
A global leader in consulting, technology services and digital transformation, Capgemini is at the forefront of innovation to address the entire breadth of clients’ opportunities in the evolving world of cloud, digital and platforms. Building on its strong 50-year heritage and deep industry-specific expertise, Capgemini enables organizations to realize their business ambitions through an array of services from strategy to operations. Capgemini is driven by the conviction that the business value of technology comes from and through people. It is a multicultural company of over 200,000 team members in more than 40 countries. The Group reported 2018 global revenues of EUR 13.2 billion.

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