

Proof of concept: Supporting travel management SAP NetWeaver Business Process Management

Viega GmbH & Co. KG

A globally active company, Viega GmbH & Co. KG, domiciled in Attendorn, Westphalia, was founded in 1899. Today, Viega employs over 3.000 persons worldwide and is a leading systems provider in the field of installation technology. In the field of press technology for pipe connection systems, Viega is the world leader.

Viega's product range comprises more than 16.000 articles manufactured at the group's sites in Attendorn-Ennest/Westphalia, Lennestadt-Elspe/Westphalia, Großheringen/Thüringen, Niederwinkling/ Bavaria, and McPherson/Kansas (USA). In addition to producing pipe line and connecting systems, Viega also manufactures plumbing and heating systems as well as successfully developing dewatering technologies.

Viega products are used practically everywhere: in building technology, industrial infrastructure- and shipbuilding. The company exports to over 70 countries worldwide and primarily operates its own distribution organizations throughout the world.



www.viega.de

Initial situation

In the field of travel management, Viega worked with MS Outlook forms for travel requests, authorizations, and the recording of the corresponding expenses.

Requests for business trips were subjected to a multi-phase authorization procedure. Communication was ensured via e-mail. When a trip was authorized, the target times were recorded manually into the SAP-HR system. Once the trip had been concluded, the employee would record the time spent and expenses accrued. The billing and booking would then be carried out by means of the SAP-HR system.

This process had several disadvantages:

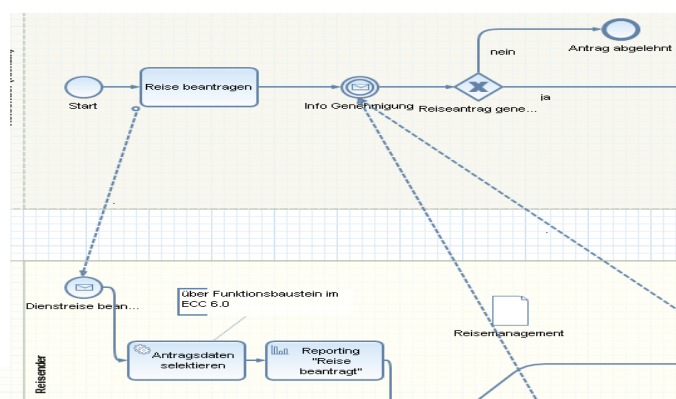
- Process modeling based on proprietary methods
- Lack of transparency during the process
- Manual ERP system booking activities
- No monitoring or analysis features

Project goals

Within the scope of the realization of a proof-of-concept based on SAP NetWeaver Business Process Management (BPM) in combination with Visual-Composer 7.2 interfaces, the following goals were defined:

- Process modeling in BPMN notation with SAP NetWeaver BPM
- Replacement of MS Outlook forms by Visual Composer dialogues
- Workflow support with the Universal Worklist (UWL)
- Automatic registering of target and actual times via Services
- Integration into SAP HR organization management
- Monitoring/Analysis features in real-time and via SAP BW
- Zero code approach towards UI implementation

Creation of a decision-making basis for the future



Excerpt from the business process model in SAP NetWeaver BPM

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... is specialized in corporate performance management and premium business intelligence services. The solutions are based on SAP Business Objects Business Intelligence, SAP NetWeaver BW and SAP HANA. CubeServ operates subsidiaries in Switzerland, Germany, Austria, and Croatia.

For more than ten years now, full service provider CubeServ is synonymous with operational excellence with regard to the design, implementation, management and operation of SAP BW/BO solutions – from classic data warehousing with SAP BW via BW-IP and Business Planning (BPC), Business Process Management, Balanced Scorecard (SSM) to In-Memory solutions with SAP HANA. In addition, CubeServ has developed its own intelligent products and add-ons for SAP BI solutions, e.g. the CubeServ BW Documentation Tool.

Interested? We would take pleasure in answering any questions you might have. Please call us or send us an e-mail.

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Project implementation and benefits

The project was carried out in close cooperation between Viega IT and CubeServ and involved 8 weeks of work with 18 external consultancy days to be concluded successfully. The expert and technical business process model with SAP NetWeaver BPM was implemented in the proof-of-concept. The allocation of activities to the task lists of the individual employees is carried out completely automatically with a process engine. The task list can be integrated fully into MS Outlook if required.

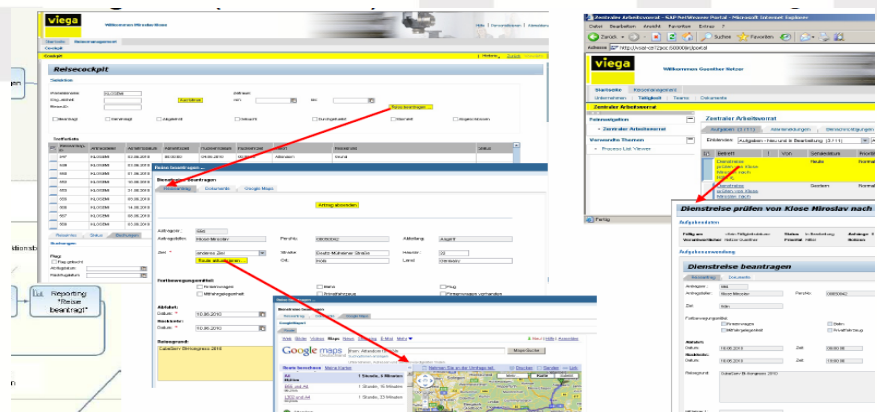
The current process ensures great transparency for all stakeholders – amongst others thanks to the evaluation possibilities at any point in the process. The process participants have the possibility to have the system visualize for them steps taken as well as the current state of the process at any point in time. In addition to this, all employees can work with a cockpit allowing them to analyze various aspects of business trips, such as duration and destinations, according to their corresponding authorization.

Results and benefits

Following the successful conclusion of the proof of concept, Viega decided to carry out further projects with SAP NetWeaver BPM.

"Thanks to the implementation of SAP NetWeaver BPM with the CubeServ Group, we are now able to use the same tool for everything from requirements recording to process management. In particular thanks to the code-less approach, very brief execution times are guaranteed."

Michael Nippel, CIO, Viega GmbH & Co. KG



Integration of Visual Composer interfaces

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