

valantic



CASE STUDY

Paving the Way on Agile Logistics



INNOVATION
AWARDS



About



About YAK MAT

YAK MAT is the largest supplier of access mats in North America, specializing in providing access solutions for energy projects. Pioneering the industry since 1976, YAK MAT is the only temporary roadway company that owns and operates nationwide manufacturing facilities, offering clients economies of scale and a variety of ready-to-ship mats in close proximity to any project, anywhere in the United States.

New app implemented by valantic streamlines the management of YAK MAT's highly specialized inventory and distribution processes

YAK MAT, along with valantic, used OutSystems to customize a new ERP solution to manage inventory that is in constant motion—a unique situation. The custom YAK MAT Tracker app streamlines the company's ability to track inventory and create shipments for customers. By capturing more data from the field, YAK MAT can issue daily status reports to customers, which increases their satisfaction. The system has 250 active users, with 150 to 180 concurrent users on any given day in the office and out in the field.

Industry

Services - Founded in 1976, YAK MAT is a U.S. supplier of access mats



Challenge

Problem

- Deciding between major customization of a new ERP solution or functionality built on top of the ERP to meet their needs
- Searching inventory in constant motion needed to be simple to assure efficient operation in the office and the field
- A unique rental process whereby the quantities shipped do not always match those returned that needed automation

YAK MAT provides access mats for all areas of the energy industry, including midstream, upstream, downstream, transmission, and distribution. Nearly 1 million of these mats are used to create temporary roadways for energy construction projects that can span hundreds of miles and are always in motion. This creates unique challenges, such as coordinating the logistics for up to 200,000 mats that require more than 10,000 truckloads to go to one project.

YAK MAT was handling all of this from QuickBooks and a custom-built inventory management system, as well as hundreds of spreadsheets and lots of hard-working people to glue it together.

“Our technology and processes were not scalable, and the business was growing very rapidly, so we had begun the implementation of an ERP system. But it was not able to address the specific needs of our logistics and project management processes,”

said Chris Bullock, Chief Information Officer at YAK MAT.

“We were at a crossroads. Do we customize the core ERP or do we build bolt-on functionality? We felt like bolt-on functionality was by far the safest bet, and that’s really what led us to the OutSystems platform and valantic.”



Solution

To address the challenges associated with moving to a new ERP solution and needing custom functionality to automate highly specialized inventory and distribution processes, YAK MAT partnered with valantic. The result was a new “front-end” solution that delivers specific capabilities to manage the shipping and distribution of its products and supports a mobile inventory app through APIs.

Solution

Tracker is a custom inventory and order management front-end for YAK MAT’s ERP, developed by valantic using OutSystems, including APIs for their mobile app

“Our biggest problem in the ERP was that we started the implementation and did not have the custom functionality delivered to support our processes. Our business team was struggling to bridge the gap and see the vision that we had in place,”

explains Bullock.

“Within two months of working with valantic, we had the solution we needed.”



Chris Bullock

Chief Information Officer, YAK MAT



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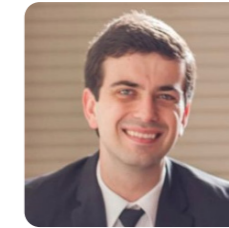


Solution

Called Tracker and powered by the OutSystems low-code platform, this new custom solution allows YAK MAT employees to easily assess inventory across all of YAK MAT sites and create the right shipments for their customers. In addition, it exposes the needed APIs for their mobile app. The final solution consisted of an integrated inventory and order management application and was quickly followed by a supplier portal.

“We use Tracker to control, manage, and maintain daily delivery schedules and goals for our customers. And also, to return the products back to our warehouses when these jobs are complete”

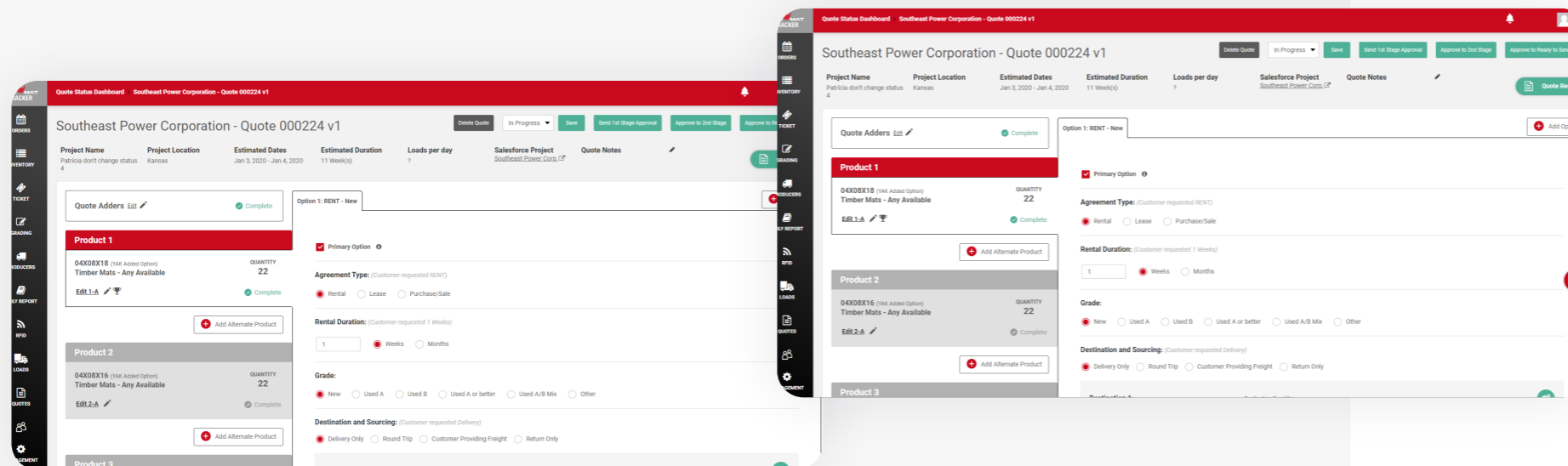
said Michael Bullock, Senior Project Manager at Yak Mat.



Taylor Fortenberry
Inventory Systems Manager, YAK MAT



The new Tracker app really allows my team to be able to quickly find the inventory and have an overall view that the ERP system does not enable us to have.





Results

Because employees can see exactly where an order is in the process and assign inventory from multiple sites, Tracker is increasing YAK MAT's efficiency along with customer satisfaction. In addition, a set of APIs enables the existing mobile application to connect to the ERP, giving access to critical information anytime, anywhere.

According to Taylor Fortenberry, Inventory Systems Manager at YAK MAT,

“The new Tracker app really allows my team to be able to quickly find the inventory and have an overall view that the ERP system does not enable us to have.”



Impact & Metrics



High Volume Handling Managed

2M quotes monthly, averaging 200 per minute



Contract Growth

Facilitated 36,000 contracts in 2023



Financial Performance

Attained a €50M gross margin in 2023

Key Numbers

- 16 weeks of implementation with 3 developers
- 250 active users
- 150 to 180 concurrent users on any given day in the office and out in the field



Results



The Benefits



ERP Extension

Streamlining field operations.



Focused Expertise

Overhauling inventory tracking.



Application Agility

Enabling rapid response to business needs



Rapid Supplier Portal Integration

Showcasing unmatched adaptability and speed to market.

“What has been really exciting is what we have been able to accomplish with the support of valantic and the OutSystems platform after we went live with our initial functionality. We recently replaced an off-the-shelf tracking system that we were struggling to integrate with our ERP. The entire process to replace the back-end of that application took less than two months and allowed us to further integrate with data we already had in OutSystems and with our ERP. It completely eliminated the pain points associated with getting information from our vendors in a timely manner. By partnering with valantic and leveraging the OutSystems low-code platform we are really exceeding our business expectations,”

concludes Chris Bullock.

The Tracker app won the OutSystems “Best Custom Solution” Innovation Award.



Chris Bullock

Chief Information Officer, YAK MAT



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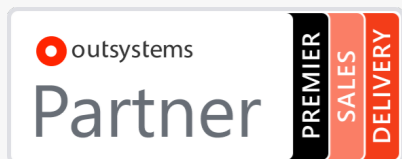
valantic

About us

valantic is a services company dedicated to building web and mobile applications using OutSystems low-code platform. We are experts in agile delivery and believe in building lean solutions that bring immediate impact to your business. Serving customers all around the world our experts can help you maximize your investment in OutSystems.

What can you achieve with low-code?

Share your specific business challenges and discover the art of the possible. Lean on us as your trusted OutSystems Partner.



Find more at

www.valantic.com/en/low-code/

