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SGL Carbon Harmonizes SAP Master Data Management Worldwide With MDC Master Data Cockpit





The Company: Products and Materials for the Industries of the Future

SGL Carbon is a technology-based global leader in the development and manufacture of carbon-based solutions. Its high-quality materials and products made of specialty graphite and composites are used in future-oriented industries such as automotive, aerospace, semiconductors, solar and wind energy, LEDs, as well as in the production of lithium-ion batteries, fuel cells and other

energy storage systems. Additionally, SGL Carbon develops solutions for the chemical and industrial applications sectors.

SGL Carbon SE generated revenues of EUR 1 billion in 2021. The globally active company employs around 4,700 people at 31 locations across Europe, North America and Asia.

An overview of the transformation project

The Challenge: Harmonizing the Company's Material Master Data Worldwide

SGL Carbon's complex and wide-ranging material portfolio makes it imperative for the company to create the master data for its materials using clearly defined processes. Until now, however, all of the processes had been defined on a site-by-site basis, making it impossible to plan and create materials

across sites. But materials and intermediate products are regularly produced at one plant and refined at another. The aim of the project was therefore to ensure globally harmonized creation of materials controlled from automata-tisms within the process.





Solution and Benefits for the Customer

SGL Carbon and valantic implemented a SAP master data management system that offers a wide range of added values:

- uniform definition of rules for creating material master data, clear definition of roles and processes
- uniform workflow-based maintenance processes worldwide and across plants
- quality controls and continuous improvement of processes
- automated composition of materials via dependencies
- new conception of a material classification
- automated standardization of material short text
- inspection of project statuses by employees at all times via valantic MDC Master Data Cockpit
- significant efficiency, time and cost improvements as well as a sharp reduction in error rates and manual input errors

Harmonized SAP Material Master Data for Global Efficiency, Time and Cost Improvements

Master data are sensitive details that are vital for all business processes. They are created in relation to products and materials, customers, suppliers, and employees. SGL Carbon initially focused on the area of material master data to enable uniform, worldwide planning and management of the production of specialty-graphite and composite-material solutions in accordance with clearly defined processes. Until

now, tasks had been sent to the respective processing teams by e-mail, which not only resulted in chaotic, non-compatible data growth, but often also in incorrect population of the input fields. Those responsible for the project expected a range of benefits from globally harmonized master data management, including significant time, efficiency and cost improvements, as well as a sharp drop in error rates.





Dream Team: SGL Carbon, SAP and valantic

SGL Carbon's global processes had already been successfully implemented in SAP. Due to its highly satisfactory experience here, the only master data management solution that came into question was one that was fully integrated in SAP. valantic, on the other hand, has received multiple awards for the quality of its consulting and made SGL Carbon the best and most compelling offer with the valantic MDC Master Data Cockpit.

As a preliminary project, SGL Carbon and valantic analyzed the entries in the material master data, and designed and implemented a new material master data taxonomy. Key components of the new taxonomy were the catalogues of characteristics along with their relevant variants, a faster, automatic composition of the materials to be produced, and the creation of standardized material short texts via simple, flexible table maintenance and dependencies. MDC's mass maintenance functionality enabled the productive materials to be reclassified quickly and easily.



"Our IT department, which is also responsible for the process governance of IT-assisted processes, provides methodological support to all business units. Amongst our permanent goals are: further improving SGL Carbon's cost position, reducing our inventory levels, and supporting the sales teams to generate more revenue. valantic is helping us here to centrally define rules, processes and data quality, enabling us to achieve global accountability."

Dr. Karin Born
Senior Vice President and Head of Information Technology at SGL Carbon

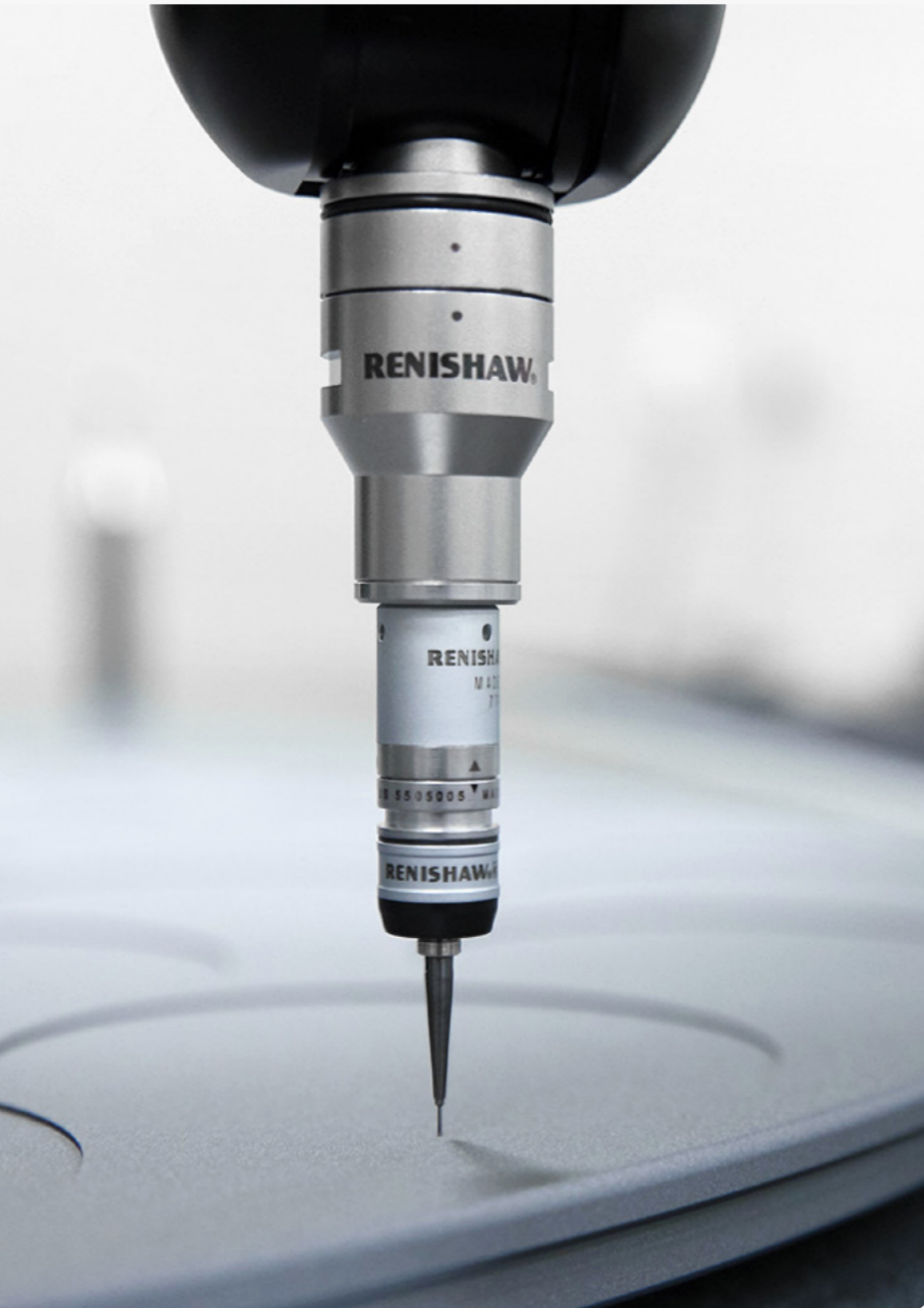


Central Management Console: valantic MDC Master Data Cockpit

Using the ergonomically arranged MDC Master Data Cockpit that is fully integrated in SAP, each employee can now review project statuses anytime, anywhere worldwide, and maintain these in line with their authorizations and responsibilities. The MDC offers employees various aids to complete their tasks effectively, such as default values and automatic short texts for expedited data entry. With its support of global workflows, MDC enables the clear, standardized, cross-plant assignment of tasks, responsibilities and processing personnel. Extensive evaluations of the master datasets, as well as progress

analyses, are available for effectively managing the master data.

After the implementation was completed, valantic presented the MDC workflows to SGL Carbon employees and provided training on how to create material master data. All of the customer's requirements were met in full, with material master datasets being created "in time" and "in quality". A precisely defined, harmonized workflow makes it possible to create and plan materials and assign tasks to processing staff across all plants, worldwide.



Master Data Quality Improvement as an Ongoing Process

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“Our successful joint project with SGL Carbon demonstrates impressively how significant efficiency gains, and quality improvements and revenue increases can be achieved through globally harmonized material master data management.”

Wiebke Brigel
Head of MDC Product Development and
Member of the Executive Board at
valantic ERP Consulting

About SGL Carbon

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<https://www.sglcarbon.com/en/newsroom/>





About valantic SAP Services

As SAP PartnerEdge Gold Partner and SAP Cloud Focus Partner, the valantic SAP Services division is a complete provider for the optimization of all processes along companies' value-creation chains. With SAP solutions and the consulting and valantic's consulting and implementation expertise, companies become intelligent enterprises thanks to continuously and intelligently networked processes with processes optimally oriented toward the customer journey. From the development of SAP strategy to implementation, the operation of SAP systems and license sales, valantic helps its customers in a wide variety of industries digitalize their company processes. The SAP portfolio includes SAP S/4 HANA, SAP Digital Supply Chain, SAP Customer Experience, SAP Finance, SAP Human Capital management (HCM), and SAP Analytics. In addition, valantic offers its own SAP add-ons for the areas of finance, human capital management (HCM), logistics, document, contract and license management, and security, as well as master data and authorization management.

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