ALPLA

Idhammar MMS: the perfect package for Alpla

Collaboration in maintenance management technology

Alpla is a world leader in the development and production of plastic packaging solutions. They produce innovative packaging systems, bottles, closures and injection-moulded parts for a wide range of industries.

Recognising the potential of Idhammar MMS

The Idhammar MMS application had been deployed at Alpla UK sites since 2005 and at their Aston Clinton site near Aylesbury since it was commissioned in 2012. Engineering Manager, Daniel Bridges was appointed in 2019 and quickly grasped the importance of maximising the benefits available from a maintenance management system. Aston Clinton is a flagship site for Alpla and Daniel was committed to retain its leading position within the group

Idhammar MMS was seen as the leading, high end computerised maintenance management system which helps organisations to enhance their maintenance practices and minimise downtime. The client version of Idhammar MMS had been available across the six UK Alpla sites for many years. Idhammar introduced Dan to the browser based version and he immediately saw the potential of a collaborative, rewarding relationship with Idhammar to deliver a CMMS system that met his needs and those of his team, both now and into the Smart Factory future.

In addition to the usual benefits of a CMMS; maximising equipment uptime, keeping assets in optimum operating condition and improving productivity, Dan was impressed by the additional functions offered by the Idhammar MMS browser version, in particular the ability to attach and view documents or images to assets, stock items and work orders.
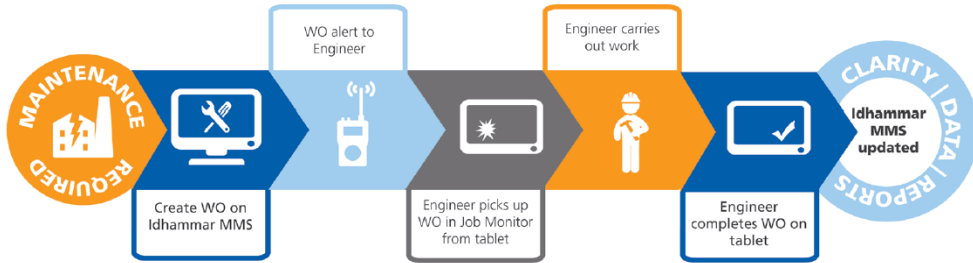
Collaborative working to meet Alpla's needs

To ensure Idhammar could provide Alpla with a truly useful system that would yield the results Dan was looking for, he and his senior engineering team visited the Idhammar development and support centre in Bristol for a collaborative working session. This approach resulted in a clear picture of Alpla needs and requirements for the project being quickly and clearly realised.

During this working session the Alpla team was introduced to Idhammar REPORTS; Dan was instantly impressed by the dashboards. Idhammar REPORTS delivers visually attractive, accurate and easy to understand real-time reporting on maintenance performance which allows maintenance teams to identify and respond to trends and operational issues. Standard, locally defined reports can be automatically distributed at predetermined intervals.

Idhammar

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Maintenance on the Move

Responding to equipment downtime events and operational requests for immediate technical assistance is a top priority for the maintenance team. The site-wide use of hand-held tablets ensures that the team is immediately alerted to any request for help and that they have access to all supporting documentation and digital images.

Smooth implementation and enthusiastic reception

The rollout at the Aston Clinton site was completed by Alpla working closely with the Idhammar implementation team with minimum disruption. Dan then had full administrative access to Idhammar MMS; screen design capabilities, setting his team members' workflow and use of the system, streamlining what they see and what information they are prompted to provide.

Idhammar MMS is intuitive and easy to use and was adopted enthusiastically by the Engineering team, resulting in improved performance by the team. Dan has greater visibility of activity and work status.

Dan is the architect of how Idhammar MMS is deployed at Alpla, creating detailed procedures to fit his operational requirements.

Reporting made easy

Idhammar REPORTS allows Dan to get a clear picture of the Maintenance status across the site without trawling through unreliable excel spreadsheets. The module delivers consistent, reliable accurate reports which can be scheduled to run and be delivered automatically. Dan can drill down to a very granular level on, for example, machinery down-time, with just a few clicks.

There's no complicated setup or knowledge needed to run the reports, as Dan said, "It's really good, straight out of the box".

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Laying the foundations for a Smart Factory

The vision for the Smart Factory is a highly digitised shop floor that continuously collects and shares data through connected machines, devices, and production systems. Alpla is laying the foundations for this through the use of Idhammar MMS together with the Idhammar OEE (Overall Equipment Effectiveness) application.

Idhammar OEE gathers data from warehousing equipment, downtime reports, bottle numbers etc., allowing Alpla to review key operational efficiency data in detail.

"This means the information flows from production to me and then on to the engineers," said Dan, "no nasty surprises, and I am able to plan ahead and use clear lines of communication."

Why Idhammar?

When asked why he chose Idhammar as Alpla's UK partner for CMMS, Dan had three main drivers:

1. **Great people**. Dan feels the customer-led, rewarding relationship Idhammar fostered during the development and implementation stage was key to the success of the project, and the level of ongoing support he receives from Idhammar is "outstanding".

2. **Customizable product**. Idhammar provided Dan with a tailored solution that enables him to set and control what members of his team see on their screen.

3. **Collaborative approach**. Dan really appreciated that "The Idhammar team will work with you and listen to your requirements in order to deliver a solution that fits your business needs. They are willing to work with you on new ideas and suggestions; it is truly a cooperative process."

Another key factor was **cost**. Idhammar fees represented exceptional value for money.

One size CMMS does not fit all...

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Choosing the right partner for their MMS system was crucial for Alpla; Idhammar listened to their requirements and collaborated for a shared success story and the ongoing relationship goes from strength to strength.

To find out more about Idhammar's products and services:

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Screen designs and system functionality are subject to change without notice

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