MANUFACTURING

SUCCESS STORY

Whitecroft Lighting boosts efficiency and accuracy with digital warehouse transformation using PreBilt™

The deployment of PreBilt™ has resulted in Whitecroft Lighting realizing immediate benefits, including increased inventory and picking accuracy, end-to-end traceability, improved productivity, quicker dispatch times, and an improved customer experience.

Company Snapshot

Whitecroft Lighting is one of the UK's largest manufacturers of commercial lighting, providing tailored lighting solutions for commercial, industrial, healthcare and education applications. Whitecroft Lighting has 370 employees, an annual turnover of £55m and undertakes all R&D, product design and manufacturing in its headquarters and neighboring 10,000sqm manufacturing facility. In recent years, Whitecroft Lighting has been at the forefront of sustainability and circularity in UK commercial lighting, leading the market in the development of products that minimize the use of material and promote reusability through replaceable modular hardware.

Industry Focus	**Manufacturing**	Devices	**iOS and Android**
System Version	**SAP WM**	Timeline	**3 months**

Challenges

- Paper-heavy processes led to inaccurate data entry
- Only way to enter warehouse data into SAP was at a central desktop in an office

Solutions

- Implemented the out-of-the-box, highly configurable solution PreBilt™, powered by Neptune DXP in less than three months
- Mobile solution allows users to carry out end-to-end supply chain activities
- Utilizing image capture functionality to take photos of orders as they are loaded onto the vehicle
- Implemented a Supply Chain Reporting solution enabling key information to be displayed on large wallboards in the production area

Benefits

- Increased inventory and picking accuracy
- End-to-end traceability
- Improved productivity
- Quicker dispatch times
- Improved customer experience

The Success Story

Challenge: Paper-heavy processes led to inaccurate data and no real-time insight into the supply chain

Whitecroft Lighting operates a central production and warehouse facility, which comprises receipt and storage of raw materials, production and storage of finished goods and dispatch to customers.

Operating SAP Warehouse Management (WM) within its facility, **all processes were completed manually, with warehouse operatives managing tasks using paperwork and then manually entering data into SAP at a central desktop in the office.**

As part of its continuous improvement program, Whitecroft was looking to **digitize its end-to-end warehouse processes to achieve real-time visibility of all stock within SAP and remove the risk of human error** while improving efficiency, accuracy and customer experience.

Whitecroft turned to PreBilt™, powered by Neptune Software, as the ideal supply chain mobility solution, due to its **direct integration with SAP and intuitive user interface**, combined with the team's in-depth knowledge and experience of supply chain operations.

Solution: PreBilt™ seamlessly integrated into SAP WM, allowing Whitecroft Lighting to mobilize a range of processes
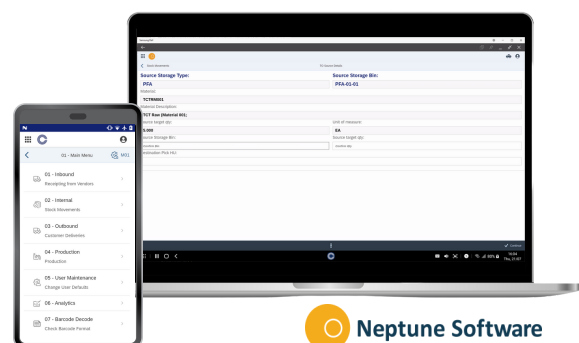
Neptune Partner's The Config Team implemented PreBilt™, a highly configurable mobile solution for the SAP supply chain, to manage stock movements within the facility.

Configuring the solution to meet the specific customer needs, PreBilt™ was **deployed to manage a range of processes, including goods receipt, putaway, staging for production, picking, packing and loading.**

The new mobile solution allows users to **carry out end-to-end supply chain activities from a mobile device, with the transactions directly updated in SAP in real time.** Teams now have live up-to-date visibility of all stock, as Danielle Howarth, Business Project Manager at Whitecroft Lighting, explains: "PreBilt™ enables much improved visibility of our stock, with the knowledge that the quantities and locations being reported in SAP are accurate, has enabled quicker and more accurate picks."

The team also **utilizes the image capture functionality to take photos of orders** as they are loaded onto the vehicle, which is then **attached to the delivery note for a complete audit trail.**

Operating a Just-in-Time approach to delivering materials for production, the manufacturer was looking to improve productivity and reduce downtime in waiting for materials. Previously there was lots of paperwork involved, transferred to different trays for various stages of the process.

Neptune Software

Whitecroft lighting

To address this need, The Config Team configured its **Supply Chain Reporting solution, which enables key information to be displayed on large wallboards in the production area.** The live data feed enables team leaders, managers and users to have **real-time visibility of the status of all orders.** It is clear to see what has been picked and staged, picked but not staged, what is in production and crucially, what work is building up to enable the reallocation of resources to busy areas, ensuring no bottlenecks are slowing down production.

Benefit: Intuitive user interface led to immediate adoption, which realized immediate benefits and ROI
With PreBilt™ **up and running in the customer environment in less than three months**, from the initial workshop, Whitecroft Lighting has seen immediate benefits in its operation, **with all operatives engaged with the new solution, finding the intuitive interface easy to use,** ensuring the quick realization of improvements.

Immediate benefits included:
- Increased inventory and picking accuracy
- End-to-end traceability
- Improved productivity
- Quicker dispatch times
- Improved customer experience

Commenting on the service provided by The Config Team, Danielle added: "The team working on our project at The Config Team were all brilliant. Some of the key consultants have been end-users, so they understood exactly what we were trying to achieve, which was really key for us and a massive plus point. The knowledge and experience instilled confidence straight away, and everyone was always very responsive, which took any implementation stress away for us."

"The introduction of PreBilt™ has transformed our operation. This was a big cultural change for us after operating with manual processes for so many years, but the user-friendly screens with PreBilt™ really aided that transition."
Danielle Howarth, Business Project Manager at Whitecroft Lighting

About The Config Team
The Config Team specializes in designing, developing and implementing innovative SAP Supply Chain solutions. Because they only focus on the SAP Supply Chain, The Config Team customers benefit from extensive specialized knowledge, experience, and innovation. For more than 25 years, The Config Team has been implementing SAP solutions for global brands across a diverse range of industries. They adopt a collaborative approach to everything they do, working together with their partners and customers to implement solutions that deliver tangible business benefits. Learn more at www.theconfigteam.co.uk

The Config Team
SAP Supply Chain Specialists

About Neptune Software
Neptune Software is a rapid application development platform vendor with more than 730 enterprise customers and over 4 million licensed end users globally that empowers IT departments to deliver tangible business outcomes. Neptune Software offers with its Neptune DXP, a leading low-code, SAP-centric, enterprise app development platform to digitize and optimize business processes and user interfaces – at scale and with ease. Neptune DXP provides a fast and cost-effective way to industrialize the development of custom applications - saving companies time and money on development, integration, and operations. More info at: www.neptune-software.com

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