

Talan Guides Elopak in its Digital Transformation with S/4HANA Cloud

Elopak's Journey in Renewable Packaging

Elopak is a global leader in the renewable packaging products industry, with a robust network of production facilities, subsidiaries, and licensees since its first plant was built in Norway in 1957. Elopak's flagship Pure-Pak carton packaging solution and Roll Fed aseptic packaging material are used in over 15 billion cartons yearly in over 80 markets around the world, generating revenues of over €1 billion. The Pure-Pak carton enjoys a reputation as a natural, sustainable, and convenient alternative to plastic bottles, suitable for a wide range of beverage products.



Overcoming The Main Obstacles: Streamlining Elopak's Global Operations

Elopak is committed to preserving the world's resources by reducing global carbon emissions through minimizing plastic bottle use in packaging. At the forefront of developing natural, renewable packaging options, Elopak promotes sustainability while providing high safety and health standards for its liquid and food packaging solutions. Their Pure-Pak technology is considered best-in-use in the industry, representing a natural solution to both sustainability issues and packaging needs. Elopak is the market leader in fresh milk and juice packaging and also provides solutions for non-food, household, and healthcare applications that eliminate the need for plastic bottles.

Key Challenges:

1. Preserving world resources by reducing plastic bottle use.
2. Developing natural, renewable packaging options.
3. Promoting sustainability while maintaining high safety and health standards.



4. Managing complex SAP and integrated, multi-system landscapes across multiple geographies.
5. Addressing the gaps in US and Canadian operations to align with global processes.

Seamless Integration: Talan's Tailored Solutions for Elopak

Elopak now runs SAP S/4HANA Cloud to manage operations in its technologically advanced plants, production facilities, and filling machine operations, as well as in its Innovation and Engineering departments. These departments perform applied research on sustainable materials and work on improving product performance and quality standards. SAP solutions also assist Elopak in continuing to innovate its future solutions for every conceivable use of their recyclable, renewable, and environmentally friendly packaging options, thus helping reduce plastics in packaging and lowering the world's carbon footprint.

Key Implementations Driving Elopak's Success

The journey of Elopak with Talan began in 2019 when Elopak sought a strong North American partner to help in its global initiative to replace its core ERP system. Elopak aimed to streamline its organizational business processes to a more standardized approach following best practices – which are more repeatable and cost-effective in the long run to adopt, implement, maintain, and innovate with. Elopak's SAP solution encompasses the complexities and expanse of its SAP and integrated, multi-system, third-party landscape tailored to its large multi-geography organizational footprint with an operational and manufacturing presence across many countries.

Key Implementations:

1. **Global Template Implementation:** Aligned with Elopak Corporate and EU operations but tailored for North American context and business intricacies.
2. **Fit Gaps Analysis:** Conducted for every new location to capture deviations from the template.
3. **Consistent Teams:** Ensured learning, collaboration, and cumulative expertise for successful outcomes.
4. **Change Management:** Special focus on key user and end-user training in every rollout.
5. **Data Conversion and Backfilling:** Ensured day-to-day operations ran smoothly with timely backfilling of important business roles.

Remarkable Outcomes: Measurable Benefits for Elopak

Talan played an important role as an insightful local partner in executing the strategic roadmap for Elopak North America. By implementing a global template aligned with Elopak Corporate and EU operations and tailored for the North American context, Talan addressed gaps in



Elopak's US and Canadian operations. This template-driven approach facilitated consistent learning and collaboration across geographies, resulting in cumulative expertise, incremental benefits, and successful outcomes for future rollouts.

Results:

- **Enhanced Operational Efficiency:** Streamlined business processes and improved operational efficiency.
- **Cost Control:** Gained better control over costs and maintained budget adherence.
- **Global Alignment:** Achieved alignment of global business processes with local intricacies.
- **User Confidence:** Established user confidence through effective training and change management.
- **Timely Delivery:** Delivered all projects on time and on budget.

Strategic Partnership

Why Talan Was the Ideal Choice

Fit Gaps were conducted for every new location or plant to capture deviations from the template. The template was used to drive projects and changes across Elopak, with tight controls to safeguard and retain alignment with the global template. Ownership roles and responsibilities in every area of the program and project delivery were clearly outlined and communicated with a shared responsibility model involving both Talan and Elopak teams. A well-executed balance with global teams and local key business and IT roles ensured proper representation of all regional business processes, legal and reporting requirements, testing, and user acceptance. This approach ensured first-line support and service requests upon Go-Live and drove future improvements and optimizations. Solution adoption and establishing user confidence in processes, such as Fiori usage, were critical to the success of every S/4HANA project. With this in mind, change management and key user and end-user training in every rollout were given special focus.