



CASE STUDY: DISTRIBUTOR EDI IMPLEMENTATION

OVERVIEW

A very large electrical distributor, with many branches from the Northeast to Texas, needed to transition from their homegrown legacy system to a new commercial ERP.

A major consideration in making this move was how to handle their 235 EDI maps and massive monthly transaction flow. A single person had been responsible for their legacy system's EDI, and this employee was set to retire before the new ERP would be rolled out and go live throughout the distributor's branches.

SOLUTION

To avoid the effort and cost of implementing and managing the EDI process internally, the distributor turned to UniLink.

Training all personnel on the new ERP took the distributor about 16 months. At the 14-month mark of the project, UniLink had all 235 of their maps tested and approved for production. Consequently, once the distributor was ready to go live on SX.e, their EDI was ready and waiting for them to use.

BENEFITS

Immediately, the distributor moved to implement new transactions with other customers, suppliers, and buying groups.

In fact, as part of these new implementations, UniLink connected the distributor's CribMaster automated tool crib machines to automatically handle ordering from branches of their Industrial Distribution sister company.

About halfway through the ERP conversion, the original EDI guru retired, without affecting the successful completion of this transition project.