

IMPLEMENTING A GLOBALLY UNIFIED DIGITAL SOLUTION WITH SAP EH&S

How **Biesterfeld** streamlined
product safety processes with
SAP EH&S and **opesus EHS**
Product Notification

The Biesterfeld Group is an independent, family-owned group of companies that has seen continued success for more than 114 years. Since their founding in 1906, Biesterfeld has remained a family company that is active in international trade and services. They are gradually and continuously expanding their business globally.



Today, with over 30 locations worldwide – Biesterfeld is faced with legal requirements and country-specific regulatory demands on their products. It was clear to Biesterfeld that they need a solution that would fit into their robust IT landscape based on SAP to support their growing business.

COMPANY INFO

Name:
Biesterfeld Group

Founding Year:
1906

HQ:
Hamburg, Germany

Industry:
Distribution of plastics, rubber,
base and specialty chemicals

Official Website:
<https://www.biesterfeld.com>

No. of Employees:
880

No. of Locations:
> 30 worldwide

Revenue:
1,1 bil € (2019)

Business Divisions:

- Biesterfeld Plastic
- Biesterfeld Spezialchemie
- Biesterfeld Performance Rubber
- Biesterfeld International

To undertake this project, Biesterfeld reached out to find a consulting company that had to fulfill at least three criteria:

- Extensive knowledge in implementing SAP EH&S
- Consultancy expertise on managing regulatory requirements
- A solution for the upcoming regulatory requirements for Poison Centre Notifications according to CLP

Opesus fits the bill to a T. We have consultants who have many years of experience implementing SAP EH&S, navigating the complex regulatory landscape. And we also have a software called opesus EHS Product Notification that covers the end-to-end process for Poison Centre Notifications.

A UNIFIED IT LANDSCAPE

Biesterfeld faced the same challenges as any other company that do not have an integrated IT system - inconsistent data quality and high effort in data maintenance. In summer of 2016, after 18 months of implementation work with our consultants, Biesterfeld went live with SAP Environment Health & Safety (EH&S). From go-live day onwards, employees at Biesterfeld are more efficient as there was only one system as home for their data.

With SAP's integrated solution, Biesterfeld can create SDS, labels, exposure scenarios, SOPs (standard operating procedures according to TRG 555) and handle dangerous goods. Biesterfeld immediately saw an improvement in their data quality, very noticeable in their dangerous goods classification.



BENEFITS OF SAP EH&S

- Improved efficiency for international distribution
- Subsidiaries can process dangerous goods and hazardous substances data based on the respective national legislations
- Safety data sheets can be prepared quickly in different languages for all countries worldwide

PRODUCT NOTIFICATIONS DIRECTLY OUT OF SAP EH&S

With a smooth-running centralized SAP EH&S system, Biesterfeld was ready to take the next step - implement opesus EHS Product Notification (EPN). Opesus EPN is a software that support companies to generate and submit dossiers for product notifications under various national legislations. The innovative architecture of the software provides companies with the flexibility that they need. Opesus EPN supports notifications to the:

- German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (German BfR)
- Swiss Chemical Register (Swiss BAG)
- EU Poison Centre Notifications (EU PCN)
- EU SCIP Database Notification (EU SCIP).

INNOVATIVE ARCHITECTURE OF OPESUS EPN



The opesus EPN engine has underlying functionalities that support various product notification formats. Customers can pick and choose which formats they wish to license and when they would like to license them.

opesus EPN runs within SAP EH&S. Therefore, training efforts were minimal as it provides users with a unified interface for their daily work. Using opesus EPN to generate and submit dossiers was just an extension of the work that they're already performing in SAP EH&S. Even implementation was straightforward - the adaptations required to run opesus EPN were minimal.

Today Biesterfeld is up and running with the German BfR and Swiss BAG formats. The installation for the EU PCN format is well on its way and is being rigorously tested.