



## Stahlgruber GmbH

Time Savings of up to 50%  
in Output Data Archiving Process



So far the company with a long standing tradition in car repair had to go to considerable trouble in order to archive COLD (Computer Output to Laser Disk) documents and to subsequently extract them for the respective departments. Now with the seamlessly integrated technology platform Esker DeliveryWare in IXOS/Open Text time savings of up to 50% are possible: from approximately 30 to just 16 hours per COLD document.

### Configuration

- Application: IXOS archiving system

## The situation

### High Volume Data Archiving

As one of the largest wholesalers in the car mechanics and replacement parts trade, Stahlgruber serves about 70 resellers in Germany and Austria with a product range of approximately 200,000 articles for cars and other motor vehicles. Consequently, Stahlgruber has to deal with about 15 gigabytes of data every year resulting from invoices, order confirmations and delivery notes.

The company's central data centre located at its headquarter in Poing near Munich is in charge of document archiving and of maintaining the electronic archiving system IXOS 5.5c. Every day large amounts of print lists from host and legacy applications need to be stored as COLD documents.

## The requirements

### Reduced Workload in the Data Centre

In order to make these documents available for review by the various departments within Stahlgruber, receipt numbers, dates as well as customer reference numbers and Customer names have to be extracted from print lists and made available for indexing purposes. Before implementing the new Esker solution, Stahlgruber used individual IXOS tools based on the script programming languages Perl and AWK. The use of these indexing tools was rather time consuming and additionally required specific programming knowledge.

## The solution

### Teamwork between Esker and IXOS/OpenText drives COLD Archiving System

In order to simplify the entire process, Stahlgruber decided to integrate the Esker COLD module with the existing IXOS solution.

Esker COLD which is based on the Esker DeliveryWare

technology platform could be integrated seamlessly with the existing IXOS archiving system. The core part of the solution consists of a high performance Business Rules Engine with a particularly user-friendly graphical user interface. By using General Document Recognition (GDR), a highly intelligent automation technology developed by Esker, the content of any output can easily be recognised. The GDR technology will then initiate rules-based processes to create documents in the desired format, ensures the right address label is added and sends the documents straight to the archive. This process enabled Stahlgruber to automate basically every single phase of the information transmission process. It also made it possible to adapt documents to the highest degree possible and to format them in a professional way. Even picture formats are now optionally available.

The software solution searches for specific content within the print stream which is recognised based on pre-defined fields such as customer name, customer reference number, date etc. This then forms the basis for the creation of an index file used for extracting data and sending it to the archive, simply by selecting commands from a menu bar and guided by the graphical user interface.

All formats commonly used in legacy host applications are supported including ASA code. No further programming know-how is necessary for extracting attributes. Due to a standardised and pre-configured interface to the archive connector the implementation of customer specific requirements could be realised with little additional effort.

## The benefit

**"The new solution enables us to make changes to the format of our print lists within just a few hours. Overall it considerably reduces the workload for everybody involved in the process."**

Peter Schoene ■ Project Manager ■ Stahlgruber

## High Level of Acceptance among all Users

The implementation effort was significantly reduced due to standardised interfaces and the support of many different formats for converting COLD data. It took only two days to deploy the solution and to make it productive, and within a period of just five days it was

“With the new Esker solution we were able to achieve time savings of up to 50% in the daily process of adjusting documents formats in our print lists.”

Peter Schoene ■ Project Manager ■ Stahlgruber GmbH

possible to replace the former programming-intensive IXOS tools completely. The cooperation was excellent, problems were solved immediately.

“One of the main reasons for choosing this highly integrated solution which allows us to continue to use existing legacy applications was the good cooperation between Esker and IXOS/OpenText.”

Peter Schoene ■ Project Manager ■ Stahlgruber

The turnaround time for adaptations to the print lists could be reduced considerably, and both administration and operation of the conversion process could be simplified. The various departments are now able to access relevant documents much faster than in the past.

A comfortable and intuitive Windows-based user interface and easy administration of the system have led to a high level of acceptance.

#### About Stahlgruber

STAHLGRUBER has approximately 5,000 employees world-wide. The company's TIP TOP products are being sold in over 170 countries. Stahlgruber is one of the leading wholesalers in the car parts aftermarket with more than 70 resellers in Germany and Austria.

The company's success is based on a large number of comprehensive innovations and modern services. Key factors are the attractive product offering and superior logistics. The portfolio comprises over 160,000 car articles of premium quality.

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