SAP Customer Success Story
Chemicals

“Using SAP Environment, Health & Safety, we can now be lean and efficient.”

Dieter Sydon
Product Steward Team Leader
Momentive Performance Materials GmbH

MOMENTIVE PERFORMANCE MATERIALS
STAFF OF 15 MANAGE GLOBAL COMPLIANCE WITH SAP® SOFTWARE

QUICK FACTS

Company
- Name: Momentive Performance Materials GmbH
- Headquarters: Albany, New York (global); Leverkusen, Germany (European)
- Industry: Chemicals
- Products and services: Silicones, quartz, ceramics, sealants, and adhesives
- Revenue: US$2.5 billion (global)
- Employees: 5,000 (global)
- Web site: www.momentive.com
- Implementation partners: Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu (New York), TechniData AG (Markdorf, Germany)

Implementation Highlight
Rapid, 5-month rollouts in Europe, Asia-Pacific, and the Americas

Why SAP
- Strong EH&S functionality for chemicals companies
- Tight integration between SAP EH&S and overall business solution
- The global standard for enterprise business solutions

Benefits
- Single, centralized system for substance data management, reporting, compliance
- Efficient operations with low headcount
- Optimized workflow, with significant reductions in cost and transaction time
- Faster operations through SAP EH&S expert rules engine - 90% faster than manual processes
- Increase in productivity via link to content providers who update regulations
- 100% integration with sales, distribution, production, and logistics

Existing Environment
Parent company’s mainframe-based applications and shared services

Third-Party Integration
- Database: Oracle
- Hardware: IBM
- Operating system: UNIX

Challenges and Opportunities
- Ensure compliance with environment, health, and safety regulations worldwide
- Introduce uniform substance-data management across company
- Minimize headcount, maximize automated processes for competitive prices and margins
- Keep pace with changing compliance rules and regulations across many countries

Objective
Install a single solution with a centralized database to manage global compliance

SAP® Solution and Services
SAP® Environment, Health and Safety (SAP EH&S) application
Momentive credits the SAP® Environment, Health and Safety (SAP EH&S) application for its lean operations. “We can now work very efficiently,” says Dieter Sydon, product steward team leader at Momentive Performance Materials GmbH, the Leverkusen, Germany–based European headquarters. “We stay compliant globally via an SAP EH&S link to outside content providers who update us with regulatory data; we would need dozens of analysts to do this ourselves. SAP EH&S is 100% integrated into our daily workflow across sales, distribution, production, and logistics to ensure rapid, continuous compliance along our supply chain. We now have a single, centralized system, with global access to each product and database.”

Customer orders are checked automatically against the SAP EH&S database for hazardous or dangerous goods. Material safety and data sheets (MSDSs) and labels are automatically printed and faxed or e-mailed to the customer – in the correct language and in conformance with relevant national regulations, like the German Federal Water Management Act or the Danish MAL code. Momentive production personnel can access the documentation for warehouse and recipe management and transport decision making. In emergencies, Momentive can quickly retrieve the information worldwide to get response teams the data they need.

All with 15 stewards – whose responsibilities include regulatory compliance, classification and labeling, product life-cycle management, dangerous goods inspections, and training for employees. That’s the lean profile a midsize chemicals firm needs in today’s environment of volatile raw material prices, increased compliance costs, and global competition.

“When you can work efficiently with a lean team, it’s good for your prices and margins,” Sydon says. “Today, you must be compliant, you must be competitive, and you must be fast. Only with strong software solutions like SAP EH&S can you meet all these business requirements at the same time. Our goal is zero compliance defects. We need a powerful product like SAP EH&S to support that.”

Merger Drives Global Compliance Solution

Momentive implemented SAP EH&S, along with SAP enterprise resource planning software, when it began operations as GE Bayer Silicones. The new company – a joint venture between General Electric and Bayer – was no longer able to use the parent companies’ IT systems or shared services. Momentive conducted a business analysis in conjunction with Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu and determined that SAP software was the best solution for the new venture.

Sydon says, “SAP EH&S was a key component of the decision to run SAP business software, because all regulatory checks are performed by the application. SAP EH&S was tightly integrated with the overall business solution and would enable us to integrate multiple substance databases. It was user-friendly, and it could import data from outside content providers.”

Momentive engaged implementation partner TechniData AG (Markdorf, Germany) for a series of five-month SAP EH&S rollouts – first across Europe, then in Asia-Pacific. TechniData is a strategic development partner for SAP and the leading provider of solutions for product, chemical, environmental, and health and safety compliance. The company
develops, implements, and operates software that allows companies to shape and optimize the sustainability of their business processes in a legally compliant manner.

"TechniData had deep knowledge of SAP EH&S functionality," Sydon says. "Its consultants were also very experienced in the chemicals business. This was very important for our implementation. You need to have consultants who understand the specifics of your industry – properties, substances, flash points, technical terms, regulations, and so on."

SAP EH&S not only helped the new venture get off the ground quickly, it enabled faster business consolidation – a big issue in the chemicals industry today. Since its launch, Momentive has absorbed another company. With the SAP EH&S application’s centralized database and compliance management functionality, Momentive was able to quickly integrate the new organization and business processes. This led to quicker synergies and faster realization of the corporate objective in the acquisition.

**SAP EH&S Cuts Across All Arenas**

SAP EH&S is used all across the Momentive enterprise. In sales and distribution, employees don’t directly access the environmental, health, and safety data, but when they execute a customer order, SAP EH&S automatically compares the order against a database to identify compliance requirements. On the production side, users have ready access to the SAP EH&S document management system when they need to get the latest version of safety data. R & D employees use the software when they need to evaluate compliance needs.

"In addition, we display SAP EH&S information on our Web site," Sydon says. "For each product, customers can view material safety data sheets in their own language." That multilingual capability is crucial to a global company. Says Sydon, “We do business worldwide, and we need to issue documents in the national language of the countries where we sell. SAP EH&S provides us with the multilingual phrase library from the Chemical Exchange Directory. The directory is a compilation of more than 8,000 expressions in 36 languages, along with updates, enhancements, and corrections. This phrase library is 100% integrated with SAP EH&S.”

That’s not the only way Momentive speeds operations. The SAP EH&S expert rules engine also slashes time. "The SAP EH&S expert rules engine is 90% faster than manual processes," Sydon says. "You enter the product and its physical and chemical properties, run the expert rules, and it automatically breaks down the product into its chemical composition based on substances. It gives you the classification with the risk and safety statements mandated by the EU. It creates the occupational and exposure limits for inclusion in the MSDSs and displays global inventory automatically, without any manual intervention."

**Open Solution Pulls in Critical Content**

Sydon again mentions the importance of being able to connect with content providers – like TechniData and 3E (Carlsbad, California) – allowing Momentive to remain current with national and global standards, rules, and regulations. The link is enabled by the SAP EH&S open content connector interface. With the SAP software, Momentive can now keep pace with changing legislation and automatically update its database around classification and labeling, occupational exposure limits, notification status, and health and environment.

The TechniData CLEO database contains more than 200,000 chemical substances and their identifiers, properties, and data on regulations and international legislation. 3E’s Ariel products and services aggregate global chemical and regulatory contents. Ariel products contain more than 700 complete regulatory lists covering nearly 4,000 data elements spanning more than 75 countries – including
in-depth chemical hazard data for more than 330,000 substances and more than 300,000 chemical links covering 5,000 regulated chemical groups.

This lets Momentive identify, track, maintain, and comply with international regulatory guidelines and quickly effect mass updates across its global database. “Without these content providers, it would be impossible to get the complete data into our system without significantly more headcount,” Sydon says. “Many countries have their own national regulations and exposure limits, and it is difficult to constantly check these regulations for 100% compliance.”

New Version Embraces EU Regulations

Momentive is next planning an upgrade to the newest version of SAP EH&S to help it better comply with the Registration, Evaluation and Authorization of Chemicals (REACH) regulations, the European Union’s rules for chemicals and their safe use. REACH aims to improve the protection of human health and the environment through better, and earlier, identification of the properties of chemical substances.

REACH puts greater responsibility on industry to manage the risks from chemicals and to provide safety information on substances. Manufacturers and importers will be required to gather data on the properties of chemical substances to enable safe handling and to register that information in a database managed by the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) in Helsinki.

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Dieter Sydon, Product Steward Team Leader, Momentive Performance Materials Inc.

“Momentive has made a commitment to abide by a code of conduct that emphasizes responsible care,” Sydon says. “Our customers order from us because we have the right products for their applications at the right price, but they also require environmental compliance and correct labeling, packaging, and paperwork. This is our obligation to customers – and to society – and SAP EH&S helps us fulfill that trust.”