

## AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCT LINE MOVE

## THE CHALLENGE

Our client, the world's largest electronics manufacturing services company, provides a full range of global manufacturing and supply chain management services to the world's premier high-tech electronics companies. Their offerings include new-product design and introduction services, materials management, product manufacturing, and product warranty and end-of-life support. The company had sales of \$11 billion in fiscal 2003.



The Client had an aggressive, drop dead deadline need to move a manufacturing line related to production of automotive circuit boards (anti-lock brakes and airbags) from the west coast to the east coast. As part of this move, the software systems used to support the production line needed to be analyzed, upgraded and tested.

**iSOLUTION™**  
Methodology

The effectiveness of our approach produces solid results: Quality applications delivered on time and within budget.

- Business priorities drive the planning
- Business requirements are central to the solution
- Business benefits are realized more rapidly

## THE SOLUTION

This effort began as a quick high-level study to determine which systems needed to be migrated and/or upgraded. TiBA Solutions worked with various internal user groups to identify the requirements. The groups included manufacturing product managers, engineering, quality assurance (QA) and information technology.

As a result of the study, several sub-projects were completed to accomplish the move:

- Re-developed the interfaces between test equipment and QA PCs on the production line. The test equipment is used to verify anti-lock brake and air bag circuits as they are produced. Unique testing stations for each configuration had to be tested.
- Worked with designer to analyze options for improving the processes and software used for the packing and shipping operation for the production move. A new process needed to be developed at the new site due to the detailed tracking requirements for the finished product.
- Assesses and documented reports used for analysis of production and QA processes. Included analysis of data sources as well as recommendations for web access to internal as well as customers reports).

- Performed a gap analysis between legacy "Trace" application and current shop-floor application. Purpose of both applications is to track history of circuit boards and components used for anti-lock brakes and air bags. The systems are needed to provide federally mandated traceability of the product history and components should the customer need such information.
- Provided analysis of the "Trace" Fixed Scanner application. This application captured data as finished product passed a "fixed" position scanner.
- Developed a new Bill of Material (BOM) Component Load & Replenishment application.

## TECHNOLOGIES USED:

- Microsoft Visual Studio 6 (Visual Basic 6.0)
- Microsoft SQL Server 2000
- Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0
- GPG data encryption

## THE BUSINESS VALUE

The value brought by completing this critical product line move on schedule was a significant savings in manufacturing costs without an interruption in customer supply. In addition, IT projects already underway were not interrupted to address this aggressive project schedule.

The value TiBA Solutions brought was the ability to:

- Respond quickly when needed with energized, experienced staff.
- Assume a certain amount of risk, thereby mitigating the clients risks.
- Utilize a disciplined methodology (**iSOLUTION™**) for finding and extracting detailed business and system requirements that result in the job being done right the first time.
- Thoroughly understand the manufacturing environment.
- Leverage extensive experience in encryption, data interchange and related technologies.