SAINT GOBAIN GLASS

SUCCESS STORY

Everysens

SAINT-GOBAIN

When digitalization serves the industry.

OVERVIEW

Saint Gobain and traceability

Before it become windows, shower doors, verandas or windscreens, glass is treated and cut to dimensions from huge glass panels. Manufactured by Saint Gobain Glass and distributed to various customers to be transformed, these glass panels travel between the factories on easels.

To optimize this supply chain, Saint Gobain called on Everysens' logistics visibility platform.

- 5000 easels in Europe
- 1 easel costs more than 4000€
- Each easel transports 24 tons of glass per trip

Saint Gobain Glass has been committed for 2 years to transform its supply chain by focusing mainly on customer-centricity and innovation.

In this context, transport plays a critical role as it intervenes at each step of the product's lifecycle. Logistics innovation is therefore one of Saint Gobain's priorities: the challenge is to pilot the easels' routing operations so as to ensure on-time delivery while reducing associated costs.

TACKLING CRITICAL BUSINESS ISSUES

Balancing flows to ensure a high quality of service

The route flows being long and in open circuit, inventory imbalances rapidly arise among the factories. The easels' availability determines the good functioning of Saint Gobain's internal logistics. Each one of the 18 factories needs to have a minimum of easels ready to use at any time: without an easel, delivery becomes an impossible mission !

With Everysens, Saint Gobain will get access to an updated, reliable and global inventory. A warning system will alert the users concerned when easels from a certain type are short in supply in a factory. One of the expected gains would be to minimize the number of delayed orders.
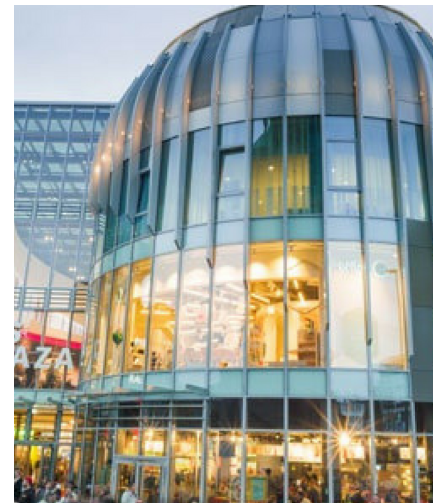
The internal ERP: a tool ill-fitted for real-time logistics

The ERP depends on manual entries. Upon leaving the factory, the driver declares which order he is transporting. The warehouse manager has beforehand linked this operation to an easel in the WMS. This pairing being manual, it can be circumvented by a generic code.

Immobilization : an underused fleet

Today, depending on its orders' frequency, a client can keep an easel for as long as 6 months. During this time, the easel is often used for stocking only. Easels could until now be available at a client's without Saint Gobain being aware of it: the glassmaker could not put the easel back in use.

On Everysens' logistics visibility platform, operations managers are alerted in case of retention: zones with a high density of underused equipments are detected according to business rules specific to Saint Gobain's activity. It will then be possible to adjust internal logistics to the various customers' needs.

Another issue regards the return trips to a factory. The easel being empty, these return trips are not coupled with any order inside the ERP. Hence, the easel is not tracked on these transports. Its registering is also not systematic when it arrives at the plant, since it is a self service procedure.

The internal ERP is therefore able to track Saint Gobain's easels only partially: each year, a 20% gap is observed on the fleet between the field and the ERP data. In the interests of continuous availability, easels are therefore being bought each year, event though the current fleet could be sufficient to answer transportation needs.

Everysens tracks easels in real time. Each easel is registered on the visibility platform, making their localization accessible in the blink of an eye. Connecting Everysens to the ERP will allow Saint Gobain to be notified in case of discrepancies between field and numeric databases. The goal: cut down the CAPEX.

Scattered information: when raw data is no longer enough

Data cross analysis generates information. Data fragmentation therefore impairs value creation. The WMS, TMS and ERP each store different pieces of information concerning easels and glass panels deliveries. This

hinders the operational teams' productivity: they can only access uninterpreted raw data.

Everysens is able to centralize real-time information coming from sensors with data from the glassmaker's IS. Saint Gobain can then benefit from both a reliable set of information and a conformity check tool on the ERP data, keeping operational teams from numerous cumbersome information retrieval tasks.

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> *I had difficulties allocating easels optimally between my european factories. I tested several tracking platform, but they were not giving me relevant information for my specific use case. With Everysens, I now have a business view on my data at any time. I can also easily detect utilization patterns.*
>
> **Alexandre Bousquet**
> *Logistics and cutting manager @Saint Gobain Glass Industry*

Expected Gains

- Information reliability
- Increase in operational productivity
- Investment fitted to business needs

A BUSINESS-CENTRED AND RELIABLE IOT SOLUTION

Everysens got in on the tracking and logistics optimization project in January 2018, by testing its visibility solution on a sample of the easels' fleet.

Saint Gobain had then already completed pilots with other technological solutions: UltraWAN beacons were tested for indoor tracking, and IoT sensors were tried outdoors. But both were paired with a basic GPS visualization platform, which did not suit the glassmaker's specific needs: from a business point of view, the data processing

was not enriched enough.

The alliance of information reliability and ergonomy offered by Everysens' logistics visibility platform seduced Saint Gobain Glass
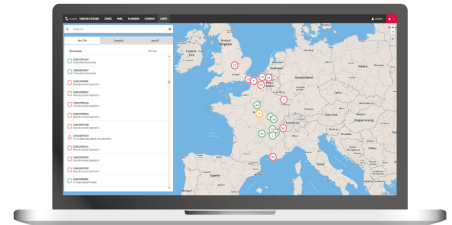
WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Request a demo on www.everysens.com

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