

KUWAIT NATIONAL PETROLEUM COMPANY

Standardizing Enterprise LIMS to SQL*LIMS

Company Background



The Kuwait National Petroleum Company (KNPC) is the national oil refining company of Kuwait. Established in October 1960, KNPC handles the responsibility of oil refining, gas liquefaction and distribution of petroleum goods in Kuwait. The unprecedented growth in the worldwide demand for energy has presented KNPC with the opportunity to transform their business into a leading global provider. They plan to do this by aligning performance, people and practice to this changed environment.

Key Challenges

With three refineries total, Mina Abdullah, Mina Ahmady and Shuaiba, KNPC hoped to implement a solid, stable, scalable and user-friendly Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) among their refineries.

They were looking for a LIMS that enabled electronic data transfer of results directly to customer systems, statistical data that controlled processes and closely monitored the performance of service to customers, improved documentation and records for audits and easy access to historical data. Along with these new updates, another KNPC goal was to reduce manpower by removing paperwork systems and capture data directly from instruments. They needed a LIMS that would help their laboratories comply with quality standards such as ISO 9001. The solution had to improve laboratory efficiency and assist compliance with regulatory and quality standards to maximize value from their laboratory.

KNPC has standardized on the SQL*LIMS platform enterprise-wide allowing them to leverage assets and work processes...

Solution

LABVANTAGE has been in operation at KNPC since 1998. Before they installed our LIMS, their challenge was having many technicians who were not aware of PC principles. This made it very difficult to run an SOP or know the work load distributions in each section and efficiency of each technician.

Now, LABVANTAGE operates on 3 different refineries. Mina Abdullah Refinery was the first location to receive the system implementation in 1998, with the latest and third upgrade taking place in 2007. Mina Ahmadi was soon to follow, with installation in 2000 and Mina Shuaiba refinery in 2001. KNPC has standardized on the SQL*LIMS platform enterprise-wide allowing them to leverage assets and work processes. SQL*LIMS is the official repository for all KNPC specifications and sample plans, and for all the quality information on their products. Main functionalities include routine sample set-up and definition, sample log-in, work scheduling, manual result entry and more.

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Key Benefits Include

- Improved productivity & efficiency of lab operations
- Lab data are traceable, retrievable and available to users in a timely manner
- Lab data are accessible, even remotely, using powerful query tools
- Improved data management (SQC, Superb Query, etc.)
- Improved laboratory management (workload monitoring)
- Improved data accuracy
- Improved format of reporting
- Reduced paperwork

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Looking To the Future

Moving forward, KNPC plans to undergo a unification project that involves creating a single LIMS database for all three refineries. They also plan to migrate to the latest LIMS version, LABVANTAGE 6.

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