

PETRONAS LUBRICANTS ITALY

Meeting Requirements Through LABVANTAGE's High Configurability

Company Background



PETRONAS is a leading oil and gas company with business interests in 35 countries. With headquarters in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, it ranks among the FORTUNE Global 500 largest corporations in the world. Much of their success is due to their ability to strike a balance between being a state-owned entity and a full-fledged commercial organization. The entire PETRONAS Group consists of 103 wholly owned subsidiaries, 19 partly owned outfits and 57 associated companies.

PETRONAS's major facets of business include exploration and production, downstream (oil and petrochemicals), gas and power, logistics and maritime, and technology and engineering. Through their exploration and production subsidiary, PETRONAS Carigali Sdn Bhd, they engage in locating, exploring, and producing oil and gas reservoirs. Their oil business covers refining, marketing, trading and retail operations, while their gas business activities embrace the entire value chain right from the exploration and production of natural gas to gas processing and liquefaction, gas transmission pipeline operations, marketing and trading, liquefied natural gas shipping and regasification, gas district cooling and supply of industrial utilities.

The PETRONAS subsidiary in Italy, PETRONAS Lubricants Italy, was fully established in 2008 as a result of the union between FL Selenia and PETRONAS's own Lubricant Unit. Their pledge as a Fluid Technology Solutions company is to offer the best lubricants and functional fluids to the world. Their mission is to strengthen its position as the preferred partner of global OEMs in the development of next generation vehicles and to build its brand globally and establish strong association with quality, reliability and technology.

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System Sought

In early 2012, PETRONAS Lubricants in Villastellone, Italy was searching for a laboratory information management system (LIMS) that would satisfy their various requirements. They were looking for a consistent and robust repository that tracked analyses (internal and experimental samples and benchmark study for competition), secured current and historical information, shared data internally and measured certain key performance indicators. Additionally, they wanted a system that adhered to the ISO 17025 standard, which is highly requested to fully track samples and consumables. Finally, they needed a system that helped them monitor and track every sample using audit and electronic signature.

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System Selected

During the selection process, PETRONAS Lubricants evaluated several LIMS vendors but selected LABVANTAGE because of their strong presence in Italy and credibility among similar organizations. In addition, they chose LABVANTAGE because LABVANTAGE 6 allows the user to configure the system and avoid heavy customizations. The advantage of a high configurable solution is that it is easier to implement, it is less costly per hour for an engineer to configure than customize, and there is a lower cost of ownership in the code.

System Delivered

Due to the flexibility LABVANTAGE 6 offers, LABVANTAGE was able to go live with 90% of PETRONAS's requirements met by configuration rather than customization. Carlo Guidotti, Chief Information Officer at PETRONAS Lubricants Italy, stated, "The application is robust, flexible, and complete; it allowed us to obtain what we needed with very few customizations. The technology behind the LIMS is also state of the art." The configurable nature of LABVANTAGE enabled the system to be fully implemented in less than a year since there was less documentation to create for development and testing of the configuration-based changes compared to systems requiring heavy customization.

"LABVANTAGE 6 is definitely a successful solution for PETRONAS Lubricants Italy. It met all of our requirements," said Guidotti. In the near future LABVANTAGE will include connected instruments such as ICP, MECOIL and viscosimeter and PETRONAS will go live in the research and development department as well as in a department related to metal working fluids. After that, PETRONAS plans to continue expanding their use of LABVANTAGE 6 to other sites around the world.

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