

Machine Learning Al Data Standardization Software for the Enterprise

Refresh™ Software Customer Case Study: Top 10 Global Aluminium Company



One of the World's top three modern Aluminium Smelters - Key Facts:

Producing:

3 Million Metric tonnes of Aluminium 50 million Gallons per day of Water 4000 Megawatts of Electricity

Revenue:

Approx. 7 Billion USD

Managed Goods + Services spend: Approx. 2 Billion USD

Number of Employees:

Approx. 7 000

Number of Materials: Approx. 200 000

ERP System/s: SAP ECC 6.0 & SAP HANA

Level of Operations Knowledge: Extremely High. Quality-focused organization with operational strength

Refresh Usage:

Refresh Desktop for all cleansing Refresh Server for material create / change governance workflow instead of SAP MDG

Current Status:

All new materials created in SAP today through Refresh Server All key material groups cleansed in Refresh Desktop Scope Extended a year later to include Alumina Business Unit and large smelter.

Sites Live with Refresh:

Entire 6km2 site including:
Aluminium Smelter & Casting Ops.
Carbon Plant
Power Station
Desalination Plant
Warehouses & Storage
Shipping Port
Offices & Administrative functions

Refresh Languages: English

Deployed Refresh Standards: eOTD ISO 8000, UNSPSC, eClass Intrastat / HS Code (Harmonized System Code / HTS Code Harmonized Tariff Schedule Internal SAP Material Group





Business Challenge:

With more than 30 years of excellence in high quality aluminium production, the company expects the same high quality standards from its master data. Being the world's largest single site aluminium smelter with a captive power station means having close to 100 000 material masters in one SAP plant. The major facilities spread over 500 hectares (six square kilometers) include a 3 million metric tonne perannum primary production, a 4000 megawatt power station, a 50 million gallon per day water desalination plant and a significant shipping port. Some years back the company had implemented SAP and was dealing with the practical challenges of how to leverage the system to achieve its expected benefits. A previous effort of outsourcing the material data cleansing to a well-known off-shore data cleansing company had not achieved the level of quality desired and so the main problem remained:

How best to increase the data quality of the existing materials, especially with consistent commercial and technical short and long descriptions & characteristics?

A detailed RFQ was issued seeking software to bring existing materials to the desired level of quality "once and for all", as well as get new materials created "right-first-time". Software vendors from all over the world competed for the work.

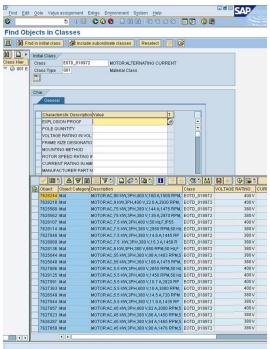
"You demonstrated a high degree of professionalism and keen interest in supporting the project."

Head of Maintenance Planning & Reliability

The Solution:

Refresh Desktop was deployed within one week of purchase with the operations and IT teams participating very actively in the kick-off workshop. Refresh Server was customized to automate & replace the 5 level paper-based approvals process which had previously been in place.

But some of the most outstanding work was done by the local maintenance team using Refresh Desktop to cleanse key material groups such as electric motors. This was done by auto-generating 100% consistent SAP short, long and PO texts. These texts were generated from standardized motor attributes, some of which were mined out of Refresh from part numbers or unstructured texts from the original SAP and legacy systems. This gave true data excellence:



"On behalf of our management and all team members I would like to express my gratitude to yourselves for the outstanding work you delivered"

Head of Maintenance Planning & Reliability

Key Business Benefits:

- + Easy to find, share and purchase all materials correctly
- + Reduced working capital, duplicates and obsoletes
- + Reduced off-contract spending, better spend visibility
- + IT lowest total cost of ownership: fully re-used ERP
- + Strong foundation for continuous improvement in PM

