
Sentences™ Case Study

John Crane UK Ltd

John Crane UK Ltd is the acknowledged leader in its field – it is the world’s largest designer, manufacturer, and supplier of engineered sealing systems, solutions, and associated products.

John Crane provides the most complete selection of engineered mechanical seals, mechanical packing, and sealing support systems, complemented by power transmission couplings and centralised lubrication systems. John Crane is a subsidiary of Smiths Group PLC.

Human Resources Management

With a global sales force organised around market sectors and service centres geographically convenient to their customers, John Crane has a highly distributed workforce. Company growth and acquisition meant they needed a Human Resources (HR) solution that reflected the current global business, while supporting future organisational expansion.

The system initially supports the requirements of the global top 300 managers and eventually 3000 people will access it from around the world.

With local Intranets connected via a high-speed Internet, a web-centric HR solution provides the desired functionality while significantly reducing the cost and complexity associated with distributing traditional client-server packages.

Immediate Feedback on Requirements

Having elected to develop the system in-house, Paul Segal, Systems Manager, and Samantha Sahota from the HR team attended a Sentences training course, followed by a one-day project definition workshop to gain a clear understanding of the functional requirements.

Sentences’ unique capability for dynamic prototyping allowed Paul and Samantha to gain immediate feedback on whether their require-

ments had been precisely captured. Paul says “I was extremely impressed with Sentences’ ability to generate a fully functioning system during the workshop. It brings clarity to the process and enabled us to visualise the live system immediately.” Sam is a HR professional, not a technician, yet she was an enthusiastic and productive participant in the workshop.

Management Information and Self-Service

John Crane has developed a bespoke solution that enables their HR team to significantly improve their responsiveness, and to provide timely and accurate management information. It also permits staff to maintain their own personal details via a secure “self-service” portal.

Upon completion of the system rollout, Paul will be looking for further projects where their newly acquired Sentences skills can repeat the benefits delivered to the HR department.