



Simple But Elegant: JDS Uniphase Integrates Its Supply Chain

Friday, December 12, 2003

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To recover from the disastrous slump within the Telecommunications industry, JDS Uniphase realized that it had to streamline operations in order to be competitive and offer the service levels that its customers were demanding. Since 2001, the company has reduced head count to 5,200 from 29,000, and with that came the increased use of contract manufacturing and the resultant need to build a framework with which to manage what is now a largely outsourced supply chain.

The Bottom Line: A great deal of time and money has been spent by companies building technology to view, control, and measure trading community activity. It doesn't have to be that hard. Organizations should aim to extract more from applications already deployed, and use them as the platform to extend its reach further up the supply chain.

What It Means: With the JDS Uniphase commitment to a hosted version of Oracle 11i, to make it the information backbone of its operations, the company wanted real-time data retrieval from its operations without introducing additional applications or middleware that would require separate data stores and costly integration. So it implemented **ClearOrbit's** G.SI, the Gemini Simplified Integration Suite, to collect, by scanning bar code labels, receiving, manufacturing, shipping, and inventory management data and transmit to its Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system in real time. **The Takeaway:** Active management of inventory flowing through the supply chain creates more efficient operations and reduces cycle times.

Obviously, label compliance is a critical element of success with this approach, particularly when your supply chain includes a large number of outsourced operations. To ensure conformity, JDS Uniphase also implemented ClearOrbit's Compliance Label Manager, which allows the company to configure the form and content of labels without modification to its service providers' systems. **The Takeaway:** Central management of label creation raises compliance to near perfect levels, at a cost far cheaper than implementing separate programs with each provider.

JDS Uniphase is currently piloting ClearOrbit's Collaborative Replenishment Suite, which it plans to deploy at its contract manufacturing sites as well as their suppliers when appropriate. The implementation of the module should let the company drop ship at any point in its supply chain, as well as monitor and manage the flow of inventory as it moves through multiple tiers. **The Takeaway:** Technologies that allow central command and control is a prerequisite for managing inventory in a multi-tier supply chain.

Conclusion: Companies will have to adopt expedient data collection processes and technologies, particularly with the widespread adoption of Radio Frequency Identification (RFID). Collecting this data and passing directly to the enterprise's ERP system without costly and complicated systems integration will simplify installation and ongoing management.