

Versatile Buildings: Versatility was the Key

Versatile Buildings' Stuart Wakerley is quite up-front about the use they put XSOL to: "It is a very flexible tool and one that can be used in quite different ways - but most importantly, XSOL enabled us to achieve what we needed quickly and accurately," he says.

Stuart was introduced to XSOL when he first joined Versatile Buildings at the start of an IT Project to map the business processes for the installation of a new ERP system.

"The recommendation initially came from Price Waterhouse Cooper. We were wanting an ERP solution that went from the moment a customer walked in the door, through to delivering the product and receiving payment," explains Stuart. "XSOL Mapping was recommended as a good tool to use in defining and documenting these processes."

In order to give potential vendors the best possible brief Versatile used XSOL Mapping to gain an initial high level definition of the way they operated their business.

Versatile Garages produce a range of pre fabricated, kitset buildings from factories located in Christchurch, New Zealand and Brisbane, Australia. They also employ a team of builders who are qualified to construct the kitsets should this service be required.

Stuart was part of an eight member team responsible for capturing the various tasks engaged in how they ran their business. "I did all the mapping myself after the training from XSOL," says Stuart. "It was easy to pick up and learn... Having just started with the company it was a brilliant way of gaining a rapid understanding of how things worked."

"Because it was in real time I could put up on the screen my interpretation of how things went. Everyone could then make their input and I could instantly make the alterations and gain everyone's agreement. It really helped that it was such a visual process and that there were nice little icons of people doing the various tasks."

Having mapped the processes at a high level, they were attached to the RFP and put out to tender. XSOL will again be employed to develop a highly detailed rendering of the business processes from which the screen content for the ERP Solution will be built.

"In terms of mapping our business processes in real time it has been brilliant and the support from XSOL has matched this. Not only has it helped us to develop a complete map of our business process, but also identify where there were bottlenecks occurring."

Organisation

A building company whose range of services incorporates design, manufacture, assembly, shipping and construction of housing and ancillary buildings.

Application

Business Process definition in preparation for an ERP implementation.

Business benefits

- Flexibility
- Time savings
- Easy to use, highly visual format
 - accurately describe business processes
 - gain agreement from the team
 - ability to identify process bottlenecks