

Case Study

ACE Hardware, Israel, saves time and improves corporate culture with Excel-It

"Excel-It provided us a centralized and fully automated solution for export and import of excel and text files. The best part was how simple and quick it was to integrate with our ERP system"

-Aviram Barel, Chief Technology Officer, ACE Hardware

ACE Hardware Profile

Founded in 1924 by a small group of Chicago hardware store owners, Ace changed the retail landscape by allowing individual stores to purchase merchandise in bulk to help the customer save money.

Over 4,600 of Ace's 4,700 stores around the globe are independently owned and operated by local entrepreneurs. Ace stores come in all sizes and shapes based on the needs of each individual neighborhood.

The Challenges

Part of the internal workflow at ACE includes receiving large amounts of Excel spreadsheets from suppliers and other sources. Corporate employees are required to ensure that these files are uploaded to the IBM i for office and accounting use.

Once received from the vendor, the files needed to be submitted to the IT department. System Operators then performed the upload as their schedules permitted, sometimes taking several days depending on workloads.

The Solution

ACE chose to install Excel-It and automate the process of importing Excel spreadsheets. In under 1 hour, end users were able to save their own Excel files into a source folder where they are automatically uploaded into the appropriate physical file on the IBM i. A single installation of Excel-It is able to serve the entire office.

The Result

End users and IT staff alike are enthused about the new, time saving process. Excel files, typically received as email attachments, no longer pass through multiple hands. Since users can now upload their own files just by saving them to a network folder, the information can be available in the ERP within minutes as opposed to days.

Perhaps the group most pleased with the change is the IT department, who now have more time to focus on critical operations.

If you'd like more information:

MiNET-Inc.

Boise, Idaho

(877) 218-4354

www.minet-inc.com

Excelit@minet-inc.com

