

CASE

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Klaus H. Kristoffersen, Quality Director

PROCESS AND ○
WAREHOUSE ○
MANAGEMENT ○

FULL ○
TRACEABILITY ○

QUALITY ○
MANAGEMENT ○

OPERATIONAL ○
PERFORMANCE ○
MONITORING ○

WEIGHING, ○
LABELLING AND ○
SCANNING ○

SHOPFLOOR MANAGEMENT SUITE INCREASES COMPETITIVENESS AT FF SKAGEN A/S

FF Skagen is one of the world's leading producers of fish meal and fish oil for feed manufacturers and farmers. All products are manufactured and processed from completely fresh fish, and FF Skagen can now document their origin and quality using the Shopfloor Management Suite from Accuratech.



According to Quality Director Klaus H. Kristoffersen, it was the desire to ensure continued premium quality and thus competitiveness that made FF Skagen focus on a more efficient traceability system in 2014.

– We already had a traceability system connected to our financial management system. This made the system quite difficult to work with, so we chose to contact some of the major suppliers of traceability systems to see what they could offer us. After several meetings, we were told, much to our surprise, that they couldn't handle the task. Our production set-up and processes didn't fit into a standard system, so instead, we were referred to Accuratech for a customised solution, says Klaus H. Kristoffersen.

The very first meeting with Accuratech was positive. According to QC Manager Laila Leth Sørensen, Accuratech quickly understood the production flow and offered a generally solution-oriented approach.

– We visited Danish food manufacturer Jensen's Køkken to learn from their experiences with the **Shopfloor Management Suite**, which convinced us that this would also be the right solution for FF Skagen, explains Laila Leth Sørensen.

STRATEGIC BUSINESS DECISION

Jan Gram, IT and Administration Manager at FF Skagen A/S, explains that it was also crucial that the **Shopfloor Management Suite** was and is Microsoft-based.

– When investing time and money in a new IT system, you should always consider all scenarios. A Microsoft-based solution makes the solution future-proof to the greatest extent possible, says Jan Gram, emphasising that the **Shopfloor Management Suite** is neither intended as a quality or IT project for FF Skagen, but that this was a management decision with a business-strategic focus.

- Management wanted to meet customers' increasing desire for transparency to strengthen our competitiveness, explains Jan Gram.

ANALYSIS PHASE LED TO INCREASED AUTOMATION

In order to achieve an overview of processes and data records, Accuratech reviewed every step of the production with Laila Leth Sørensen, who served as project manager for the implementation of the **Shopfloor Management Suite** at FF Skagen A/S.

Through dialogue with the company's employees, they were able to map all processes and workflows.

– It was extremely positive to see the employees contributing with valuable knowledge and ideas. Everyone has taken ownership and therefore feels proud of the new system today, says Laila Leth Sørensen, adding that Accuratech has managed to automate far more manual processes than expected.

– It was a truly beneficial experience for the company to review and challenge all workflows. Many processes have been automated and thus made more efficient through the **Shopfloor Management Suite**. We had no preconceptions of what was possible, so Accuratech turned out to be a valuable business partner. Employees who used to write on paper are now entering data via touch-screen or PC. The system ensures that all required data have been entered before allowing you to proceed. This provides for a completely different level of data security, and in the administration, we can now monitor production data in real time and respond to deviations, explains Laila Leth Sørensen.

Today, FF Skagen has complete control to document the origin and quality of the fish from catch to finished product.

ADVANCED WAREHOUSE MANAGEMENT AND MANUFACTURE OF SPECIAL PRODUCTS

FF Skagen also develops and manufactures customised products matching individual requirements for, e.g., nutritional content, protein digestibility, binding power etc.

– This is probably where we differ from, for example, manufacturing companies in the food industry. We can mix and customise meal and oil products to exactly meet customer specifications. This places great demands on our traceability system and warehouse management. The **Shopfloor Management Suite** makes it easy to search our stock and extract various reports to provide overview. Even though we mix different types of fish meal to customise pro-

ducts for our customers, we can trace the path of any fish through all processing steps, explains Laila Leth Sørensen.

SUPPORT AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

The **Shopfloor Management System** was introduced at FF Skagen A/S in spring 2016. Subsequently, the system was implemented at FF Hanstholm A/S, an FF Skagen subsidiary.

– We were well prepared, so it was surprisingly seamless to convert to the **Shopfloor Management Suite** at FF Skagen, although I had to work long hours to begin with. Accuratech was there all the way, ready to provide any support necessary. Now that we've started using the system, new wishes and requirements arise. We write those down for a second round, recounts Laila Leth Sørensen, emphasising that the system will probably never be completely finished, as FF Skagen is a dynamic company.

She is thus anticipating continued excellent collaboration with Accuratech.



ABOUT FF SKAGEN A/S

FF Skagen is one of the world's leading producers of fish meal and fish oil, with exports to more than 60 countries worldwide. The company has more than 50 years' experience in the production of livestock and fish feed and is certified within quality, environment, energy, sustainability and feed safety. The certificate has been issued on the basis of FF Skagen's careful and comprehensive quality control system, which provides complete control over every step of the process.



FACTS ABOUT THE SHOPFLOOR MANAGEMENT SUITE AT FF SKAGEN A/S:

The Accuratech system ensures:

- Process and warehouse management
- Full traceability
- Quality management
- Exact composition of specialty products
- Reservation and order management of desired batch content

