

in Focus:

**CARVE-OUT WITH JIVS IMP**

## **JIVS PLATFORM INSTEAD OF LEGACY SYSTEM: BÜHLER AG SAVES 80% ON OPERATIONAL COSTS**

It all began with the implementation of a central SAP client. Since then, the [JiVS Information Management Platform](#) (IMP) from Data Migration International has helped [Bühler AG](#) decommission legacy systems and manage agile business scenarios such as mergers, acquisitions and carve-outs. For Bühler, this represents a saving of 80% on the projected cost of keeping its legacy systems running. The company was also able to transfer information from a spun-off business unit to a newly formed company over a period of just six months. The Swiss multinational, which is active in over 140 countries, is currently looking at implementing JiVS IMP as an integral part of its future SAP S/4HANA landscape. The aim in the long term is to keep the central ERP system lean and agile, as well as minimizing the total cost of ownership.

**“Our decision to go with JiVS platform has certainly paid dividends. It has helped us to transfer historical information, selectively migrate data and decommission legacy systems – all while saving hugely on operational costs. These are a massive 80% lower than they would have been if we’d had to continue running our legacy systems, just to have access to our data.”**

*Vidor Kapy, Head of Department Business Processes & Applications, Bühler AG*

### **Challenge**

Every day, billions of people come into contact with Bühler technologies to cover basic needs for food and mobility. To support these essential processes, Bühler develops high-quality solutions across complete value chains. Two billion people consume food produced using Bühler processes on a daily basis. And one billion travel in vehicles with parts manu-

factured using Bühler technology. Thanks to its global relevance, Bühler is in a unique position to turn today's challenges into sustainable and responsible business. The company has set itself a goal to help its customers use 50% less energy, 50% less water and 50% less waste – all by 2025.



In 2003, Bühler decided to replace a mix of different ERP systems, used by its businesses and subsidiaries, with one unified SAP client. The aim was to harmonize and map the group's global processes and provide centralized storage for all its data.

*"At that time, we had a large number of country-specific ERP systems in operation, the majority of these from SAP," explains Christophe Stoos, Head of Process and Project Management Office at Bühler AG and responsible for the SAP S/4HANA transformation. "In order to minimize the cost of migrating to the central SAP client, we wanted to avoid transferring data from our legacy systems. But at the same time, from an operational, maintenance and licensing perspective, we knew how costly it would be to keep these systems running just to access our legacy data. The JiVS platform presented an ideal solution to the problem."*

### Solution

*"Alongside legal security, the main thing we were looking for in a solution was simplicity. We didn't want to have to spend time manipulating historical data after extraction," stresses Vidor Kapy, Head of Department Business Processes & Applications at Bühler AG. "What really counted was ensuring our colleagues in finance, production and customer service could easily access our legacy data for legal or business purposes."*

Bühler used the same criteria to evaluate three other solutions. *"None of these proved as lean and agile as the JiVS platform. Then as now, we were accessing our historical data via a web browser. It couldn't have been simpler. Strong support for our SAP systems also helped to minimize the project effort," reports Vidor Kapy. "What's more, the JiVS platform required little or no maintenance."*

Since signing with Data Migration International, Bühler has transferred legacy data to the JiVS platform from a range of different SAP systems. This includes ERP solutions in Spain, Brazil, Italy, France and Germany, as well the company's HR system in Switzerland. All of these migrations incorporated the different country-specific requirements, particularly in the area of financial data. The next step was to disable the legacy systems, moving users to the central SAP client. As the JiVS platform stores legacy data along with its business context, JiVS users can work in the same way as they did in the original SAP system.

Located in the Bühler data center alongside the central SAP system, the JiVS platform not only supports the decommissioning of legacy systems, but also agile business scenarios such as carve-outs, mergers and acquisitions. *"Spin-offs and acquisitions need to be mapped to IT as quickly as possible. During*

*the Polymetrix carve-out in 2016, it was vital that only relevant legacy data was transferred – as quickly and simply as possible. It was also critical to be able to limit the migration effort exclusively to open transactions. Thanks to the JiVS platform, it took only six months, as planned, to complete a project that would normally represent a complex and laborious task for IT,"* explains Vidor Kapy. In a reverse scenario, Bühler proceeded in the same way when acquiring Leybold Optics. With all of its historical information easily accessible on the JiVS platform, only open transactions were transferred, minimizing the migration effort. Since then, Bühler has decommissioned the first of two Leybold ERP systems.

### Benefits

*"Our decision to go with the JiVS platform has certainly paid dividends. It has helped us to transfer historical information, selectively migrate data and decommission legacy systems – all while saving hugely on operational costs. These are a massive 80% lower than they would have been if we'd had to continue running our legacy systems, just to have access to our data,"* sums up Vidor Kapy.

Other decommissioning projects are on the horizon, from different SAP ERP systems in Europe to non-SAP systems in the USA and China. And the JiVS platform has an important role to play in preliminary planning and discussions on Bühler's migration to SAP S/4HANA – thanks to its flexible support of a wide range of business scenarios and the numerous enhancements in the current product generation.

*"Currently our central SAP client holds 23 years' worth of data with a volume of around five and a half terabytes. It goes without saying that we want as little of this as possible to be transferred to the HANA database,"* elaborates Christophe Stoos, confirming the current planning status. *"To minimize storage costs, we have to keep the SAP S/4HANA landscape as lean as possible, not just at the outset, but also in the long term. This makes JiVS IMP a very attractive option."*

With JiVS IMP, data and documents that are no longer operationally relevant can be continuously transferred out of SAP S/4HANA with a high degree of automation. *"For future migrations, we'll look at a number of vendors before deciding on a partner. But thanks to our positive experience, JiVS IMP will certainly make the short list,"* adds Christophe Stoos with a nod to the future.