

Cut Costs, Speed Project Timelines – How to Execute the Perfect SharePoint Migration Project

Customer:

Emerson Industrial Automation



<http://www.emersonindustrial.com/>

Client Industry:

Industrial Automation

Products Used:

Vyapin's SPListX for SharePoint
www.vyapin.com



Microsoft SharePoint 2013:
<http://office.microsoft.com/sharepoint>



Extensive and business critical use of SharePoint 2007 combined with a leapfrog migration to SharePoint 2013 called for a solution that could cut costs and take risk out of the project. With Vyapin and SPListX, Emerson Industrial Automation made the move with confidence and speed.

About the Client

Whether it's a morning cup of coffee or a glass of wine as part of the evening's entertainment, everyone expects their favorite beverages to be delivered with absolute quality and consistency. Helping customers to do that is Emerson Industrial Automation's specialty. Optimizing discrete manufacturing operations, its technologies and expertise renders machinery to be more efficient, reliable and highly available. Customers in industries including automotive, food and beverage, oil and gas, mining and wind power depend on Emerson for their operational excellence. In the drives and motors part of the business, 300 U.S. based employees work hard to deliver best in class sales, service and support across the Americas region. Being highly responsive to customers requires the backing of first class technology solutions.

The Business Challenge

Mark Gross, IT Manager for Emerson Industrial Automation and his team were planning the migration from Microsoft SharePoint 2007 to SharePoint 2013. Like many multi-national organizations, Emerson has a Corporate IT Group that provides core services like email, internet, fire wall and security across the organization. The business unit's IT teams then manage additional servers and specific business application requirements. The SharePoint migration presented an opportunity to take advantage of moving to the corporately managed SharePoint environment as part of the project. This would free up Mark and his team to spend more time focusing on the application needs of Emerson Industrial Automation's business users.

Challenge: To migrate from SharePoint 2007 to SharePoint 2013 while managing a large volume of data and working with custom features.

Benefits of Using SPListX:

- **Reduced data by 50% through clean up**
- **Saved hours of time in extracting data**
- **Speeded up the migration process**

As the migration planning began, Gross noted the details of the business unit's SharePoint usage and realized that by comparison with other areas with similar numbers of employees, this group had a very large and extensive SharePoint 2007 environment. Accordingly, there were a few challenges to take into consideration along the way:

Big Volumes of data

Business critical information ranging from customer details to information about the business unit's 30 major applications and even software code was stored in SharePoint 2007. Archiving data that didn't need to be readily accessed instead of migrating to SharePoint would save costs and enhance performance in the new environment.

Taxing SharePoint Thresholds

As the business increased, so did the volume of sales orders, customer inquiries and follow up responses stored on the SharePoint Server. Some of these records were active and others needed to be archived for specific periods of time. While positive for the business, the volumes did pose a risk to the migration efforts. For example, lists of 50,000 records taxed the abilities of SharePoint tools and would cause the system to hang impeding progress of the migration. "The bottom line is that we didn't have a method to get the data out" said Gross.

Beating the Clock

The clock was ticking and the Emerson Industrial Automation IT Team needed to work quickly to complete the migration. The desire was to minimize impact on the business users and have them realize the benefits of SharePoint 2013 faster. Completing the migration would also move the server management freeing Mark's team up to focus on more time on the business unit's business requirements and applications.

Gross expressed the situation saying "Leapfrogging a version is always challenging but we realized we had an opportunity to reduce the size of our SharePoint footprint, improve the migration time, and speed up performance for our users."

Solution: Vyapin's SPListX for SharePoint

After exhausting all attempts to extract data using native SharePoint tools, Gross investigated a third party solution. A web search returned Vyapin's SPListX as a potential solution. A demo followed by fine tuning and detailed testing and SPListX emerged as the clear winner.

SPListX provided Emerson Industrial Automation with the ability to export document library contents and associated metadata and list items, including associated file attachments to the Windows File System. From there the team confirmed the data they wanted to save had been extracted properly.

SPListX – unlocking critical data

Emerson Industrial Automation had deployed some custom features in SharePoint 2007. In planning the migration, they had discovered that these custom features effectively locked in the data and that it would have to be recreated in the new SharePoint environment. This step would have required significant time and effort and posed risk of errors in the process. SPListX rescued the team by pulling out the data and letting Gross and team move forward with the project.

“SPListX helped us get the job done and the team at Vyapin was very responsive”.

- Mark Gross

IT Manager

Emerson Industrial
Automation

Increasing Efficiencies

Extracting the large volume of data was proving impossible before finding the Vyapin solution. Thanks to capabilities of SPListX, Emerson Industrial Automation was able to get at the large volume of data stored in SharePoint 2007 without any system hiccups to manage. The automation capabilities in SPListX also made it easier to schedule tasks and generate reports the team needed in the migration process.

Flexibility and Responsiveness

Mark Gross was impressed not only with the SPListX product but also with the exceptional support from Vyapin. The sales and support staff at Vyapin demonstrated flexibility from initial contact by working with Gross to provide support during the evaluation phase and then taking it a step further by addressing wish list items. “We had some suggestions about how we wanted to store data in a more logical manner and Vyapin implemented those changes for us. They were really helpful and supportive” said Gross.

Benefits

SPListX helped Emerson Industrial Automation to ensure a swift and smooth migration and produced a number of significant benefits:

Cost reduction

By cleaning up data that wasn't required and eliminating duplication and migrating only active data to the new SharePoint environment, costs were decreased by 50%.

Risk reduction

Without SPListX, it would have been impossible to extract the large volumes of data stored on SharePoint and a great deal of effort would have been spent on recreating documents that were locked in the old environment with custom features.

Reduced Project Timeline

The speed and accuracy of SPListX reporting saved hours and hours of work in manual, painstaking reviews and helped the team to focus their effort on higher value aspects of the migration and improve the overall timeline to complete the move.

Conclusion

The features and capability of SPListX and the Vyapin's focus on customer support allowed Emerson Industrial Automation to complete a large and complicated migration. In addition to reducing costs, the IT team were able to keep concentrating on delivering best in class service and support to their user community.