Rocket

Federal-Mogul Corporation
Reduces Costs with a SaaS Data Exchange Solution

Industry
Automotive/Powertrain and Safety Technology

Challenge
Maintaining an effective Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) data exchange solution—while streamlining the transition from three separate internal networks

Results
- Centralized files and data easily accessed from any device with a secure internet connection
- A common, intuitive user interface for both partners and employees
- Significantly reduce operational costs

Products
- Rocket® TRUexchange

Application
- B2B Supply Chain Integration

Company

Headquartered in Southfield, Michigan, Federal-Mogul Corporation is a $7.5B supplier of powertrain and safety technologies, serving original equipment manufacturers of automotive, light commercial, heavy-duty, agricultural, marine, rail, off-road, and industrial vehicles. Through its two business divisions, Federal-Mogul Powertrain and Federal-Mogul Motorparts, the company also provides a broad portfolio of products and solutions to the global vehicle aftermarket, including power generation, aerospace, rail, and industrial customers.

Challenge

Until recently, Federal-Mogul relied on a single data exchange solution on an internally hosted server in the U.S., and two legacy systems based on ENGDAT/OFTP in Europe. Administrative efforts and related costs to manage the three local installations were significant.

To eliminate the need for local hardware and reduce administrative costs, Federal-Mogul sought a Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) data exchange solution. The company knew that the transition from its existing data exchange solution would be complex because of Federal-Mogul's three separate internal networks and dispersed corporate and partner locations. In addition, the firm recognized that all of its users would have to be manually migrated, further complicating the process.

Solution

After evaluating several different solutions, Federal-Mogul selected Rocket Software to implement a SaaS managed and maintained data exchange solution. Rocket® TRUexchange is a highly secure, easy-to-use, on-demand SaaS solution for exchanging files of any type and size. Using multiple levels of encryption throughout the file transfer process, TRUexchange provides superior security compared to traditional methods such as FTP and email. The Rocket solution makes it simple to manage files that exceed typical file-size limitations of other delivery solutions, and send them at remarkably high speeds. In addition, the Rocket team's ability to streamline complex migration processes proved to be another key factor in the selection process.

Results

"With this project, we have been able to reduce complexity in our IT landscape by eliminating three points of administration, while actually improving system reliability," explained Andreas Roessler, Engineering Competency Center Manager for CAD, CAE, and EDI Federal-Mogul Information Systems. "We chose Rocket as a partner because of our long-term experience with them. Their solutions for managed file transfer, plus the capability to implement the required standards within time and budget convinced us to do this project with them."

Rocket assisted Federal-Mogul in configuring the application, then implemented Rocket TRUexchange in North America and Rocket TRUexchange + OFTP in Europe. Despite the complexity of the current set-up, Rocket helped ensure a smooth and timely migration process. In North America, Rocket moved four OEMs, five Federal-Mogul locations, and 80 Federal-Mogul users to the new system. In Europe, Rocket migrated nine OEMs, and 16 Tier 1 suppliers with a total of 285 contacts, nine Federal-Mogul locations, and 45 Federal-Mogul users.

The fact that TRUexchange is a SaaS-based solution helped the implementation of Federal-Mogul's globally dispersed team go smoothly. Rocket also managed the onboarding of Federal-Mogul external data exchange partners into various TRUexchange communities. The onboarding process for all of the company's internal and external users moved especially quickly because TRUexchange works from a central server, so there was no need to install new hardware or software for each user's local computing device.

"Rocket has provided Federal-Mogul with a more efficient and cost-effective means to exchange PLM related data with our customers and suppliers worldwide, without the need for up-front infrastructure investment and without having to manage and support multiple systems," Roessler explained.

After the implementation, Federal-Mogul employees and partners around the world shared an intuitive common user interface from which to access their files and data from one centralized external location. Users could access files and PLM data exchange-related functions at any time from any desktop or laptop device with a secure internet connection.

By moving to a SaaS solution, Federal-Mogul eliminated the need for internally administered servers and hosted software. In turn, by decommissioning three internal servers and one ISDN line, Federal-Mogul not only simplified its IT landscape but it also realized significant operational, user experience, and cost benefits.

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