

K3 | dataswitch provides Innovative Technology with seamless integration solutions

Oldham-based Innovative Technology is a leading provider of cash handling products for the gaming, amusement, vending, retail and kiosk markets. Over more than 25 years, the business has built a strong reputation for manufacturing banknote validators, banknote recyclers, multi-coin hoppers and ticketing products that handle millions of global transactions every day.

The technology business continues to expand its commercial operations on a global level. It employs 380 people and operates two manufacturing sites, a rapidly expanding R&D centre and has built a network of more than 20 trading partners.

The transformative powers of K3 | dataswitch

Technology solution provider K3 has been supplying software solutions to Innovative Technology for more than a decade and as the business grows, its needs continue to evolve. In a move to use its ERP system to its full potential, the manufacturer began exploring how K3 | dataswitch might enhance its capabilities.

K3 | dataswitch is a purpose-built systems integration solution developed by K3. It is an integration platform which enables organisations to connect disparate systems that make up the day to day operations of the business. Enabling scalable, supportable and flexible systems integration regardless of location whether that be on-premise, or cloud based.

“We could see what was coming into the business and what was going out but couldn’t see what was happening in the middle. We’ve addressed that through K3 | dataswitch to connect different capabilities. For instance, we recently implemented a bar coding solution which K3 | dataswitch links to the ERP system to provide a real time view of stock.”

At a glance

Company

Innovative Technology

Industry sector

Manufacturing & Technology
• Electronics

Solution & services

- SYSPRO ERP
- K3 | dataSwitch

The benefits

- Improved visibility in areas such as stock control.
- Automation of mundane tasks
- Improved efficiencies and increased productivity



(continued)

Innovative Technology's Group Finance Director, Tom Pennington-Brookfield, said: "We were very keen to bring K3|dataswitch on board to integrate third party software into our ERP system. It's another very useful tool in our arsenal."

Versatile applications

Innovative Technology manufactures its products overseas and then configures them back in the UK. Keeping track of stock was proving challenging. K3|dataswitch was able to bridge the gap between different systems and give users much greater visibility around the status of jobs and orders.

Tom said: "We could see what was coming into the business and what was going out but couldn't see what was happening in the middle. We've addressed that through K3|dataswitch to connect different capabilities. For instance, we recently implemented a bar coding solution which K3|dataswitch links to the ERP system to provide a real time view of stock."

Innovative Technology takes ownership of its products in Hong Kong which are then freighted back to the UK. The company has used K3|dataswitch to develop functionality to indicate whether a product is to be sent via sea or air. It then automatically completes a goods in transit transfer.

"We can now get the job done without someone having to spend hours on a boring time-consuming task", explained Tom. "There are many examples of time-saving applications. For instance, K3|dataswitch can now automatically transfer stock codes from one of our companies to another. It is invaluable in keeping data harmonised so that we can avoid laborious manual input."

Return on Investment

Innovative Technology is continually discovering new ways in which K3|dataswitch can help it operate more efficiently.

Tom comments: "It can automate so many thankless tasks which improves everyone's working lives. That's the most valuable return on investment. We can also operate in a far more agile manner with all the key information we need at our finger tips."

"It can automate so many thankless tasks which improves everyone's working lives. That's the most valuable return on investment. We can also operate in a far more agile manner with all the key information we need at our finger tips."

Ever Evolving

K3|dataswitch continues to evolve as K3 introduces new capabilities. Innovative Technology is a fast-growing business which has generated a 40% increase in turnover over the last 5 years. It needs to work with software providers who can keep pace with its changing demands.

The business is impressed by recent additions to K3|dataswitch's functionality, including the ability to handle JSON web hook-ups, which has improved integration.

"We upgraded to the latest version in March and look forward to seeing what they do next", said Tom. "Our growth inevitably brings growing pains. We aim to address them through software and systems, rather than simply employing more people. K3|dataswitch and the wider SYSPRO system will prove critical in making that work."