



The Challenge:

- Provide your suppliers with a proven e-commerce solution.
- Enable business-to-business (B2B) transactions with suppliers without an integrated business solution.
- Achieve the benefits of EDI transactions without the overhead.
- Extend your supply chain to all of your partners.

What's the right move?

NetSchedules - The missing link to the supply chain!

Why use NetSchedules

NetSchedules is a Web-enabled software product for MFG/PRO users that enables them to communicate electronically with their suppliers. The system is more than simple e-mails or file downloads, it is a structured process that allows for data validation and real-time transaction processing. Studies have shown that per transaction costs can be reduced by roughly 80 percent by implementing an automated solution to a paper-based process. NetSchedules automates the flow of data between a company and their suppliers by utilizing the Internet/Intranet via Web-based transactions.

NetSchedules four primary goals

1. Enable business-to-business (B2B) transactions for MFG/PRO users who have suppliers without an integrated business system solution.
2. Reduce the amount of time and costs required to communicate data to suppliers.
3. Structure a business process for suppliers to follow in order to receive releases and to submit delivery confirmations, thus eliminating errors.
4. Allow the customer/supplier to concentrate on more complex problems by eliminating repetitive tasks that can be automated and provide an automated means to alert the MFG/PRO user to anomalies in the system.

NetSchedules was designed to be simple and inexpensive for the supplier, requiring only an Internet connection and browser. MFG/PRO users can take advantage of virtually real time transactions with complete visibility on the frequency supplier's view scheduled releases and submit Advance Shipment Notices (ASNs).

Core Technologies

By taking a best of breed approach in developing NetSchedules, PICS is able to utilize core technology from leading development companies. Products such as Progress RDBMS & 4GL, Allaire's ColdFusion Application Server & Microsoft's SQL Server 7.0 make up the technology foundation.

A key feature of NetSchedules is the replication engine. By using replication, data from MFG/PRO is written to a Web-enabled database that can be accessed by the suppliers. The MFG/PRO database is therefore not open to the Internet.

Advantages of the NetSchedules process

- Schedule updates from MRP can be performed more frequently.
- Visibility if a supplier has not viewed a scheduled release via configurable alerts.
- Shipment receipts can be performed by validating and confirming a shipper as opposed to using the PO receipts function.
- Reduction of errors and production downtime.

It's the right move!

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