

**CUSTOMER**

Sweet Life Enterprises, Inc.

INDUSTRY

Food Manufacturing

LOCATION

Santa Ana, California

Number of Locations

Two

Number of Employees

300

SYSTEM

Sage MAS 500

O2 Process Manufacturing

Escape Velocity and Sage MAS 500 — a Recipe for Success for Sweet Life Enterprises

Sweet Life Enterprises manufactures and distributes frozen gourmet desserts, such as cookie dough and pull-aparts, as well as baked goods to national and international Fortune 500 companies such as McDonalds, KFC, and 7-11. The successful company has experienced rapid and sustained growth since its inception in 1992. Today, Sweet Life Enterprises relies on Sage MAS 500 ERP with O2 Process Manufacturing by Escape Velocity as its end-to-end business management solution.

Cookies — Not Widgets

Sweet Life Enterprises purchased Sage MAS 500 for its market-leading accounting and financials and for its SQL database. However, the software's traditional manufacturing modules didn't fit the company's process manufacturing model. "Discrete manufacturing is entirely different from the process manufacturing we do," explains the controller at Sweet Life Enterprises. "Trying to make traditional manufacturing software work for our recipe-based operations was like trying to put a square peg in a round hole."

Sage Software referred the company to Escape Velocity Systems, a Sage Authorized Partner and publisher of O2 Process Manufacturing. O2 Process



Manufacturing is a comprehensive suite of modules that is seamlessly integrated with Sage MAS 500. "When we met with the consultants at Escape Velocity and saw the demonstration of O2, we knew it was a perfect fit," recalls the controller. "We choose to work with Escape Velocity Systems because they understand our business. They're experts in process manufacturing so we don't have to explain the intricacies of what we need from the system—they know."

Operational Efficiency

Before O2 Process Manufacturing, much of the data the company used to formulate recipes, track costs, and ensure consistent, high-quality products was kept in spreadsheets and Word documents. Now all the information the company relies on is held securely within the software.

CHALLENGE

Software designed for discrete manufacturers was not able to meet the specific needs of this recipe-based process manufacturer.

SOLUTION

Sage MAS 500 with the addition of O2 Process Manufacturing, expertly implemented by Escape Velocity Systems.

RESULTS

Flexible forecasting tools allow Sweet Life Enterprises to make informed buying decisions. Strong QC tracking capabilities support company's high quality standards.

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**Sage Software
Development Partner
ENDORSED**

Sweet Life Enterprises distributes its products in various pack sizes, and before O2 Process Manufacturing, its staff had to create a separate bill of material for each pack size. Now they simply specify which pack size they are assembling, and the software accurately draws the correct ingredients, in the correct proportions for the recipe. "It's much more intuitive and efficient," reports the controller. "We consider it one product just packaged differently, and that's how O2 allows us to manage it."

Rapid material issues allow the company to issue all the ingredients necessary for a batch in a single transaction, rather than issuing each individual component. This ideally suits the mixing process in the kitchens, where butter, flour, and sugar might be mixed together in one operation.

Control Costs

"It was difficult for us to handle and report on costs before O2," says the controller. "Each batch size was a different bill of material, meaning we'd have to total costs across several bills to find out what it costs us to produce a sugar cookie."

O2 Process Manufacturing was designed to provide process manufacturers with accurate costing, by batch or by item. This data allows the company to make strategic decisions about its operations.

Quality Control Support

Sweet Life Enterprises monitors various attributes of its batches such as consistency and moisture content. With O2 Process Manufacturing QC, when staff tests for these values they can record the readings by lot. If a lot fails to meet the QC standards, O2 Process Manufacturing will not allow the lot to be

used in production or shipped.

Management uses the Sage MAS 500 Business Insights Analyzer tool to study its QC data. Analyzer provides sophisticated query tools, pivot tables and graphical display generators. "We're now able to better monitor the quality of our products, not just on an individual lot basis, but over time to identify trends that can help us improve our products," explains the controller.

In addition to supporting the company's internal quality standards, O2 Process Manufacturing helps Sweet Life Enterprises to comply with the various governmental mandates that apply to food and beverage manufacturers, such as the Bioterrorism Act and HACCP.

Accurate Demand Forecasting

The ability to accurately forecast demand is imperative to manufacturers of perishable products, and has a direct impact on the bottom line. Sage MAS 500 and O2 Process Manufacturing deliver the tools and information Sweet Life Enterprises needs to make strategic purchasing and manufacturing decisions. The software suggests what and when to order, factoring in information like shelf life, vendor lead times, open orders, and historical sales data.

A Sweet Solution

Sweet Life Enterprises is pleased with the solution from Escape Velocity Systems, "With O2 Process Manufacturing's industry-specific process manufacturing functionality combined with the strong accounting and financials of Sage MAS 500, we've got an ideal no-compromise solution—designed to work the way we work."



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