

Introduction



M/A-COM Technology Solutions, Inc. is a supplier of semiconductors, active and passive

components, and sub-assemblies for use in radio frequency (RF), microwave and millimeter wave applications.

Based in Lowell, Massachusetts, the company also has several sites worldwide to support both manufacturing and R&D. M/A-COM Tech was looking for a new MES solution to retrofit the manufacturing and assembly facilities in Lowell, Massachusetts and Torrance, California. M/A-COM Tech was spun off from Tyco Electronics in 2009, so it had the opportunity to

establish an independent factory control system, if it could be done without interrupting the active wafer manufacturing and assembly processes. There was a three-month window of opportunity for converting the former PROMIS MES to a new system.

M/A-COM Tech was already using Eyelit's Operator Station GUI and PRemote™ connectivity module to enhance its PROMIS MES. Since Eyelit offered a full-featured MES, including other modules such as equipment maintenance and SPC, M/A-COM Tech chose to assess the feasibility of a complete changeover to the Eyelit MES.

Challenges and Benefits

M/A-COM Tech wanted to streamline processes and reduce paper waste. The company wanted to take advantage of a newer technology that, unlike legacy solutions, would provide continued support and product enhancement. They evaluated the overall project cost, ongoing maintenance costs, and risk factors. M/A-COM performed a small pilot test. The results showed that Eyelit's MES software could provide a fast, efficient, low-risk conversion and provide all the functionality necessary for its factories.

M/A-COM Tech chose to switch to Eyelit. The company migrated and was live within twelve weeks.

In implementing the Eyelit MES, M/A-COM was able to eliminate 12 custom software programs, supplemental processes that used Microsoft Access and Excel, and reduced paper usage by converging the existing PROMIS MES and "barnacles" into a single Eyelit MES system. Additional production areas that had not been modeled in the PROMIS MES were added to the newly deployed Eyelit MES model. The integration of MES with SAP, M/A COM Tech's ERP system, was also preserved.

The replacement of PROMIS with Eyelit Manufacturing included the following benefits:

- ✓ Replacement of old legacy hardware with more economical and modern hardware
- ✓ Elimination of numerous software "barnacles" that were custom-developed to fill MES functional gaps
- ✓ Preservation of SAP ERP integration to maintain assembly part conversion and sales order tracking
- ✓ Preservation of established scheduling methods using key metrics for prioritized dispatching
- ✓ Fast and secure conversion of all current inventory, WIP, and equipment information
- ✓ Short one hour weekend cutover to enable seamless tracking of material on the new MES
- ✓ Minimization of re-training, cost, and risk



Case Study:

Migration of Legacy Semiconductor MES to Eyelit

The implementation team was successful in converting MES systems over a weekend. The transition did not cause any scrap or misprocessing.

“We experienced exceptional support from Eyelit during this successful migration and we already see Eyelit’s product as an enabling technology. We’ve simplified our model and eliminated many of the custom programs we had needed to augment our legacy MES. With our legacy MES product, we questioned the value of our support dollars and what we were getting in return,” said Charles Gagne, Director of Wafer Operations, M/A-COM Technologies Solutions Inc.

Some companies inaccurately assume that it would be cost-prohibitive to replace their legacy MES systems.

“Eyelit MES is a very powerful application. The support team is amazing. I see that we only leverage a small percentage of the power of Eyelit so far.”

Phil Stathas
Director of IT
M/A-COM Technologies Solutions Inc.

Eyelit has demonstrated that it can deliver a proven, low-risk solution for much less than other MES solutions, and also provide customers with greater capability and flexibility.

With the pending end-of-life support of HP AlphaServer and HP PA-RISC 9000 server platforms, many companies face cost trade-offs with existing MES systems, such as costly hardware and software upgrades, cost of corporate application upgrades, and support costs. There may also be risk of having to rely on limited skillsets and expertise, and dealing with ongoing complications with version compatibility with operating systems, databases, and applications.

Factories running MES software and systems, such as WorkStream, PROMIS, and FACTORYworks (from Applied Materials), are all viable candidates for Eyelit’s migration solution. Companies looking to move to lower-cost software platforms, such as Linux or Windows, can also benefit from Eyelit’s capabilities and ongoing savings in total cost of ownership.

Why Eyelit?

Eyelit Inc. delivers Manufacturing Management software that provides companies with full visibility, control, and coordination of manufacturing operations from the factory floor through to the global supply chain. A unique blend of innovative technology and unparalleled service makes Eyelit software simpler to implement, integrate, and use. The software’s architecture and implementation processes are designed to deploy complete solutions very quickly. That’s why solutions can roll out in a third of the time for half the cost of comparable products. Simply put, Eyelit delivers more manufacturing efficiency—faster, easier, for less.

Eyelit’s ability to address customers’ specific needs for manufacturing semiconductor, solar, MEMS, high-tech electronic products, aerospace & defense, and automotive components have set it apart from its competitors. Eyelit’s customer-driven products are more intuitive, user friendly, and truly address the real-

- ✓ Excellent references
- ✓ Cross-industry client base
- ✓ Customer-driven product enhancement
- ✓ Guaranteed satisfaction on every deliverable

world needs of manufacturers. Eyelit forges long-term partnerships with every customer, providing extensive training, education, and technical assistance. There is no claim of success unless customers are realizing the full benefit from every Eyelit product. With expertise, proven success, excellent references in multiple industries, and a strong history of innovation, Eyelit has become a one-of-a-kind manufacturing solutions provider.

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