



SEAMLESS WEB PROCESS INTEGRATION IN THE AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

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Quick, reliable and automated data exchange between automotive manufacturers and suppliers with Lixto Governance, Risk & Compliance Suite and Aras Innovator

Seamless Web Process Integration in the Automotive Industry

CHALLENGES IN THE AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM) communicate with their direct suppliers and members of the supply chain via supplier portals. The increasing number of portals and the high information density on the individual platforms have led to a tremendous information research and collection workload for supplying companies and their employees. With automotive manufacturers dominating the supply chain suppliers have a contractual requirement to retrieve randomly updated information on regulations, reports on first samplings, complaints, etc. Employees have to log into different portals to search for new or updated information and enter these changes manually into the company's backend system for further processing.

On the other hand, responses to e.g. complaints have to be entered into the supplier portals within a short period in order to turn down unjustified complaints and maintain the supplier ranking. On average, 20 portals with 50 portal applications have to be maintained by a single supplier every day. Effective working time for up to 100 users reduced significantly by browsing web portals. All these efforts result in increasing costs within the supply chain in addition to increasing provisions for warranty and guaranty cases due to extended guaranty periods, increasing number of callbacks, complaints, etc.

“Companies interested in making better decisions in a more sustainable, reliable and revision-safe way need to choose which platform and components they want to use for the implementation of a web process management solution and its scorecards. Correct ergonomics, the right value for money, quick implementation and easily adaptable solution made for agile suppliers are of particular importance. From an IT perspective, a high level of flexibility is needed, especially for the connectivity to the online information sources (i.e. the OEM portals).”

Dr. Wolfgang Martin, White Paper Agile Web Process Management

AUTOMATED DATA EXCHANGE BETWEEN AUTOMOTIVE OEM PORTALS AND ARAS INNOVATOR WITH LIXTO GOVERNANCE, RISK & COMPLIANCE SUITE

Quick, reliable and automated data exchange between automotive manufacturers and suppliers with Lixto Web Process Integration and Aras Innovator enterprise open source solutions.

Lixto Governance, Risk & Compliance Suite ensures a quick, reliable and automated data exchange between automotive manufacturers and suppliers for quality management, logistics, sales, engineering and procurement based on supplier portal processes.

The Aras Innovator enterprise open source solutions address strategic business initiatives that require the automation of complicated business processes such as new product introduction [NPI], advanced product quality planning [APQP], and enterprise product lifecycle management [PLM].

The solution offered by Aras and Lixto allows for

- **Automated data exchange with OEM supplier portals** for continuously updated high-quality data to drive processes
- **Integration with business partner systems** for seamless bi-directional communication
- **Data integration into the existing work environment** for working with all required data in a familiar environment
- **Change detection and document update** for compliance with regulations and standards
- **Process and transaction reliability** for utmost traceability and transparency

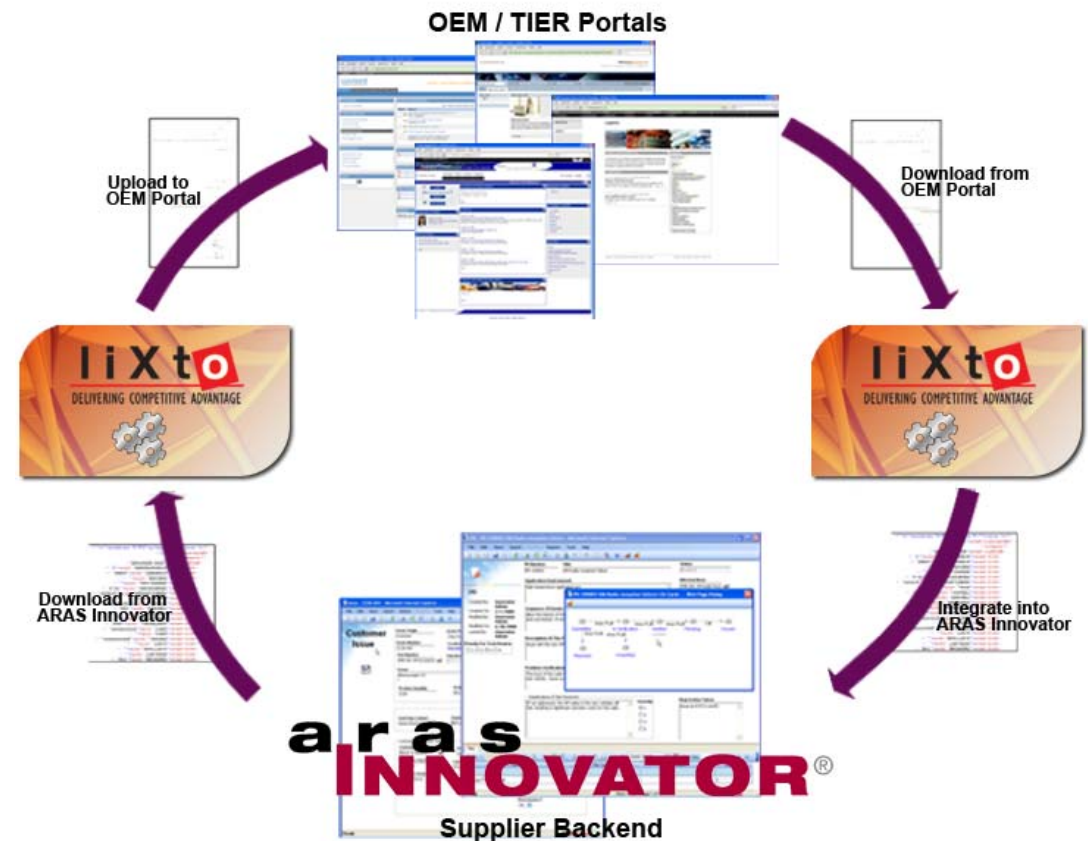


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LIXTO AND ARAS QUALITY MANAGEMENT – COMPLAINT HANDLING PROCESS

The complaint handling process implemented by Lixto and Aras follows these steps:

- **Lixto's web data extraction program** automatically logs in on the required OEM portal and navigates to the quality management webpage on the portal
- On the webpage it **checks for new or updated entries** compared to the last visit
- **Relevant data** on new complaints concerning prototypes and series production vehicles, PPM reports, etc. **is gathered by the extraction program** in a structured data format
- Lixto **integrates the extracted data** via defined interfaces **into ARAS Innovator**
- **ARAS Innovator Master starts internal business processes.** Depending on the problem level, problem handling reports with **appropriate workflows start in Aras Innovator** (notifications, tasks, signoffs)
- After completion of the process in ARAS Innovator Lixto downloads the data from there and **transforms the data into the appropriate format**
- **Lixto automatically uploads new reactions, 8D reports etc. to the OEM portal**



LIXTO AND ARAS REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS COMPLIANCE

Lixto and Aras support companies in implementing ELV, RoHS, REACh, RRR, DfE and LCA compliance:

- **Lixto's web data extraction program** automatically logs in on the required portals and retrieves the latest regulations and standardization documents
- On the webpage it **checks for new or updated entries** compared to the last visit
- **New document versions** and regulations are **automatically extracted and downloaded**
- **New documents** are stored within the Lixto environment and **compared with existing older versions**
- Lixto **uploads the new document version and a version with highlighted changes into ARAS Innovator** for further processing by employees in the supplier company
- **Lixto automatically sends emails to the employees** who are affected by the changes



VALUE CREATION FOR AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLIERS USING THE INTEGRATED LIXTO AND ARAS SOLUTIONS

With the solution provided by Lixto and Aras process data published on supplier portals are directly transferred to the operative work environment of the supplier's staff. Appropriate workflows such as notifications, task executions and signoffs are triggered in Aras Innovator depending on the report level. Aras Innovator updates, retrieves or saves information in PLM and interacts with other PLM processes like NPI, APQP, FMEA. Employees can process all data within the Aras Innovator work environment without the necessity to manually interact with the supplier portals. The process efficiency can be enhanced significantly and product complaints can be processed faster and in a more convenient way. This reduces quality costs due to the quick responses to complaints and turn down of unjustified complaints. The direct impacts are less product callbacks and erroneous production due to enhanced process efficiency. This not only saves directly cost and time, but finally results in increased customer satisfaction due to a reduced number of defective parts and shorter response times.

“Information provided at the right time in the context of collaborative business processes can lead to substantial financial advantages. What counts most is establishing effective process synchronization and the consolidation of proprietary information with information from OEMs, using information mashing in an agile web process management system.”

Dr. Wolfgang Martin, White Paper Agile Web Process Management

ABOUT LIXTO SOFTWARE



Lixto Software empowers better decisions through extraction of specific and precise data from the web to drive operational performance and real-time competitive price visibility for travel and transport, consumer products and automotive supply chain clients. Lixto solutions have been adopted by companies throughout the world, including Fujitsu Technology Solutions, Hama, hotel.de, Iberostar Hotels, shopping.com, SAP, and ZF Friedrichshafen.

For further information visit: www.lixt.com

ABOUT ARAS CORP



Aras® is the leading provider of enterprise open source Product Lifecycle Management [PLM] software solutions. Freedom from licensing eliminates up-front expenses and per user costs while superior technology makes Aras the most advanced enterprise PLM solution suite available. Customers include Motorola, Rolls-Royce, Freudenberg, Lockheed Martin, Ingersoll Rand and ACCO Brands. Aras is privately held with global headquarters in Andover, Mass.

For additional information visit www.aras.com