

Case Study: KDM



STAR BASE Creates SAP ERP Interface for KDM's Order Software

Situation: KDM is a manufacturer of Point of Purchase Displays (POPD) for companies such as Coca-Cola, Home Depot and Kroger. KDM was searching for a way to make it easier and more appealing for their customers to order their products. KDM had also been asked by one of their more visible clients to create a way to interface their POPD order system with the customer's internal SAP ERP system. After an extensive investment in its ERP, KDM's client wanted to maximize their return on investment and reduce the number of systems through which inventory was ordered. The POPD manufacturer had to find a way to make all of this happen in the span of eight weeks in order to meet their customer's deadline. KDM called STAR BASE Consulting to help them meet their client's request and to do it without over taxing their already busy IT department.

Technology: Magento eCommerce, VMWare, Ubuntu, PHP, MySQL

Solution: STAR BASE took a strategic approach to the project and invested the time to understand KDM's ordering system in order to create a seamless interface to its client's SAP ERP system.

It was quickly determined that a custom application solution would not be conducive to the time line required for completion. Instead, STAR BASE recommended Magento, an open-source, eCommerce solution that was a very close fit for KDM and needed very few modifications. This solution allowed KDM to

meet the deadline, interface with the client's ERP system and minimize the involvement of KDM's IT staff. What's more, the system could accommodate similar requests from KDM's clients running SAP ERP.

Results: KDM resolved its short-term needs, designed an infrastructure with an eye toward the future and kept a very important client happy. STAR BASE's application development and staffing solutions were key components in the implementation of KDM's eCommerce site, which STAR BASE:

- Designed to allow each of KDM's customers to have their own individualized look and feel
- Customized to handle special pricing calculations and quantity discounts
- Shaped to support a check out process to interface the order information with SAP

KDM Goes Green! In addition to meeting KDM's immediate needs, STAR BASE found that with a VMWare solution, KDM could save money and energy. KDM had planned to purchase an additional server, but with the use of VMWare, a virtual server, they could eliminate the expense. As a result, KDM was able to:

- Save several hours on configuration time
- Improve the utilization and flexibility of their infrastructure
- Increase energy savings in their data center

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