



CASE STUDY: BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE



BUSINESS CHALLENGE

STIHL, a leading manufacturer in the power tools industry, was grappling with significant operational inefficiencies stemming from its reliance on legacy spreadsheets and Access databases to manage critical business processes. Many of these systems had been developed by individuals who were no longer with the company, leaving current teams without the necessary expertise to maintain or update them. This created uncertainty around whether to repair or replace existing solutions, as documentation and knowledge transfer were lacking. The complexity and fragmentation of these data sources made it impossible to leverage modern analytics tools like Power BI, severely limiting visibility into key metrics such as budget status and production progress.

METHOD AUTOMATION'S SOLUTION

Method Automation began by conducting a comprehensive analysis of STIHL's existing data management landscape, identifying key pain points and opportunities for improvement. Drawing on their expertise in Nintex workflow automation, Method Automation designed and deployed a centralized, scalable solution that replaced fragmented spreadsheets and Access databases with a robust, automated workflow. The new system captured essential data through standardized forms and routed information seamlessly between departments, ensuring accuracy and accountability at each stage. Critical dependencies and approval steps were mapped into the workflow, enabling real-time visibility and status tracking throughout production and budgeting cycles. Integration with Power BI was established, unlocking advanced dashboarding and analytics capabilities that were previously unattainable.

RESULTS

STIHL achieved a dramatic increase in operational transparency and control. The organization can now track projects and products with greater visibility, enabling teams to efficiently monitor job statuses and make data-driven decisions. This transformation has provided leadership with actionable insights into budgets and production cycles, improved collaboration across departments, and established a scalable foundation for future process enhancements—ultimately driving productivity and supporting continued business growth.