

Goodfellow has been supplying the world of research and development with materials for generations. Over 75 years, the company has served the needs of science and industry worldwide, never failing to go beyond in finding solutions. They have always focussed on being two steps ahead. The company has had involvement in many exciting applications, including projects in the aerospace sector and discovery of new materials. Today, they continue to be the innovator, with breakthrough projects such as the Green Production Initiative. Goodfellow always has, and always will facilitate innovation.

180
database
tables

200,000+
products in
catalogue

1,000+
dynamic
attributes

“ The De Facto team took the time to really understand the business from the start of the project. This was a huge help, especially when we faced the inevitable challenges as the project progressed. This sound understanding meant we could work collaboratively to find an appropriate solution. The team was always friendly and professional. It felt like we were one team. *Richard Wilson, Chief Technology Officer, Goodfellow* ”

A complex challenge

When evaluating a complete ERP and E-Commerce review, it quickly became clear that the Product Information Management (PIM) functionality element would be at the heart of the solution.

Unlike normal PIM requirements, Goodfellow required a dynamic multi-dimensional product attribute structure that allowed attributes to be defined for combinations of Material, Form and Shape. Because of the scientific nature of the product and attributes, complex formulas needed to be held and Goodfellow's international reach required all data to be able to be held in many languages and scripts from English to Kanji, from French to Cantonese.

The project required the replacement of multiple in house developed solutions, enabling not only the normal PI management and data source for websites, printed materials and external partners, but also the use of the data within very highly sophisticated product pricing algorithms and extensive product handling business rules.

Our solution

The resulting solution exploited the unique data handling capabilities of our EDP platform. The solution required 180 tables and 1000's of attributes for over 150,000 products. With data requiring complex and extensive validations and constraints, that would be implemented not just within the user interface but also by EDP's unique solution to the uploading of multi-dimensional data.

“ De Facto Software has provided the business with a tool to manage a large, complex product database. The overall quality of the product data has improved significantly and the system has supported the growth of our product catalogue to over 200,000 products. ”

Richard Wilson, Chief Technology Officer, Goodfellow



DE FACTO
SOFTWARE

De Facto Software Ltd. is a successful, privately owned company founded in 1989 in Ipswich, UK. We serve an expanding client base of predominantly UK based SMEs from manufacturers and distributors to traders, in a range of industries as diverse as molecular R&D and fine wines. De Facto is not a software reseller and is dedicated to the development and implementation of innovative software solutions geared towards our customers' market places and activities.