PLANTFORMANCE CASE STUDY · MES AND TRACEABILITY

One laminated glass MES template instead of a custom version per plant

Saint-Gobain Glass · Glass

Plantformance re-engineered Saint-Gobain Glass's laminated glass MES at its own expense, turning diverging plant versions into one global template with modular local layers that new lamination lines can follow.

480 h
re-engineering invested by Plantformance

~70%
common features before the rebuild

THE PROBLEM

Saint-Gobain Glass's MES for laminated glass had drifted apart from plant to plant. Early rollouts went ahead without full alignment on factory edge cases or central governance, so the plants shared only about 70% of their features. Each plant ended up running its own custom version. Every bug fix, enhancement or upgrade had to be re-engineered and re-tested separately for each site. As the number of branches grew, long-term support costs kept climbing and global maintenance became close to impossible.

HOW WE DID IT

When expansion to a third site in Italy exposed the maintenance bottleneck, Plantformance re-engineered the architecture at its own expense: 480 internal development hours, 3 engineers over 4 weeks. Using the project inheritance features of Ignition 8.1+ and lessons from earlier rollouts, the team designed a unified core template in the new factory. Standard MES functions, plate tracking and database schemas live in a global base layer. Factory-specific needs sit in modular local extensions. Existing sites were then scheduled for realignment through structured gap analyses, UDT and tag reconfiguration, and screen updates.

BEFORE

Ordered as a 90% standardized global solution, the MES was piloted in a Spanish reference plant and launched in parallel in a French facility, with local quirks built into the core code, leaving two independent software silos.

AFTER

The MES runs as one central product template across multiple European facilities, with core features governed globally and local variances such as conveyor setups or PLC signal maps kept in their own layers.

RESULTS

- Software version drift eliminated, with a foundation for global governance
- Updates and features built once and deployed to all connected plants
- Much lower long-term lifecycle and support costs
- A repeatable rollout method with gap analysis frameworks, documentation templates and validation plans for new lamination lines

Plantformance products and services: Professional Services

PLANT FORMANCE

NEXT STEP

Planning a project like this?

Talk to an Ignition engineer about your sites, timeline and architecture. We will tell you honestly what it takes.

Contact Plantformance

Read this case online and see more Ignition projects: plantformance.com/case-studies/laminated-glass-mes-template · all case studies

Plantformance is an Inductive Automation Alliance Partner that helps enterprises deploy, secure, and scale Ignition across sites through plug-and-play modules, turnkey zero-maintenance HMI hardware, and 24/7 managed infrastructure.

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