

Honda of the UK Manufacturing Drives Supply Chain Efficiency

OpenText EasyLink EDI Managed Hosted Services powers a seamless flow of information across the enterprise

Honda of the UK Manufacturing Ltd. needs to keep its just-in-time supply chain running smoothly and efficiently. Fortunately, the automobile company outsourced its entire EDI operation to the right partner.

The challenge

Honda of the UK Manufacturing Ltd (HUM), based in Swindon, England, manufactures the CR-V, Civic, and Jazz automobile models for the European market. To maximize efficiency, all parts from suppliers are scheduled to arrive just three hours before they are fitted onto the car. Keeping this just-in-time supply chain running smoothly is a top priority, and HUM is continually implementing new technology to improve supply chain effectiveness. The company has faced a number of supply chain issues over the years:

- HUM wanted a single EDI environment that could accommodate all of its suppliers, large or small, and support the exchange of all file types within it. Suppliers needed to be added quickly and easily.
- HUM required better forecasting. If parts were not available at the right time, HUM's production line would stop. HUM needed to minimize these non-production incidents.
- Inaccuracies in supplier labeling and documentation were creating costly delays. When supplier details were incorrect, HUM could not accept the delivery and the parts had to be temporarily quarantined.
- HUM wanted a more automated approach to managing its vast supplier network, with better control of spending, order requests, delivery cycles, and delivery conformation.

INDUSTRY

Automotive

CUSTOMER

Honda of the UK Manufacturing Ltd (HUM)

CHALLENGES

- Multiple EDI systems
- Forecasting issues created non-production incidents
- Inaccurate supplier labeling and documentation details

SOLUTION

- OpenText™ EasyLink EDI Managed Services

BENEFITS

- Real-time supply chain visibility
- Seamless information flow
- Reduction in labeling and documentation errors
- Powerful online ordering and delivery system
- Robust, detailed, on-demand forecasting

“With OpenText EasyLink EDI Managed Services, we’re able to maintain our current production levels and the delivery of high-quality vehicles with speed, efficiency, and precision.”

DIVISION MANAGER FOR PURCHASING LOGISTICS

The solution

HUM and OpenText™ EasyLink have enjoyed a strong EDI partnership for more than a decade – the perfect collaborative environment for helping the company drive continuous and quantifiable advancements in its supply chain. HUM uses EasyLink EDI Managed Services to act as an extension of the manufacturer’s EDI team. The OpenText EasyLink EDI network has been an agile, reliable, and highly efficient hub of all electronic supply chain transactions for the company, continuously growing and adapting to HUM’s ever-changing needs, including:

- Seamless information flow between HUM and its hundreds of suppliers is generating the highest-recorded levels of successful delivery at the plant. All bi-directional messages pass through the OpenText cloud network, which automatically converts them to the required electronic format before delivery to either party.
- Improvement in supplier labeling and documentation. EasyLink EDI Managed Services has reduced supplier labeling and documentation errors by 95%, generating a new level of efficiency

for HUM. EasyLink integrates HUM’s bar-coding system with shipping notes, and enables suppliers to automate their entire delivery cycle.

- A powerful online ordering and delivery system keeps HUM’s production line fully informed of the progress of all parts from all Honda suppliers.
- Robust, detailed, on-demand forecasting that enables rapid supplier updates as HUM requests them – eliminating surprises that can lead to problems.
- A web portal that simplifies the entire process and gives HUM unparalleled real-time visibility into supply-chain forecasts, orders, and deliveries.

About OpenText

The OpenText Information Exchange suite of products and services provides market-leading fax, document exchange, messaging, notifications, and EDI solutions for businesses ranging from the smallest office to the largest enterprise. OpenText on-premise and cloud-based solutions can deliver even the largest files quickly, securely and reliably in the format of your choice. ■

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