

"InformationLeader is more than a quality assurance program - it is a continuous improvement program....."

Clinton Reeve, IT & Technical Manager
NZ Lamb Packers on InformationLeader

Interview with

Clinton Reeve
IT & Technical Manager
NZ Lamb Packers
Written May 2006 by Theta Technologies

What was the situation?

As the then Technical Manager for the NZ Lambpackers site (now the site's contract IT consultant), Clinton Reeve saw a gap in the site's ability to monitor and control the process line on a daily basis and an opportunity to organise the quality processes for the site was apparent.

Upon seeing the demonstration of InformationLeader, he believed that both of these opportunities to enhance the business could be undertaken with its installation.

InformationLeader was developed by Theta Technologies to provide an electronic solution to the capturing, relaying, and reporting of data captured within a processing line. This information is then assessed and management decisions made, where needed within minutes, regarding any issues that the data records.

Since its installation, Clinton has been able to see significant benefits in many of the process operations of the plant.

"Since its implementation we have been able to introduce performance monitoring such as animals per man per hour, yielded product information and cost of production information even including chemical usage. We are able to provide management reports including graphs simply and efficiently. This

data has enabled us to have much more than a quality assurance program; we have been able to introduce a continual improvement program" Clinton Reeve said.

The introduction of the application was also well received by the operational team on the floor and as Clinton Reeve said "it had an immediate positive impact on the floor".

Why is this a significant change?

InformationLeader has provided NZ Lamb Packers with an application that through monitoring performance in all aspects of the business has enhanced the business's processes and in turn increased productivity.

Through the implementation of the primarily quality assurance based system, audits are now easier to conduct and report both those conducted internally and externally through the unique date stamping of data entering the system and the real time recording of information. Similarly costs have reduced in terms of resources required to undertake both the audits and compliance requirements for regulatory bodies. Information on yields and productivity has reduced costs and increased budgeting forecast capabilities.

What does the future now look like?

Through the better management of the information available to the QA department business practices and productivity have been increased. In the future NZ Lamb Packers can look to having real information on which to base budgets, cost reduction strategies and areas of opportunity in work performance.