

"The InformationLeader technology has made the lives of my QA team much easier....."

Rob Radford, General Manager,
Radfords on InformationLeader

Interview with

Rob Radford
General Manager
Radfords

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What was the situation?

Radfords & Sons was established in 1946 and has been managed by Rob Radford for the last 20 years after taking over from his father.

The operation turns over approximately \$24 million per year and processes approximately 60,000 cattle and 100,000 sheep and lambs on an annual basis. It is one of the few holders of an organic meat license in Australia.

When speaking on the industry, Rob Radford points to the massive rationalization that has occurred over the last 5 to 10 years that has in turn required operations like Radfords to adopt best practice processes to stay viable.

Implementing *InformationLeader* therefore was seen as a significant tool to further enhance the performance management at Radfords.

Information Leader was developed by Theta Technologies to provide an electronic solution to the capturing, relaying, and reporting of data.

Why is this a significant change?

The InformationLeader application is used mainly by Rob's middle management team and Rob points to the success the team has had in cutting down a lot of valuable time in filling out the required paperwork.

"InformationLeader has freed the QA staff to do other things. The technology has made their lives a lot easier. Whereas before there was a lot of writing, now they use web tablets for data recording which then goes directly into the QA computer. It means that these guys can do other jobs, in other areas of the plant more likely to make money such as looking at running costs or new markets for product", Rob said.

"From an audit point of view, the graphing of the information has also been a great benefit as they can be produced quickly for auditing requirements", he continued.

A further significant benefit of InformationLeader is the traceability of product.

"InformationLeader can record what property the product came from, the date it was processed, its weight and what market it is destined for.

It means that consumers can be confident in the product they are taking off the supermarket shelf can be completely traced and checked at every stop along the way" Rob said.

What does the future now look like?

The next stage for InformationLeader at the Radfords site is to move into the maintenance area and also to be used in the new boning room (currently under construction) for stock take and value-adding on boning products.

With Rob's middle management team now able to devote increased time and energy into developing other business opportunities for the enterprise, further areas of adoption for InformationLeader are hoped within the near future.