Xtract Universal

Mercer sends SAP data to Google Cloud with Theobald Software

Challenge

Every day, roundwood is delivered in large quantities to the Group's sawmill in Saalburg-Ebersdorf/Thüringen, where it is automatically measured. The resulting measurement data, which includes the length, circumference, and curvature, forms the basis for a quality rating that impacts pricing when it comes to settling accounts with suppliers. Mercer had been using SAP BW to report on wood purchasing in the past. As a part of their Group-wide cloud strategy they wanted to map out on Google Cloud Platform (GCP). That is why Mercer began looking for an automated way to make the necessary raw data from SAP available in Google Cloud Storage.

> "Xtract Universal brings worlds together. The interface allows us to transfer data from SAP to Google Cloud without any fuss."

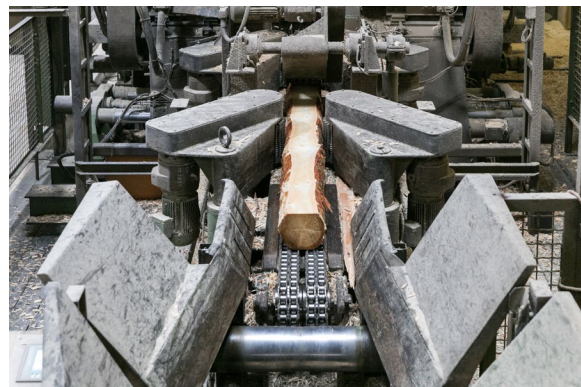**Frank Reißig**, Head of Business Applications, Mercer International

Solution

As Mercer is already successfully using a solution from Theobald Software to perform SAP data extractions for Group consolidation, the interface specialist was Mercer's first port of call in the Group's efforts to determine whether automated data transfer from SAP to Google Cloud is possible. A summary attempt was made at Mercer to manually transport a file from SAP to Google Cloud using **Xtract Universal.** The transfer worked, giving Mercer the confidence that Theobald Software could also develop an automated solution.

The Theobald Software team didn't need to be asked twice and set to work straightaway. After all, the growing importance of cloud computing means that Mercer isn't the only company whose wish list includes data exchange between SAP and Google's hyperscaler platform. Within three months, Mercer had a production-ready Xtract Universal component that enables SAP data to be integrated into the target environment—Google Cloud Storage—as part of an automated process.

Areas of application and benefits

The wood-purchasing organization Mercer Holz currently uses Xtract Universal with the Google Cloud Storage destination to make measurement data of delivered logs available in Google Cloud for reporting purposes. According to Frank Reißig, plans call for expanding the interface in the future: "Our goal is to use Xtract Universal with the Google Cloud component as the standard solution for all applications where we need SAP data in the Google Cloud Platform."

Following the successful pilot project for Mercer, the GCP component has now become an integral part of Xtract Universal and is available to all Theobald Software customers.

Project overview

Company
Mercer International Inc.

The challenge
Integrating procurement data from SAP into Google Cloud Storage

Solution
Xtract Universal, Google Cloud Storage destination

Added value
Availability of analyzable SAP data on Google Cloud Platform

The client
With its subsidiaries in Germany and Canada, the Mercer International Group is one of the world's leading manufacturers of long-fiber market pulp. Mercer manages the largest sawmill in Germany with a sawn timber capacity of 1.3 million cubic meters. Around 2,300 employees work for the group. In addition, valuable biochemicals, such as tall oil, are extracted during pulp production. The two German pulp mills also happen to be two of the largest biomass power plants of their kind in Germany. Mercer is the largest purchaser of wood in Germany. More information can be found here https://de.mercerint.com.