

## Case Study: Ford Meter Box



**FORD METER BOX**

### Industry:

Manufacturing & Construction

### Annual Revenue:

Approx. \$84m

### Employees:

501-1000

### Software Footprint:

- EnterpriseOne v9.10.  
Tools Release 9.1.5.3.
- Average **100 concurrent users + 100** data collection devices
- Average **300-350** sales orders/day, with an average of **5** lines/order
- Over **3000** jobs processed by scheduler daily
- Use many other 3<sup>rd</sup> party applications

Ford Meter Box was founded by Edwin Ford. He invented the meter box in 1898, which provided a way to protect outside meters from freezing. The company has expanded to be the prominent manufacturer of products for the waterworks industry, offering approx. 30,000 items.

The Ford Meter Box Company is headquartered in Wabash, Indiana. There they operate a brass foundry and manufacture items including water meter setting equipment, valves, couplings and meter boxes. They also have a manufacturing facility in Pell City, Alabama, that produces pipe tapping sleeves, repair clamps, pipe restraints and other pipe products.

Ford products are sold worldwide through a network of distributors. Still privately held, Ford Meter Box is, to this day, owned by descendants of Mr. Edwin Ford.

### Company Challenges

- Numerous groups of scheduled jobs run multiple times per day(Sales Order movement)
- Changes to scheduled jobs require hours of CNC time & increase opportunities for error
- Changing a job from 'Not Active' to 'Active' submitted many instances
- Lacked notification of issues (long running jobs, scheduler failure, etc)
- Limitations with scheduling options, reporting & dependencies

### Smart Scheduler Solution

- Use of Streams enabled the creation of a single instance for a group of jobs (Sales Order Movement) and the ability to manage that single instance
  - **Recurrence** options for Daily, Weekly, Monthly, Workday, or other logic
  - **Purge Scheduled Jobs** allows CNCs to remove all scheduled jobs in a stream at once
- **Events** offer a number of options for actions at various states of initialization, execution & completion of a job or stream
  - Events at Stream Level - Send an email to interested party when stream completes normally/abnormally
  - Events at Job Level - Can email or place output into network drive
  - Option to increment variable each time a job completes normally
- **Dependencies** can be defined between streams or jobs within a stream
  - **Single Dependency** – Single job/stream is dependent on only one other stream
  - **Multi-Dependency** - may be two or more parent streams that must complete before child will execute