



# Smorgon Steel Distribution integrates SAP® ERP to an automated steel handling system

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Smorgon Steel Distribution (SSD) has more than 2,100 employees in plants and offices throughout Australia, comprising manufacturing and distribution businesses in flat metals, tube and pipe.

### Project Challenge

The Smorgon Steel Distribution (SSD) business unit had purchased a large gantry for use in automated materials handling. The system needed to be integrated to the SAP® ERP WM module via TCP/IP sockets.

Automated material handling equipment and software ('Kasto') was being implemented at one of SSD's larger distribution centres. The project required SAP® Warehouse Management Transfer Orders and subsequent confirmations to be exchanged between SAP® and the controlling application. The messaging was to be done via a TCP/IP socket message.

### Solution

The interface was rapidly developed and rolled out for SSD by utilising **SkyConnect**.

### Benefits

The material handling equipment is now being fully utilised by SSD and is able to communicate simply, yet very effectively, with SAP®. No cumbersome file-based interface was required, as the solution could be delivered using TCP/IP sockets.

### SAP® Integration

SSD utilises **SkyConnect** to manage all inbound and outbound integration for the Kasto project. This gives them complete visibility and interface management 'inside SAP®'. Further, the more complex dependencies and queuing that are common for this style of integration are also managed within the **SkyConnect** toolset – without the need for complicated ABAP programming.

SSD also uses **SkyConnect** to manage all of the batch processing. SSD has complex batch schedules that are all managed by the ECS™ Job Scheduler, which again gives SSD complete visibility of this processing.

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## Real-time 'peer to peer' messaging and file transfer

### The Solution

The final solution was delivered using the **SkyConnect** suite of integration utilities, thus enabling SAP® to communicate via the TCP/IP network. It also enabled robust, end-to-end transaction management.

By enabling SAP® to communicate directly with Kasto, SSD has been able to significantly improve productivity by reducing the manual loading of vehicles and eliminating the 'paper trail' previously required for processing the load.

### Device & System Management

The device management console resides inside SAP® and enables support staff to view every detail associated with the remote device. Information such as logs, configuration, database definitions and data can all be easily displayed from the server's administration web page via the Local Area Network, providing a complete audit trail for support staff.

### Future Proof

The scalable architecture of the **SkyConnect** product suite ensures that all future needs for integration to SAP® can be delivered. Further, the integrated nature of the product means that **SkyConnect** can be easily utilised by other business units and applications.

### About Sky Technologies

Sky Technologies specialises in Enterprise Mobility, Point of Sale and Integration for SAP®. With a strong focus on innovation, Sky Technologies has developed a SAP® certified technology platform to deliver middleware free mobility (SkyMobile), low cost integration (SkyConnect) and fully functional point of sale (SkyPOS) solutions that are embedded within SAP®. Sky Technologies has a client base that spans 5 continents and 22 countries and continues to deliver solutions to SAP® customers which reduce costs, create customer value, empower users and enable a greater return from your investment in SAP®.

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