



Inventories with bar codes and an ERP integrated module: Boiron digitalises its fixed asset management with Sage and DEVEHO Consulting Group



Finance Management / Invoicing Payroll / HR ERP CAPM



Boiron

www.boiron.fr

• **Business sector:**

Homeopathic medicines

• **Workforce:**

3,600 collaborators

• **TO:** €617 million

As the world leader in homeopathic medicines, Boiron relies on a securely established digital culture to drive the company forward. Their 80-strong Information Systems team is committed to providing the back-office departments with the most advanced resources available to meet their priorities. In order to increase the speed and reliability of their inventories and management of their fixed assets, Boiron decided to utilise a 100% digital solution, drawing once again on their long-standing partnership with Sage. Boiron called on DEVEHO Consulting Group to assist them in tackling the triple challenge of large volumes, tight schedules and data conservation.

A testimonial prescribed to all efficiency seekers!

Digitalisation to increase speed and efficiency of rolling inventories

As the direct owner of all its production

sites and distribution platforms, Boiron has around **55,000 fixed assets** to manage: property, production equipment, logistical assets and office equipment.

Keeping this data accurate and up-to-date is a strategic challenge for Boiron, a listed company. These assets represent around **80% of the company's turnover!**

For an expanding company such as Boiron, with its growing workforce, evolving production methods and industrial facilities whose functions are constantly being re-evaluated, the long-term integration and monitoring of fixed assets is a full-time mission. The management of fixed assets is carried out by a 2-person team, in charge of **managing movements, posting depreciation and tax management.**

Already at the forefront in the digitalisation of its management processes, in 2016 Boiron decided to overhaul the management of its fixed assets in order to **increase speed and**

efficiency at every stage.

Joël Gailleton is the Accounts Director at Boiron. "We chose to move to a dynamic inventory system, which combines the ability to localise all our fixed assets precisely throughout France with the possibility of carrying out rolling inventories. In essence, a bar code is fitted onto every fixed asset, which is then recorded in a site register. A bar code reader connected to a tablet optimises the work carried out by our teams, which is nothing compared to all the work involved up to now taking manual readings."

The switch from the Abel Enterprise solution to the fixed asset management module from Sage Business Cloud Enterprise Management

The second stage in the digitalisation process of the fixed asset management was the management solution itself. Recognised for its management functions, the Abel Enterprise software package reached its limits in terms of total dematerialisation.



To achieve this configuration, in keeping with the requirement for operational efficiency that drives the teams at Boiron, a rigorous migration approach was needed to meet the demands of the project. This was essential, as Joël Gailleton perfectly summarises:

"The most important thing for us was to have the right product and the right integrator."

A partnership of trust with Deveho Consulting Group

In addition to Sage Business Cloud Enterprise Management's ability to manage dematerialised fixed assets, the capacity to preserve the data archive relating to the 55,000 fixed assets stored in the Abel Entreprise database also had to be proven. DEVEHO Consulting Group's knowledge of the departmental pressures specific to the healthcare sector, as well as being specialists in the Sage solution, helped guide Boiron in their choice. Stéphane Perrayon, Development Manager at Deveho Consulting Group, explains the challenges at stake. *"The first challenge was the simultaneous generation renewal. The migration came at the same time as a complete overhaul of the fixed asset life cycle management processes. The second challenge was, of course, the sheer volume of data. Preserving the fixed asset data sheets, managed for so long under Abel Entreprise, without damaging them wasn't easy, despite the direct filiations between the software architecture. The third challenge was managing the tight schedule."*

The Information System team, back-office departments and DEVEHO Consulting Group working in close proximity throughout the project helped the smooth flow of communication and resulted in the successful migration towards Sage Business Cloud Enterprise Management. Boiron's fixed asset management is now 100% digital, the entire data archive

has been preserved and all processes have been updated.

Stéphane Picq particularly valued a solution that was perfectly in line with the specifications, coupled with flawless project management. *"It has to be said, it's quite rare to have an integrator who finishes well within the timescales!"*

A return on investment to suit everyone

The desired time-saving is achieved at all stages of the fixed asset life cycle, through the implementation of a dynamic inventory and the migration to the new software. The database is automatically updated when inputting a fixed asset, for example during rolling inventories, which in turn increases productivity. Alexandre Cherblanc is one of two operators in charge of managing the fixed assets. *"For me, the biggest change is no longer having to manually input the amount and cost accounting for each fixed asset. Now, with just the invoice number, everything is done automatically. In addition, the information is directly transmitted to the database during each inventory."*

Sage Business Cloud Enterprise Management not only makes the process quicker, it also ensures optimum processing quality for all missions assigned to the team, particularly the automated calculation of both normal and additional depreciation. The system has a modern and intuitive interface, to which the operators quickly adapted. Stéphane Picq also values the undeniable filiations between the benchmark solution and the module which replaced it. *"Sage Business Cloud Enterprise Management covers all the previous functions of Abel Entreprise but with the added value of digitalisation."*

Project management and a first-class solution to fixed asset management: all the indicators are positive and Boiron is already on its way to the next stage in its digital transformation. Joël Gailleton certainly does not regret the trust placed in a software/integrator partnership. *"The results far exceeded our expectations in terms of quality, reliability and traceability."*

Stéphane Picq, Purchasing and Finance Applications Manager with the Information Systems team, guided the project from start to finish. *"Within our guidelines of the specifications, we naturally took into account the fact that our Sage ERP is perfectly adapted to our business sector and to the pressures on our departments. Depending on whether our requirements could be met, we favoured the possibility of a migration of our fixed asset management to Sage Business Cloud Enterprise Management."*

Thanks to Sage Business Cloud Enterprise Management, Boiron can now rely on a fixed asset management process that is 100% digitalised; a process that, incidentally, is also compatible with IFRS standards. The integration of new fixed assets, around ten per day, is automated thanks to the fluid relationship between the ERP's accounting module and the fixed asset management module. Depreciation is also calculated automatically with a simple search function.

The fact that the database is updated directly and in real-time naturally means that the operators no longer have to manually input data into the Inventory.



Located in France (Paris and Lyon), as well as in Spain, the Netherlands, Romania, Slovakia and Switzerland, **DEVEHO Consulting Group** accompanies businesses in France and particularly across the globe. The DEVEHO teams are specialists in the Sage Business Cloud Enterprise Management ecosystem: integration of the software package, specific developments and add-ons, localisation development and change management. For more information, go to: www.deveho.com