



Benefits of TROPOS for Fresh Produces Processors and Packers

- Ensure full traceability from package to supplier consignment
- Reduce wastage from over-production and quality problems
- Improve quality consistency by making processes repeatable
- Improve customer service by improving on-time, in-full deliveries
- Reduce errors and penalties
- Improve visibility of operational activities leading to more proactive management
- Reduce costly fire-fighting caused by unforeseen problems
- Reduce cost and delay caused by reliance on paperwork
- Improve efficiency by collecting and using real-time information
- Automate processes that were previously reliant on local knowledge
- Improve responsiveness to customer changes
- Increase business performance and profitability

TROPOS for Food Manufacturing and Distribution

TROPOS is a powerful and flexible ERP system, widely used in the UK food and drinks industries. TROPOS has been developed for regulated, short-cycle demand-driven manufacturing using the process model. This makes it ideal for food processors and packers, particularly those supplying the major retailers or those distributing short shelf-life products.

Fresh Produce

Fresh produce includes fruit and vegetables that are sourced from growers in the UK and overseas, and are processed and packed for sale to retailers, foodservice or other food processors. This sector has gone through significant change in recent years, as produce distributors align their value-added services to the needs of the retailers and food processors. Most produce distributors now have extensive cleaning, grading, processing and packing facilities, which have similar characteristics to other fresh chilled food production.

Retailers demand produce regardless of seasonal availability, which means suppliers must source globally. Fresh produce is highly perishable, and subject to significant variation in grade, suitability and seasonal supply. Produce processors are closely aligned with growers and producers, and many own or control crops and farms. Although process plants have a high labour content, they are often highly automated and need sophisticated integration with business systems to provide visibility of in-plant operations.

TROPOS features that support the manufacture of short shelf-life food products are ideally suited for processors and packers of fresh produce. However, these processors have functional requirements in addition to those required for other food products.

- Consignment costing
- "Day one for day one" order and delivery processing
- Multiple product attributes and grades
- Retailer-specific packing and labelling
- Produce industry-specific quality management
- Integration with agronomists' systems



The buying power of the major retailers has resulted in a small number of key produce processors acting as consolidators, sourcing packed produce from smaller operations. TROPOS supports the triangulation of order management and documentation where orders are taken by the consolidator, goods are shipped by the supplier to the RDC, and invoices are raised and processed by the consolidator.

TROPOS For Fresh Produce Summary

TROPOS for Food Manufacturers

TROPOS is developed, implemented and supported by the UK authors, SSI. It is a manufacturing supply chain ERP solution designed for the fast-paced, highly regulated manufacturing needs of today. The TROPOS manufacturing and supply chain methodology is based on the process model ideally suited for those companies who operate in a process, demand pull or flow-line manufacturing environment, particularly with short manufacturing cycles and even shorter customer lead times.

TROPOS Modules

TROPOS is a highly integrated system, and is available to purchase and implement by module to suit your business processes and scope of requirements. Core business functions supported are:

- Sales & Distribution
- Warehousing & Inventory
- Inbound and Outbound Logistics
- Integrated Quality Control
- Process and Materials Planning
- Scheduling
- Purchasing
- Production Monitoring
- Shop-floor Data Collection
- Plant Maintenance
- Hazards Management
- Financials
- Business Intelligence and Reporting
- EDI and Electronic Commerce
- Human Resource Management
- Export Documentation

The Total TROPOS Solution

SSI can supply hardware, software and services to implement an ERP system covering the full scope of activities from order forecast to final accounts. TROPOS is a highly integrated system supplied in modules so that the total system can be configured to the scope of requirements.

TROPOS Technology

TROPOS is designed for platform and database independence to support rapid adoption of new technologies. TROPOS is a true multi-tier system with server choices of Windows or UNIX, and access from standard Browsers or Windows PC Clients. The database choice is Oracle or SQL Server.

TROPOS Customisation

Our policy is to support one standard product used by all our customers. TROPOS offers a number of levels of customisation to meet requirements of individual companies without changing core applications. In addition to the high level of parameter driven business and process rules that are expected within a package, TROPOS has been designed using many re-useable components which can be used by TROPOS Software Development tools to develop new or enhanced programs to support specialised requirements. This can be further extended in the Microsoft Development environment to provide an exceptional level of user customisation without affecting the integrity of the standard TROPOS application.

Implementation and Support Services

SSI provide a range of services covering the implementation and project management of the ERP system, and ongoing support services. Our Project Managers and application consultants have many years first hand experience in related industries, and our Implementation Methodology has been developed to ensure systems are delivered on time, within budget and meeting the customers business objectives with minimised risks to the organisation.

A range of technical services are available to assist customers during and after implementation. These range from advice on hardware selection to full remote systems management of an installation. Systems development and integration is also available on a project basis if required

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