

SENAI CIMATEC - a Brazilian university, increases control and efficiency over resources with Enterprise Foundation

Enterprise Foundation used for complex scheduling

SENAI CIMATEC has a three tier structure: a university, a technical school and a technology centre, and around 20,000 students. All resources are shared across the institution and this makes it difficult to schedule staff and spaces. In addition, SENAI's teaching philosophy states that at least 40% of the courses must be conducted in at workshops and laboratories, making scheduling even trickier. In 2010, Senai Cimatec chose Scientia to help it solve its scheduling problems.

Solving resource conflict problems in timetabling

Before deploying Scientia's solution (Enterprise Foundation and Web Room Booking), SENAI CIMATEC relied on individual department programming and "electronic paperwork". Resource conflicts were very common. Changes in the external marketplace, such as the increasing pressure from a growing Brazilian economy, brought new challenges to SENAI. The institution was therefore looking for a reputable solution that could improve efficiency in the use of resources, both in the long and short term.. After some in depth market research, Scientia's solution was deemed to be the most appropriate for SENAI CIMATEC's complex needs.

Improving resource control and optimisation

Despite a challenging implementation, with SENAI changing its student record system concurrently with implementing the new timetabling software, the deployment of Enterprise Foundation has resulted in better resource control and optimisation. For example, before the implementation it was not possible to know how laboratories and workshops were being used and rooms and practical areas were often double booked. It could appear that rooms were available when they were actually at full capacity. Also, information over who was in the classes was not precise and control of priorities was not possible.

Enterprise Foundation has enabled SENAI to clearly identify any double bookings and now information about classes is easily accessible to both students and staff. Proper planning and usage analysis have been achieved and can now be carried out whenever required.

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Valter Beal, Industrial Products Development Manager, SENAI CIMATEC



The next phase of the project has already started. The solution will be to expand to SENAI's other units across Bahia state. This will benefit a further 40,000 students. SENAI is also considering new packages such as Staff Workload Planner and ECS.

Speaking about Scientia's solutions, Valter Beal, Industrial Products Development Manager says "Scientia's software has enabled us to gain complete visibility of students' and staff's use of resources. We have now achieved better control and optimisation of our resources and are pleased to be extending the software to other sites".

About SENAI CIMATEC

SENAI is a non-profit organisation. Established over 70 years ago, it was created to supply qualified workers to the Brazilian workforce. It is market driven and supported by industry. It delivers a broad range of qualifications and courses countrywide. Over the years SENAI has adapted itself to industry needs and today provides a wide range of education from basic work skills right up to PhD graduates. SENAI CIMATEC is a reference centre for all other SENAI in Brazil, as it provides a broad range of education and also works as a Technology Centre to provide consulting, technological services and applied research.



Further Information

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