

Agilysys...

Restaurant Management Company *Streamlines Efficiency with DataMagine Solution*

Hallrich Inc., in Stow, Ohio, is one of the state's most amazing business success stories. What began as a single Pizza Hut® franchise location eventually grew into a franchise of 87 Pizza Hut locations in 19 northeastern Ohio counties. Hallrich, which has been in the restaurant business for more than 35 years, now employs more than 2,000 people in a variety of service and management positions and is ranked among the 15 largest Pizza Hut

franchise organizations in the United States, based on the number of restaurants it owns and operates.

With an operation that large, the accounts payable department is inundated with invoices—more than 3,400 each month—from hundreds of vendors that provide products and services to the various Pizza Hut stores. The company also processes

Solution at a Glance

Industry:

Food Service

Challenge:

Restaurant management company with 80+ units needed a document management system that was robust, flexible and reliable for processing and archiving invoices

Solution:

The DataMagine document management solution suite from Agilysys, Inc., sold through RS Technologies

Results:

Streamlined efficiency, increased productivity, cost savings



payroll in-house and is deluged with 1099s, W-2s and payroll reports.

According to Hallrich Controller Sandra Petersen, the avalanche of paper was becoming burdensome. "Our filing space is limited, and we were buried in paperwork." The company realized it needed a document management system to streamline invoice and payroll processing and improve staff productivity.

Easy to Implement, Easy to Use

Hallrich contacted RS Technologies, an Atlanta-based value-added reseller of document and output solutions, to assist them with finding and implementing a system that would fit its needs. The company looked at several solutions, even bringing staff into the conference room for vendor demonstrations. After narrowing the selection to three systems, Hallrich selected the DataMagine™ document management solution from Agilysys, Inc.

The DataMagine solution combines robust functionality with easy implementation. Its patented platform-independent technology works seamlessly with existing applications with little or no programming required. The scalable system scans, indexes and retrieves documents and computer reports for e-mailing, faxing or printing, and allows staff to exchange documents both internally between multiple sites and externally with vendors and suppliers. Its web capability is supported by up to 1,000 levels of group and user security, making it one of the most dependable imaging and archiving solutions on the market.

Hallrich installed the DataMagine solution in January 2005. Installation included the database, Web Access module,

a scanner, interfaces to the company's IBM® AS/400® accounts payable application, and the loading of client software on each workstation.

RS Technologies spent three days at Hallrich headquarters training 10 people in the accounting department. "It was so easy to learn," said Petersen. "Everyone was up to speed in no time." Now, staff members train new users quickly and easily, even teaching high school interns how to use the system in less than a day.

Working Smarter, Not Harder

The Hallrich accounts payable department now operates at peak efficiency. Invoices are scanned as soon they are received; only one additional step is required during daily entry to electronically file the invoice image into the system's database. Invoices are indexed automatically overnight in 10 different ways, including: enter date, vendor (plus a vendor 'short name'), vendor number, store number, invoice amount, invoice date, invoice number, expense period and expense year.

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The marketing department at Hallrich also uses the DataMagine solution to keep track of invoices related to the collateral pieces it prints for restaurants, such as business cards, buffet flyers, menu inserts, banners and promotional material. "We use a lot of vendors, and sometimes we don't remember which one printed a certain piece or how much it cost," says Erika Knight, marketing assistant. "With the DataMagine solution, I can quickly

review the invoices to obtain that kind of information and expedite the next round of ordering by duplicating what we've done in the past.”

Now, invoice and payroll problems are minimal. The accounting department can easily dispute an invoice by e-mailing a copy to the vendor. And when an employee loses a W-2 form or other tax-related documentation, payroll staff can retrieve and e-mail the document in seconds rather than having to go to the file cabinets, locate the form and make a copy for the employee.

A bonus is the enhanced audit trail the DataMagine solution provides. “We recently had a sales tax audit, and within three or four hours, we printed everything the auditors needed,” Petersen said. “Before implementing the DataMagine solution, it would have taken us two or three days to gather that kind of information.”

At the end of the year, Hallrich even e-mails its financial documents to the bank. With the solution's built-in security features, the company can safely store confidential information in the system.

Expansion on the Horizon

Hallrich is so pleased with the DataMagine document management solution that it plans to implement it in other departments. Next on the roster is human resources.

The company also plans to get district managers online, so they can access and approve their invoices remotely. “That will allow them to work on other tasks when they are at the corporate office and get them back to their restaurants to take care of our customers,” said Petersen.

The DataMagine solution has dramatically improved productivity at Hallrich, streamlining efficiency and allowing staff to focus on more important duties. The company has not only eliminated the paper, but has also gained the most valuable commodity of all—time.

“The more time we can spend consulting with our restaurant teams and the less time pushing paper, the more effective we're going to be,” Petersen said.



[For more information about the DataMagine solution, please call 1-800-241-8768; or visit www.DataMagine.com](http://www.DataMagine.com)

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