



CASE STUDY: AESCULAP, Inc.

Leading global medical device manufacturer uses CERDAAC to efficiently manage their calibration services



Overview

Aesculap, Inc., is a B. Braun company founded in 1867 in Tuttlingen, Germany, to manufacture high-performance surgical instruments. Today, the company is one of the largest and most respected manufacturers of surgical instruments, medical devices and sterilization container systems in the world. As a leading medical device manufacturing company, Aesculap is passionately committed to providing high-quality, innovative products and services to all surgical disciplines, including Neurosurgery, Plastic and Reconstructive, Cardiovascular, Laparoscopic and General Surgeries.





The AESCULAP, Inc. Challenge

Keeping the instruments, equipment and other assets used in the medical device manufacturing process properly and precisely calibrated is a critical job for a company that strives to deliver products and services that improve the quality of patients' lives. To ensure each asset's performance, the asset must be assigned a part number, a detailed description, the date it was put in use, calibration services clearly documented, and any out-of-tolerance incidents recorded,



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Mack Lebrun is a Quality Engineer at Aesculap Implant Systems, responsible for keeping the company's calibration management program for the nearly 200 assets used in the manufacture of its medical devices on track. He also works with the R&D engineering team, reviewing

best inspection methods, performing gauge determinations for jobs that come through the lab, and more.

When Lebrun joined Aesculap in 2019, the company had already implemented CERDAAC to manage its calibration management processes. Following a company restructuring, Lebrun was tasked with managing the CERDAAC system. He contacted the CERDAAC support team for help. The team walked Lebrun through CERDAAC training sessions and made sure he was comfortable using the system. "The CERDAAC system was intuitive and pretty easy to learn and use," says Lebrun.



CERDAAC Facilitates Knowledge Transfer

The ability to capture and easily share detailed calibration data and processes is an advantage for companies experiencing rapid growth and other inevitable changes.

"With CERDAAC, I was able to log in and see all the information that had been entered and how our assets were being tracked and managed," says Lebrun. "CERDAAC definitely saved me a lot of time and headaches."

Lebrun now regularly uses CERDAAC to add new assets to the system, track and manage the calibration schedules for each asset, and retire assets that are no longer in use. Using CERDAAC, he is also able to create more consistent and standard processes and data for each asset. “CERDAAC definitely helps us make the process of managing calibration of assets more efficient. Now, instead of using a spreadsheet to assign new asset numbers and track all of our assets, we are migrating to using only CERDAAC,” says Lebrun.

Streamlining Audits

Medical device manufacturers like Aesculap must adhere to strict rules from a wide variety of regulatory agencies, including the FDA, and are subject to regular inspections and audits. Another of Lebrun’s responsibilities is helping to provide accurate documentation of asset calibration histories whenever there is an audit.

“During our last internal audit, the team wanted to know if we could quickly check on the status of any random asset. Using CERDAAC made it easy. We just go into CERDAAC and pull up the asset, and it’s all right there: the calibration service histories, certificates, the status of that asset, everything.”

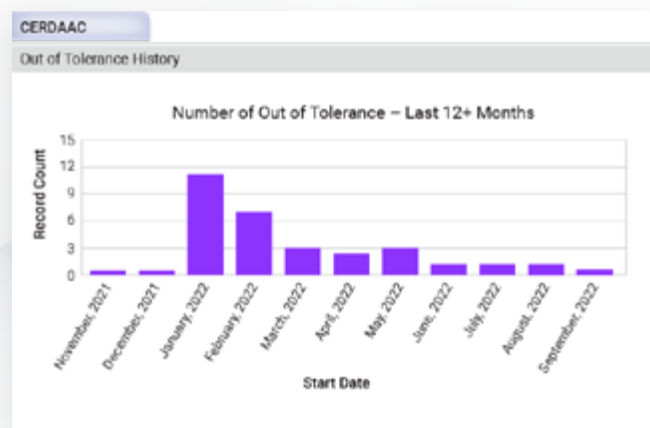
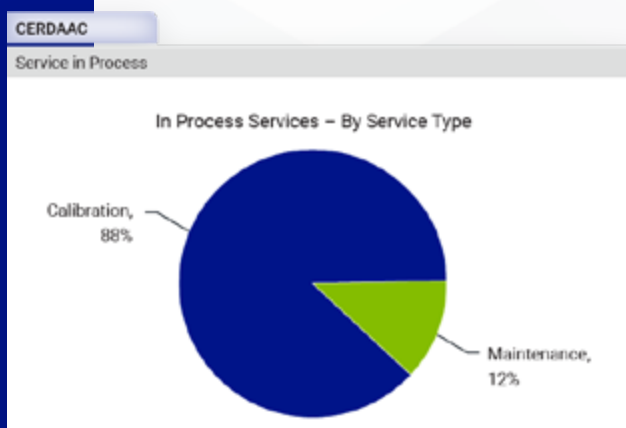


Tracking Monthly Calibration Metrics with Reports

After that internal audit, Lebrun's manager realized the value of CERDAAC's reporting capabilities, and began to ask for monthly reports on key calibration metrics, such as the number of "out of tolerance" assets, on-time services performed, and more. Using CERDAAC, Lebrun is able to easily share reports and dashboards that give his managers the data they need at a glance.

"CERDAAC's reporting is probably the feature I use the most," says Lebrun. "I can easily provide the data without having to compile it all by hand from a spreadsheet. I just select the reports I want, and I can email them directly to the managers from CERDAAC."

Aesculap's R&D team also uses CERDAAC reports to gain visibility into an asset's calibration schedule and plan their projects accordingly. "Instead of coming in and asking us where an asset is located or when an asset is due back from service, they can just log into CERDAAC and see the data for themselves."



Powerful Capabilities for Future Growth

At this time, Aesculap is using CERDAAC in two different sites for calibration management, one in Pennsylvania and one in St. Louis. Lebrun says the more

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he uses CERDAAC, the more he realizes the system has powerful capabilities the company hasn't even tapped yet. “I know there is a lot more to CERDAAC than we are using it for now,” says Lebrun.

“As we get more data into the system and our processes become even more standardized, I look forward to learning to use more of CERDAAC's capabilities to make our processes even more efficient.”

As the company extends its usage of CERDAAC to other users, another advantage of CERDAAC is its pricing model, which does not charge for additional users. That means more individuals within Lebrun's organization can get the benefits of logging in to get the data they need from CERDAAC at a glance, saving themselves time and making Lebrun's job even more efficient.

Overall, Lebrun appreciates how CERDAAC helps him do his job better and more efficiently. “I would definitely recommend CERDAAC to any other business because it is very robust,” he says. It's a very robust, in-depth calibration management system and a powerful tool for your business.”

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by **SIMCO**

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CERDAAC is a leading computerized maintenance management system that delivers operations excellence and automates and coordinates calibration, maintenance, validations, and more to ensure compliance with efficiency and no downtime.

CERDAAC is purpose-built for highly regulated manufacturers who need to deliver high quality products and profits while meeting complex regulatory requirements.

Trusted by over 3,000 companies worldwide including Abbott, Corning, Siemens, Varian, and Stryker and many more. Learn more at www.cerdaac.com