Title

Using Sample Manager LIMS to deliver Paperless Operations Management

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Abstract

Automation of compliance activities and controls is a significant step to reducing the amount of paper that is used to support business operations. Paper based data collection and transcription is often a symptom of where people are acting as the interface between different information systems, which is both an inefficient and low quality method to move information from one place to another. Integrating systems together and automating checks and verifications removes bottlenecks, increases efficiency of operations and makes critical information available as fast as possible.

A key technology to deliver a paperless operation is the integration platform. By using a common architecture to connect SampleManager LIMS to everything from laboratory analysers and instruments, through to enterprise systems such as ERP and PIMS, and mobile devices, the laboratory data becomes the interchange hub for information critical to the effective management of the process.
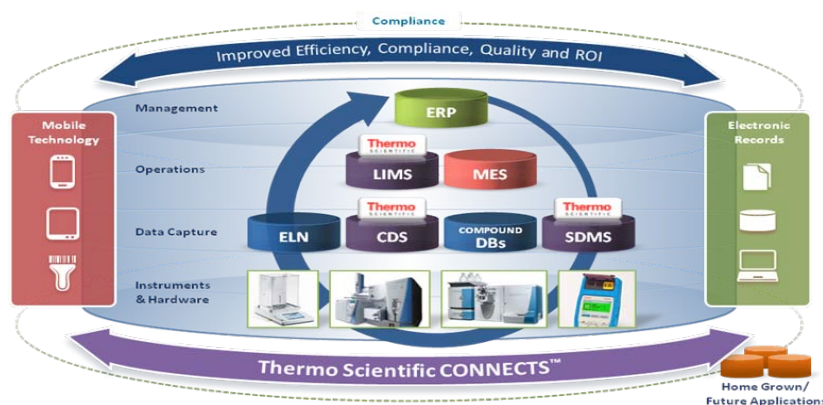
Laboratory data is often collected from outside the walls of the lab – starting with the initial collection of samples for testing. Integrating the LIMS with mobile devices, such as smart phones, allows the lab to make use of the facilities already enabled in this form of hardware. Users are able to accurately collect location and date and time stamps for the samples, record additional information using voice recognition, and accurately transfer the data back to SampleManager LIMS using wireless connectivity.

SampleManager LIMS fully supports ISO17025 controls for the laboratory, and by integrating LIMS to other operational systems, can improve productivity and whilst maintaining compliance with regulatory standards.

SampleManager LIMS ensures that all testing activities are carried out by the right people on validated equipment by incorporating controls for instrument calibration and maintenance, as well as operator training records. Using the built-in stock control functionality keeps automated records of which materials are being used in the lab, and can trigger automatic alerts for re-ordering of regularly used materials and reagents ensuring that the lab is always running at peak efficiency. By comparing results with pre set limits and specifications, SampleManager can alert operators when issues requiring their attention arise. By automating complex calculations, SampleManager can remove potential areas of error introduction and time consuming manual checks.

Finally the SampleManager certified integration with PIMS and ERP ensures that quality data generated within the laboratory environment is able to be used by process managers and planners as soon as it becomes available.