The Sheets Match: eZCom Integrates Lingo with Made4net for Levtex

Executive Summary



Levtex offers quality home bedding products—quilt sets, sheet sets, duvets and comforters, pillows and shams to a roster of trading partners that includes Bed Bath & Beyond, Target, and Walmart. The company has been a client of eZCom since January of 2012.

When the company launched, its focus was on wholesale orders from established brick-and-mortar retailers. In the past decade, however, it has seen the business shift to online sales, a trend that was only accelerated by the COVID pandemic.

The shift to online channels translated into a difference in the type and the quantity of orders that Levtex fulfilled. In the wholesale model, the company had a smaller number of shipments, but each one included a large number of cartons. With eCommerce and direct-to-consumer drop shipping, the company now has a much larger number of shipments, but many are a single carton.

The number of wholesale shipments was small enough that it could be managed through a manual process. As the volume of sales from online channels increased, however, automation was required.

About Levtex

Founded by three industry colleagues, Levtex has a history of meeting shifting consumer tastes, finding new retail opportunities, and establishing itself as a reliable supplier to major retailers.

The company has products across multiple price points, and has expanded its line to include offerings for the bedrooms of teens, children, and babies.

Levtex has been on the Lingo platform since 2012, and runs a Warehouse Management System (WMS) from Made4net. Charles Ginn, Principal at Levtex, oversees finance and operations at the company. "Having this technology solution in place, with the automation and connectivity it provides, allowed us to be more strategic. Without it, moving as quickly as we did would have been very difficult.."

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Charles Ginn Principal, Levtex



Industry: Housewares



Customer Since: 2012



Connections:

WMS: Made4Net

Top Trading Partners:



- AmazonBed Bath
- Nordstrom
- Macys
- Target



Solution

As Levtex moved to a new warehouse facility, it also conducted a search for a new WMS and eventually chose a solution from Made4net.

"Charles and the Levtex team saw the need for a new business model and created a new warehouse operation to position itself for success," noted Lonny Avital, Executive Vice President for Professional Services at Made4net. "We focused on delivering a solution that replaced manual processes with automation, while also providing the flexibility that would allow the company to pivot and adapt as their business evolved."

Sales from online channels were exploding, and it was essential to create connectivity that would replace manual processes with automated solutions. Made4net used the clear documentation of the eZCom API, and the two companies worked together to deliver a seamless solution for Levtex that became fully operational in 2019.

It was built to leverage the best of both platforms—Made4net has a wide range of features including WMS and pick-andpack, while eZCom and Lingo deliver the data, provide seamless shipping connections, and make it easy to generate retailer-branded packing slips.

Here's how it works. Orders move from Lingo to the Made4net WMS as they come in, and the Made4net wave-driven pickand-pack technology, installed at the Levtex warehouse, launches into action.

Once the product is packed, the eZCom API provides the necessary shipping connections—Amazon, FedEx, UPS, and others. The information required for shipping labels is generated and fed back to Made4net. With the connection to the API, the data for retailer-specific packing slips and shipping labels is sent to the printers at the Levtex warehouse. Everything that is required for packing is created automatically. When the shipments leave the warehouse, action is triggered in Lingo and ASNs are sent to retailers.

Results

Manual order processing has been replaced by automation. Many more orders are shipped in far less time. Drop shipping for retailers and sales from online marketplaces have grown substantially.

"Providing solutions that offer flexibility is a guiding principle for our development team," remarked Carol Weidner, CEO at eZCom Software. "Every business is different and constantly changing—working with Made4net gave us an opportunity to leverage our integration capabilities and deliver a product with real value for our client."

Levtex has been able to move seamlessly from a wholesale to a multi-channel model. Since 2018, the total number of orders and trading partners has increased substantially, and the company has been able to manage the growth with more automation.

"Having this technology solution in place, with the automation and connectivity it provides, allowed us to be more strategic," added Ginn. "Without it, moving as quickly as we did would have been very difficult."

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Carol Weidner CEO, eZCom Software

Do you have a challenge we can solve?

In today's retail environment, optimizing the supply chain is critical for any brand. Consumers are accustomed to instant gratification, and stores want to work with suppliers who are nimble enough to respond to change in tastes or spikes in demand.

At eZCom, we are committed to building integration solutions that meet the business needs of our customers. Whether it's an ERP like NetSuite, accounting software like QuickBooks, a WMS, or the system used by a 3PL, our Lingo software can be tailored to match your workflow and allow your company to process orders the same way. And in a lot less time.

