



ARB is Australia's **largest manufacturer** and **distributor** of **4x4 accessories**. The company employs over **1200 staff** with an annual turnover of approximately **\$280M**. The organisation has its Head Office and manufacturing plant in Kilsyth Victoria, **48 Retail stores** and an **international** presence of **Distribution centres** in Thailand, USA and Czechoslovakia, plus an export network that extends through more than **100 countries** around the globe.

Kantion automates ARB's ERP systems with Rev Scheduler

ARB's IT systems support the manufacturing and distribution of a wide range of products such as bullbars, Airlockers™, winches, camping products, and recovery equipment, across a growing number of stores and warehouses.

Expanding business operations led to a recent decision to implement JD Edwards. This required a reliable scheduling system to run a series of batch jobs to transfer data from ARB's legacy system to JD Edwards,

then trigger the required JDE jobs, automating the dependencies accordingly. The growing number of ARB stores and warehouses also meant an increase in the volume of JDE jobs and complexity of the schedule going forward.

As Tony McCoy, ARB's IT Manager explains "Due to international operations, we have a narrow window overnight for these tasks to be performed. We needed them run on time and reliably".

RevSoft Rev Scheduler will manage the growing number and complexity of jobs and dependencies as the business expands

Tony's team looked at writing scripts to manage dependencies, but concluded this approach would not provide the level of control and visibility of the schedule that was required, whilst absorbing valuable technical resource.

ARB first heard about RevSoft Rev Scheduler at the Quest annual user conference. A demonstration of the solution by Kantion, the ANZ Distributor, led to a Proof of Concept running at ARB's data centre.

The PoC required the creation of a single schedule for both the JDE jobs and legacy data transfer scripts. Rev Scheduler, utilising its JDE interface, submitted and tracked the status of both the JDE and legacy scripts, enabling ARB's JDE jobs to be triggered only upon successful completion of the data transfer scripts. Similarly, in the event of a pre-requisite job failing, subsequent dependant jobs would not run. By introducing event-based scheduling to JDE, job throughput would be maximised to meet the batch window constraints, and the risk of error reduced.

Visibility of the schedule and job status was provided by through escalation of issues through email/SMS, and a centralised GUI console showing the real-time status of all jobs - JDE and non-JDE. In addition, from within Rev Scheduler, JDE variables such as job queue and print queue could be changed at run time, and UBE information such as processing options and selection criteria recorded within the Rev Scheduler job history.

Tony concludes: "Kantion were able to demonstrate the functionality of their product, how it would address our requirements, demonstrate a Proof of Concept and then assist with implementation and go live. This all happened very quickly with a minimum of fuss. We have reduced risks and seen productivity gains – we are able to reliably process our batch work and if there is an error, quickly see what the problem is, fix it and re-run the process."

With the PoC a success, the solution was rolled out into production. This involved the creation of "Group Jobs" within Rev Scheduler to manage all end of day and month processing including legacy job dependencies. Additionally, as an order is finished being entered into the JDE Batch interface files, Rev Scheduler triggers the submission of the appropriate JDE UBE without manual intervention, further streamlining the order processing workflow.

Going forward, Rev Scheduler will manage the growing number and complexity of jobs and dependencies as the business expands. This will involve providing visibility of relevant jobs and schedules to specific business units, and having the scheduler escalate issues to appropriate people via email/SMS.



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