



Sample Master® LIMS Improves Efficiency, Productivity and Data Quality in the EggSolutions® - Vanderpol's Quality Control Laboratory

The Laboratory is more organized and efficient in terms of time savings in task execution from sample login to analysis to reporting.

Organization Profile

EggSolutions - Vanderpols Inc. has been a leader in the egg processing industry for over 50 years with a laser focus on quality. Proud to be a family owned company and the largest egg processor in Western Canada, they are committed to innovation. Their goal is to provide customers and industry partners with leading-edge functional egg solutions that meet food industry standards and address the growing consumer demand for nutritious products.

Their Challenge

EggSolutions - Vanderpol's initial goals for purchasing a LIMS were essentially to improve efficiency, productivity and data quality in their Quality Control Laboratory. Initially, they were looking for a system replacement that would leverage functionality, ease of use, reliability, and eliminate the need for multiple data entries which plagued their historical system. They wanted to improve and streamline their workflow and process efficiency without having to customize the software. They also searched for a LIMS vendor that would provide excellent technical support, free product upgrades, meet the dynamic regulatory requirements in their industry, and that offered training programs for their team (formal classroom training, as well as web based and one-one-one training).

As EggSolutions - Vanderpol's started their search for the right LIMS for their food testing/QA laboratory they had to consider the size, scope and focus of their laboratory. Having ISO 17025 accreditation, their laboratory has specific requirements that require a better traceability of test results and operations. They follow (HACCP), Hazard Analysis of Critical Control Points in their company and wanted a product that would allow the laboratory to concentrate on laboratory processes and data interpretation rather than laborious sample processing, data entry, result processing (manual calculations) and reporting. As an ISO certified laboratory, quality is extremely important in their internal operations and they searched for a software partner that was also ISO certified (ATL has held this certification for over 20 years) along with an excellent industry reputation. This certification not only demonstrated their commitment to quality but also demonstrated that they passed external audits of their Quality Management System, by a leading auditing firm.

The EggSolutions - Vanderpol's Quality Control Laboratory has its own unique business needs as an in-house laboratory and being able to integrate some of their laboratory processes into the company quality programs was critical. Their group wanted to minimize customization and leverage the system's out of the box configurability.



www.vanderpolseggs.com
Abbotsford, British Columbia

“Sample Master® LIMS has streamlined our sample processing, QC analysis and data management operations. We were able to quickly and easily implement the system allowing us to focus on data analysis and quality control and providing our customers with excellent products.”

Juan Maya,
Quality Control Manager,
EggSolutions - Vanderpols Inc.



Our Solution

With that strategy in mind, ATL engineers worked with the laboratory to evaluate their workflows and assist with Sample Master® system configuration to streamline their collection/ testing/trace back operations. ATL specifically helped make the laboratory more organized and efficient in terms of time savings in task execution from login (bar coded labels, login process improvements, Chain of Custody, Certificate of Analysis and summary reports,) to analysis to reporting.

The ATL Bar Code Starter Package was purchased and implemented. This included a Zebra label printer and two handheld scanners. The addition of bar coding and scanning has resulted in increased throughput, elimination of transcription errors, and improved efficiency of the sample login through final analysis processes. They also purchased Result Point®, the secure web portal that allows those throughout the organization to check on the status of preliminary and final results 24/7 without having to interrupt the laboratory team. Result Point not only enhances communication across the organization, but also displays the results of laboratory analysis, as available. It also has the ability to allow internal customers to print preliminary or final reports from PDFs that are automatically generated and linked to each sample batch. In addition, they are able to attach other types of files, such as Excel, documents or images. The LIMS is an integral part of their laboratory - rapid sample login, sample tracking, data entry, QA/QC, sample scheduling, chemical inventory and resource management help the laboratory meet their HACCP and regulatory compliance goals. The software is user friendly and ATL's live, skilled technical support engineers are very helpful. Most support issues are often closed the same day.

The laboratory performs approximately 4,200 tests/month, equaling more than 50,000 analyses per year, primarily related to quality control of finished food products. They dedicate about 80% of their resources to foodborne pathogen detection (i.e. Salmonella, Listeria) with a wide range of methods that go from classical microbiology (general plating methods) to advanced molecular testing with PCR based analysis. Because the analytical testing workload on instrumentation is still at a modest volume, it is currently not cost effective to pursue instrument integration. However, it is nice to know that the LIMS will support the interfaces when they are ready.

ATL also offers excellent training programs which begin with on-site training during installation and implementation (with complete user manuals, training guides and supplemental reference material), followed by web training and webcasts, and the LIMS Boot Camp. Team members attended the LIMS Boot Camp in Pinehurst, NC, and received comprehensive, in-depth, hands on training that prepared us to extract the most value from our software investment. They were also able to network with other users and discuss best practices and share ideas. They learned about GALP (Good Automated Laboratory Practices), all the features and functions in the LIMS, some of which they weren't currently utilizing, and many that will be deployed as the laboratory grows.

The laboratory is confident in their LIMS software implementation which is backed by a very responsive support team that they know they can count on. Their implementation was a success and they continue to grow their business objectives related to information management and their quality control objectives, beyond their original installation goals.

Accelerated Technology Laboratories (ATL), headquartered in West End, NC, provides laboratory automation solutions to a variety of industries from analytical, environmental, food & beverage, water and wastewater, agriculture, cannabis, chemical, government, public health, biotechnology, clinical testing and manufacturing. ATL's LIMS products are installed in over 600 laboratories around the world and supported by a steadfast commitment to excellence in product quality, support and training. ATL is one of the few LIMS providers that is ISO 9001:2015 certified. For additional information, visit: www.atlab.com.

