

## Case Study



**GEORGE FISCHER +GF+**  
Piping Systems

### The Customer

George Fischer Plastics Ltd, based in Huntingdon (UK), is just one of many divisions of the International George Fischer Group. They are a manufacturer of injection moulded plastic pressure pipe fittings, for industrial, building services, water & gas distribution and chemical applications and are used world-wide.

### The Problem

Over many years, George Fischer has built up a substantial paper archive of inspection reports. The inspection report is vital to the manufacturing process as it is used to both analyse scrap and also to provide traceability on every product they make.

The reports are used regularly by a variety of people at the Huntingdon office and even in head office, which is based at Schaffhausen, Switzerland. George Fischer needed a simple way to make these inspection reports available, electronically to the desktop.

### The Solution



George Fischer chose the Alchemy document management system from UK Alchemy integrator, *Document Genetics*, as it provided a cost effective, robust system with a straightforward scanning front end. Now all inspection reports are scanned immediately using a Fujitsu M3091DC scanner and the card copy destroyed. Using the Alchemy Search engine, any user on the network can gain immediate access to a document, to view, print, fax or email. This has proved very useful for faxing copies of Inspection Reports to Head Office via the Zetafax network fax facility. The Alchemy System has also been well received by shop floor personnel who find Alchemy Search engine intuitive and simple to use.

**Brian Sweetser – Quality Manager**, is delighted with Alchemy. *“The inspection report is a vital tool to enable me to trace the manufacturing history of a problem product which may have a technical issue. From the inspection report, I can check back on the original batch it came from and even a specific machine. Also, due to the nature of the manufacturing process, we need to continually keep an eye on scrape rates. Each month I produce a scrap report, which previously was arduous task, as I had to gather all the information from a paper based document. Now from my desktop I can find all the information I need reliably (no lost documents) and in a fraction of the time”.*

Brian Fielding the IT manager has now expanded the use of the Alchemy system into other areas. Using the Alchemy DataGrabber module, purchase orders spool files are grabbed as they leave the AS/400 MAPICS ERP system and automatically pulled into Alchemy with relevant index fields. The raw data is then combined with a form-overlay, so the purchase order looks like a real printed copy. Brian has also used Alchemy to store other contractual and quality assurance documents and is actively looking to expand its use within the company.

**Brian Fielding – IT Manger**. *“Alchemy has certainly proved a success, its been quick to implement and simple to support. We like products which we can start small and grow organically through the organisation, which is exactly what we have done with Alchemy”.*