



NEWS RELEASE

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SCS/FRIGETTE OVERCOMES MAPPING CHALLENGE WITH E-PUBLISHER

DOWNERS GROVE, ILLINOIS – While a number of systems are available for helping companies automate their catalog data, not all systems are capable of mapping that data to industry e-Cat formats. That was the challenge faced by SCS/Frigette, one of the world's leading independent manufacturers of automotive air conditioning systems and components. They solved that problem by installing e-Publisher, a powerful database management tool from Vertical Development, Inc. (VDI).

Based in Fort Worth, TX, SCS/Frigette supplies custom air conditioning systems for automotive, van, truck and recreational vehicle applications to Ford, General Motors, Nissan and other major OEMs worldwide. They also offer a complete line of air conditioning replacement parts sold through distributors and key installers nationwide. With over 10,000 part numbers and multiple AC product groups, SCS/Frigette recognized the need to automate their database several years ago, selecting a cost-competitive supplier for the project.

While the system helped them with their cataloging needs, it did not have the capabilities needed for outputting files that met Aftermarket Industry Association (AAIA) and Activant mapping requirements. SCS/Frigette realized that they needed to work with a database management partner experienced with industry standards, so they contracted VDI.

"We knew what VDI had done for other AC manufacturers and were confident they could do the same for us," said Richard Watkins, Vice President, AC Parts Division, SCS/Frigette. VDI used its e-Publisher software to input files supplied by SCS/Frigette, consolidating and linking the data to create a single relational database of all their product data covering cars, vans, light trucks and SUVs.

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SCS/Frigette Overcomes Mapping Challenge with E-Publisher - Continued

E-Publisher enables SCS/Frigette to manage the data, updating it as needed. The system also features a unique mapping process allowing files to be exported in industry standard formats such as AAIA, Activant and other e-Cat formats.

“With the on-site training provided by VDI, SCS/Frigette adapted to e-Publisher quickly,” said Richard. “Their system is very easy to use, so it didn’t take long for us to learn how to use it.” He’s also pleased with the support they receive from VDI. “VDI is a good company to work with,” he added. “If we need any help, all we have to do is make a phone call.”

After installing e-Publisher, SCS/Frigette had no problem successfully exporting files that meet AAIA and Activant requirements. “Thanks to VDI, we’ve solved the mapping challenge,” added Richard.

Vertical Development’s e-Publisher program is ideally suited to all types of companies, especially businesses like SCS/Frigette that need mapping capabilities. By consolidating part numbers from multiple spreadsheets into a single user interface, it enables companies to map to AAIA, Activant and e-Cat formats as well as generate print catalogs, CD-ROMs and other informational tools in-house, easily and economically. Solutions in place range from small 32-page catalogs to 3,000-page mega-catalogs. Their new e-WebCatalog system allows companies to upload AAIA formatted catalogs onto the Internet, quickly and cost effectively.

A leading provider of content management systems, Vertical Development, Inc. offers e-Publisher, e-Catalog, and e-WebCatalog systems that support simultaneous publishing to print, web and CD-ROM formats from a single data source. Their ShowMeTheParts system is dedicated to publishing catalogs on CD. Vertical Development also offers mapping services to companies without systems, allowing them to export their data in AAIA (ACES, Legacy, PIES), Activant Solutions (CCI/Triad), NAPA (Attribute, PartsPro), Wrenchhead and other retailer formats. VDI’s software has streamlined data management for companies nationwide in a variety of industries, including many of the largest manufacturers in the automotive market. Founded in 1983, the company has offices in Downers Grove and Huntley, IL, and Fremont, CA.

To find out more about the systems and services available from Vertical Development, please call (847) 609-9540, or e-mail rgarand@verticaldev.com. More information can also be obtained by visiting the company’s web sites at www.verticaldev.com and www.e-WebCatalog.com.