

Art's Way Manufacturing Finds That Data Loaders Save the Day in Ways Not Imagined

With deep roots in farm equipment manufacturing, Art's Way Manufacturing is the North American leader in Portable Grinder Mixers. They have diversified over the years to include the manufacturing of pull behind farm equipment, modular labs, pressure vessels and cutting tools.

They use 32 Soft's [Item Master](#), [Product Structure](#) and [Routing Maintenance](#) Data Loaders to manage their QAD data quickly and easily and find these tools to be critical to their efficiency on a daily basis. They have also found that these Data Loaders save the day when it comes to special projects and applications.

"Data Loaders are a tremendous asset to me every day as Director of Materials," says Gene Tonne. "They keep our IT folks focused on more complicated things than manipulating data because we can take care of massive changes ourselves. They also save our engineers time in getting products up and running. But I have to say, they've really made me look good when it comes to special applications."

"We just don't fear necessary business decisions that involve massive changes to our QAD data. Thanks to 32 Soft's Data Loaders, we know we can handle those changes with ease and speed," says Gene Tonne.

For example, Art's Way Manufacturing decided to move from discrete to advanced repetitive work orders for their line of Portable Grinder Mixers. With eight models comprised of about 500 parts each, they knew the transition would not be easy.

They used QAD's internal programs to make massive changes to operations needed to transition the first model. It took more than 80 hours and they encountered many errors along the way.

"I knew there had to be a better way, so I looked for another solution. For the next model transitions, we used 32 Soft's [Product Structure](#) and [Routing Maintenance](#) Data Loaders to manage our QAD data during the transition. It has saved us hours and hours of time, 4 hours to do what it had originally taken 80 hours to do."

Art's Way has used these Data Loaders for additional special applications. They've had occasions where they needed to transfer and integrate large amounts of disparate data between sites in order to set new items or combine operations. "Using the Data Loaders, we were able to complete the project in less than 2 weeks vs. the 4-8 weeks it had previously taken for a similar project." says Gene.

In addition to being a powerful tool for managing their nearly 6,000 items in QAD, Art's Way has found the [Item Master](#) Data Loader to be an effective training tool. "Just imagine the reaction when you tell someone they need to review or set up 6,000 items when they can only see them one at a time in QAD. But give them a spreadsheet -- it is so much easier to understand our data when viewing it in Excel where they can see all the data at once."

"We continue to find new ways every day to use these tools to manipulate our data, make our jobs easier and our operations run more smoothly," says Gene. "And, we just don't fear necessary business decisions that involve massive changes to our QAD data. Thanks to 32 Soft's Data Loaders, we know we can handle those changes with ease and speed."



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