

PRESS RELEASE

Leading Enterprise Reduces Costs and Lowers Risk with Vintara

Ryerson Tull Leverages Vintara's Application and Services to Manage Quality Enterprisewide

OAKLAND, CA., January 10, 2003 – Vintara, the leading provider of Web-based process management solutions and services, today announced North America's leading distributor and processor of metals, Ryerson Tull, Inc. (NYSE: RT) has achieved significant cost reductions in managing their quality functions enterprisewide with the implementation of Vintara's application.

As a company of firsts, Ryerson Tull recognized the need to leverage the technology that would enable them to streamline the key business processes associated with quality and ensure that their commitment to deliver complete customer satisfaction was not compromised.

With the challenges of converting their existing paper-based documents to an online format, consolidating multiple quality systems, establishing a fully integrated enterprisewide quality management system and completing the transition from ISO 9002:1994 to the ISO 9001:2000 standard by December 2003, Ryerson Tull came to Vintara for the solution.

"Our ability to effectively manage the quality process across the entire enterprise by using a system that provides complete visibility to every aspect of our quality function, regardless of activity or location is the greatest benefit of the Vintara application to us at Ryerson," states Ryerson Tull's Director of Corporate Quality, Jerry Smith.

The integration of the Vintara application as the basis for franchising Ryerson Tull's key business process of quality has seen the company realize a range of significant benefits. "Over the past 18 months, since implementing the Vintara solution, we have seen improvements and benefits across a range of key performance areas. The Vintara application allowed us to consolidate our multiple quality systems into one and to streamline our efforts", says Smith.

Since implementing the application, the company has been able to streamline their internal audit processes and drastically reduce the number of auditor days, all of which has resulted in annual savings from reduced administrative and operating costs is in excess of \$600,000.

"Ryerson Tull is a company of firsts. We were the first in our industry to offer a broad range of fabrication outsourcing services and to establish a metallurgical services group to provide manufacturing, engineering and design support," stated Neil Novich, Chairman, President & CEO of Ryerson Tull. "We also led with the creation of our centralized national account group to service multi-location customers. Now we are the first in our industry to implement this type of solution. We were looking for the next level of quality and process management and we see Vintara as a company that can help us franchise our process and continuously improve upon our outstanding reputation and quality."

"Ryerson Tull is an excellent example of an enterprise realizing the true benefits Web-based quality management has to offer," said Glenn Kohner, Chairman and CEO of Vintara. "The \$600,000 total annual cost savings Ryerson Tull has achieved through the implementation of the Vintara system, a number the company predicts will at least double in 2003, validates the power of the our application."



About Vintara

Vintara is the leading provider of Web-based process management solutions and services. Founded in 1997, Vintara has a proven track record of helping the enterprise successfully prepare for and cost-effectively maintain compliance with a range of domestic and internationally recognized standards. Our customers come from a variety of industries, with a diverse range of needs. In every case, Vintara has created solutions that meet and exceed their growing business needs.

Combining innovative technology with training and consulting services, our brands – ISO9, ISO14, ISO17 and OHS18 – deliver the solutions that help the enterprise manage their key business processes setting the path to continual improvement.

For more information on Vintara, please visit www.vintara.com or contact us at pr@vintara.com.