



## News Release

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### **Medical Equipment Manufacturer Selects PlanetTogether Advanced Planning and Scheduling Solution To Complement Its MySAP R/3 Manufacturing System**

The Anspach Effort, Inc., Chooses PlanetTogether APS to manage its complex production scheduling requirements in conjunction with its MySAP ERP system.

**San Diego, CA—October 2, 2008**—PlanetTogether, LLC today announced that The Anspach Effort, Inc. a medical equipment manufacturing enterprise, has selected the PlanetTogether Advanced Planning and Scheduling (APS) solution to better manage its sophisticated production scheduling tasks. The Anspach Effort, headquartered in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, manufactures and distributes high-speed instrumentation for neurosurgery, neurotology, otology, and orthopedics.

The company's manufacturing processes are too complex to accurately plan and schedule without the help of a powerful software tool. Bruce Hays, Director of Material Systems and Information Technology for Anspach, explained the challenges the company faced. "Each item involves many individual processes, including some that we subcontract externally. When you multiply those processes by 1,100 items, and 2,000 concurrent production orders, you get an idea of the complexity. Production is further complicated due to the critical nature of manufacturing medical equipment—we frequently need to reschedule a process to provide a vital piece of equipment sooner than originally scheduled."

The company evaluated several APS solutions before deciding on PlanetTogether in part due to the rapid implementation schedule and the interface with Anspach's ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) solution, MySAP. With the powerful lean manufacturing capabilities MySAP offers and PlanetTogether fully supports, Anspach has been able to migrate to a build-to-order manufacturing model. In the past two months alone, the company has eliminated 250 production orders—orders that previously would have been built to satisfy forecasts.

"The shift to PlanetTogether is saving us about 15 percent in inventory overhead and about 20 percent in overtime labor expenses. We're not building equipment to stock any longer—we're building to ship," Hays said.

The what-if impact analysis capabilities of the software allow Anspach to immediately see the effect of rescheduling a particular job, without interrupting the scheduling system. Limiting factors such as labor, equipment, tools, and materials are scheduled accurately to ensure that schedules are reliable and easy to follow by staff on the shop floor.

"We now have a consistent tool for our planning and scheduling that is used by most of the departments, from supervisors, production planners, purchasing, IT staff, and management," concluded Hays. "More important, we're delivering what we said we would, when we said we would. PlanetTogether is an amazingly powerful tool."

#### **About The Anspach Effort, Inc.**

The Anspach Effort, Inc. is a successful, continuously evolving business whose focus concentrates on high-speed instrumentation for Neurosurgery, Neurotology, Otology, and Orthopedics. The company is committed to providing product quality, technology, and service that are best in class. For more information, visit [www.anspach.com](http://www.anspach.com) or call (800) 327 6887.

#### **About PlanetTogether LLC**

PlanetTogether is 100 percent focused on providing best-of-breed Advanced Planning and Scheduling (APS) software to discrete and process manufacturing companies. The result of 14 years of applied experience in production scheduling, PlanetTogether is an easy-to-use tool that handles complex finite scheduling taking equipment, labor, and material constraints into account. It provides accurate scheduled ship dates, what-if analysis, and increased capacity visibility. Using the latest Microsoft .NET framework, PlanetTogether can be easily integrated into existing business processes. Prebuilt integrations are available to the following ERP systems: Sage MAS 500, Sage MAS 200, and Sage MAS 90 ERP, Microsoft Dynamics NAV, GP, AX, and SAP Business One. Learn more at [www.PlanetTogether.com](http://www.PlanetTogether.com) or by calling (617) 803-7917.