ERP and BIS - Vasil Donev interview

Summary

Vasil Donev in his interview talks about some critical factors for a successful ERP implementation in small and big companies.

Some leaders of small companies are looking to add an ERP system as a replacement to their different existing systems. But to implementing any ERP system in the company is very expensive, complex to maintain, and for that reason, the companies should always do business process analysis, and if ERP costs more than the profit the company will make, then means is too early to have such a luxury for the company. Vasil Donev points out that open ERPs can help small business owners organize their business` information and streamline their workflow.

For large companies is very important before implementing an ERP system to do the business process analysis, skipping this step can lead to the project`s failure.

The business process analysis should start with hiring a competent business analyst to help in this phase and during the whole ERP implementation phase.

During the business process analysis, the analyst will be mapping all the business processes to document exactly how the company works, and the step-by-step processes that the company uses to produce a good or service. This task takes normally from a couple of weeks to a

couple of months. This phase consists of a lot of meetings and discussions with the management and staff of the company. Vasil Donev points out that the employees` input is crucial, that's why the business process analysis should not be done by the management. The employees' inputs are important but no company should overlook their input. After the analysis, the analyst will recommend the best ERP that fits the needs of the company.

Vasil Donev mentions Europe's largest software provider SAP. The ERPs SAP offers are used normally by big companies like Microsoft, Siemens, and others.

The technical part is the easiest part of the implementation of an ERP system.

Another important point of Vasil Donev is that the ERP system needs regular maintenance to function properly. They should be reviewed and updated regularly.

And the last Vasil Donev tries to tell us that ERP not only reflexes the relations within the company but also the relation of the company with the external world like taxation authorities, the government administration, and the general business environment in the country.

Some tips for implementing an ERP successfully can be very useful.

1. Start right away

Many companies make the mistake of purchasing ERP software and leaving the implementation for later. Postponing the project and continuing with the old business management practices can stop their growth. It is important to start planning and implementation immediately. It is important to make the system part of the company,

educate its collaborators, and encourage them to lose their fear and become familiar with all its features.

2. Inform about the importance of the project

For a business, the leader is important to communicate to the entire team about the importance of the project. When the members of a company are aware of the importance of the tool, it is possible to put aside resistance to change, reduce uncertainty, build trust and be successful.

3. Make your leaders your allies

To obtain the benefits of implementing an ERP in the company, it is important to have the support of each of the leaders in the operational and administrative areas. This will allow the company to find a way to make the system of great benefit to everyone, motivate the rest of the collaborators and make them participate in the transformation of the company.

4. Present the partner and selected solution

Presenting the solution and the selected partner to the team makes them feel part of the process and this can make a big difference in the deployment of the tool.

5. Form an internal implementation team

To achieve a successful ERP implementation, the companies need to form an internal team that participates in all activities related to the system. This team will be the voice of the company before the

external ERP consultant and will work with the purpose of ensuring that the project is carried out in a timely manner.

6. Commit and get involved in the project

Many directors and business leaders make the mistake of leaving the implementation process in the hands of the supplier and collaborators, completely forgetting their responsibilities with the project. It is important for leaders to monitor the project promptly, to be updated, understand the technical aspects, and the scope of the tool within the company. Getting involved in the project will allow them to ensure that they are on the right track and their investment and effort will be of great benefit to everyone.

7. Guarantee Communication

As a last tip to implement an ERP successfully, I recommend that there is always communication between the company`s suppliers and collaborators. Communication is the only way to achieve a timely follow-up of all the progress of the project.

Acquiring an ERP software is a change that must be assumed by everyone, companies should take into account these tips to implement an ERP and see how the entire process will flow in a much more favorable way.