

HITACHI
Inspire the Next

Hitachi Europe Ltd.

Business critical SAP system scheduling using JP1 leads to faster and more efficient set-up, change and management.

Hitachi Europe Limited is the flagship of the eighty plus strong Hitachi group of companies in Europe. Within its head office it relies on SAP to control all finance, order processing and budgeting functions.

The SAP systems that use JP1/AJS2 Job Scheduling are business critical not only for Hitachi Europe Limited itself but for the other group companies who depend on it.



Jonathan Mayle.
SAP Basis
Support Team
Leader.
Hitachi Europe Ltd.

“JP1 allows jobs to be easily added irrespective of which system they are running on.”

Batch files and IT.

Believe it or not most back-end systems are dependent on batch files. Whether it is sending data in a useable format for users in other locations, keeping system data at the appropriate version for all or simply to comply with regulations for back-up.

Automatic Job Scheduling (JP1/AJS2)

What the customer says...

How is JP1 being used?

JP1 is currently being configured for use as a batch scheduling tool for Hitachi Europe Limited's two production SAP systems. JP1 is used to schedule one installation of SAP R/3 and one of SAP BW.

Why do you use JP1?

The reason for using JP1 is that SAP could not supply an efficient job scheduler when we started using SAP.

What benefits did you envisage?

JP1 allows the scheduling of batch jobs to be as complex as we need whilst also reducing the time needed to do it significantly. Without JP1 for example if we had wanted a job to run every hour between the hours of 09:00 to 17:00 (this would mean running the same jobs 9 times a day) we would have had to set up 9 identical jobs one for each hour run and make each job to run daily. As you can imagine this is a massive over head and can cause many problems if times change or a cancellation is required.

How are these benefits achieved?

Through the use of the scheduling tools of JP1 this example can be achieved with one job. JP1 also gives a clear view of what is running and when. This allows changes to schedules to be made quickly, and allows us to see possible bottleneck and failures. It allows easy re-running of jobs if they fail.

Could you explain in more detail about the SAP system and how JP1 works within it ?

When using BW and R3 SAP the two systems are linked by jobs running on R3 which kick off jobs running on BW and vice versa. Without JP1, SAP events are sent between the systems to kick off the next job if it's on the other system. JP1 allows jobs to be added irrespective of which system they are running on and gives a clear view of the flow of jobs whilst eliminating the use of SAP events.

Also, it is important that both R/3 and BW systems are running. After the SAP systems have been shut down for regular back up, it is critical to check that they have both been restarted successfully. When each of the R/3 and BW SAP systems have been brought back up successfully, a file is created. JP1 monitors for the existence of the two files and only when both files have been detected (confirming that both systems are running again) does JP1 then start to run other SAP jobs. This ensures the other jobs only start after both SAP R/3 and BW systems have been successfully brought back up.



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Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ An efficient and comprehensive scheduling system for SAP. ➤ Understanding of Unix system structure. ➤ A scheduling tool that can integrate with SAP.
Solution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ JP1/AJS2 with Enterprise SAP interface. ➤ Central control and monitoring used over multiple SAP systems.
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Centralized inter-dependent scheduling for multiple SAP systems. ➤ Clear view of what is running over multiple systems. ➤ Clear view of the operational status over multiple systems. ➤ Easy modification of the SAP jobs and their schedules.

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How did we match JP1/AJS2 (automatic job scheduler) capabilities to Hitachi Europe Limited's use with their SAP systems ?

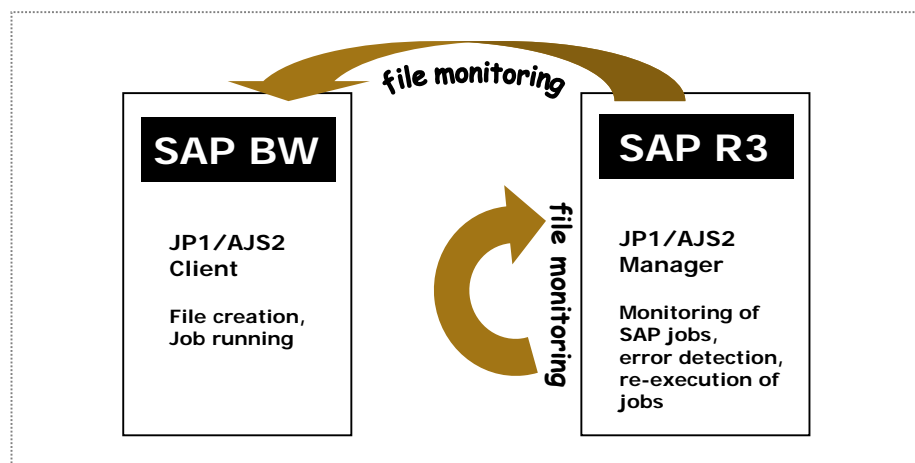
The SAP system issue was raised while we talked of critical systems within Hitachi Europe. As we went into more detail of the problem it emerged that the scheduling and control of the scheduling was , in fact, the cause of all the potential pitfalls identified. JP1/AJS2 was then proposed in a configuration to address the identified risks to the system. This proposal met with approval from Hitachi Europe's SAP support team an senior management.

These two SAP systems are Hitachi Europe's most business critical systems. If they were to expand this system and introduce more hardware to support this we are confident that JP1/AJS2 will be part of their planning.

In conclusion, we have seen JP1/AJS2 give the customer confidence in the JP1 product range due to it's near perfect performance. Since this the client has been open to looking at other products and has implemented JP1/SD and is now thinking of integrating JP1 Asset management as part of their environment. JP1/AJS2 was the first of the JP1 modules implemented and it has given the JP1 suite of products a firm foundation on which to build further solutions.

Satisfaction levels. Expansion plans. Conclusion.

Customer satisfaction levels with the JP1/AJS2 product are high. As with most of our JP1/AJS2 clients the client has found it incredibly stable and only seek support when some other system has caused JP1/AJS2 to produce errors. Because of the advanced logging functions built into the product we are able to provide information to help identify the (non JP1) cause of the problem.



Hitachi Europe Limited

Head office location for Hitachi Group companies. Currently consisting of 88 different entities employing over 5000 employees across Europe.

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