

Bring home the bacon

Laboratory report analysis automation in
the meat-processing industry

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Executive summary

Customers in the Netherlands demand healthy, safe and sustainable food. To ensure that, the government enforces strict good safety policies.

For the meat-processing industry it means taking on extra work with reporting and testing. However, the industry can find a surprising tech answer to its problems.

In this paper, we take a look behind the scenes of the meat-processing industry and uncover a solution that can put businesses ahead of the game.

A word from our CEO



Quality and speed are essential in today's world, but we must strike a balance between them. Robotic process automation is the perfect tool to do just that.



-- Jacky Lu, CEO and Founder at TaurusSoft B.V.

Shaping industry one robot at a time

“There is no sincerer love than the love of food.”

-- George Bernard Shaw

In the Netherlands, people love to eat plenty of healthy food. The Dutch food processing industry is a good indicator of that: it's rather impressive.

It generates EUR 83.9 billion in revenue [1], the largest sectors being meat- and dairy-processing [2] respectively. Food is also exported all over the world.

As the Dutch expect the food to be healthy, safe and sustainable, the government imposes stringent food safety regulations on businesses.

Food safety

These rules and regulations are supervised and enforced by the Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (NVWA) [3].

It regularly and randomly tests food samples from businesses in the food-processing industry, including such meat-processing enterprises as slaughterhouses.

This has proven to be successful. In fact, 2018 biannual NVWA Consumer Monitor revealed that a majority, or 68%, of Dutch consumers are confident about the safety of their food [4]. They should be, up to a point.

In 2016 microbiological laboratory tests by the NVWA still showed that roughly 0.6% of the sample batches didn't meet the food safety criteria for pathogens [5] [6].

Unfortunately for a business, a result like that usually means product recalls, lost time and resources.

How can your business, forever out of time, provide even safer and better-quality food, faster time-to-market, and thrive?

Technology

What steps in is automation. Or robotic process automation, to be more precise.

It's been tried and tested in other industries (logistics [7], insurance [8] and others) to now also give a helping hand to the meat-processing businessman.

But how does it work? Robotic process automation refers to software that runs on certain rules.

The software, in combination with the rules, mimics human actions in a digital environment [9].

This could be not only processing of reports in email attachments, text recognition and report data analysis and visualization, but also much, much more.

All the clicking and dragging can be such a drag, right?

Of course, although automation seems to be able to solve a lot of modern problems, it should be used with moderation and implemented in a well-thought-out and strategic manner [10].

Applicability in the meat-processing industry

Three main reasons why automation has growth potential in the meat-processing industry are:

1. Around-the-clock availability,
2. Accuracy, and
3. Cost savings.

In short, automation software doesn't get tired or lose its focus, but executes tasks to the letter.

It speeds up the laboratory report analysis process,

saving time and money, and adheres to the quality assurance standards.

For example, slaughterhouses, like many other businesses in the food-processing industry, are obliged to [5] run their own tests on raw materials, in-house or at outsourced private laboratories, besides the tests performed by the NVWA.

The goal is to maintain a high food safety standard and swiftly react to safety concerns.

So, inevitably your business receives quite a few laboratory reports which need to be analyzed.

Repetitive tasks like opening emails, poring over laboratory reports and result input, collectively, take up a lot of time and are error-prone.

Software, based on robotic process automation methods, is made to tackle these kinds of problems.

As Haresh Sippy, Managing Director at Tema India Ltd., puts it: “Automation is cost cutting by tightening the corners and not cutting them.”

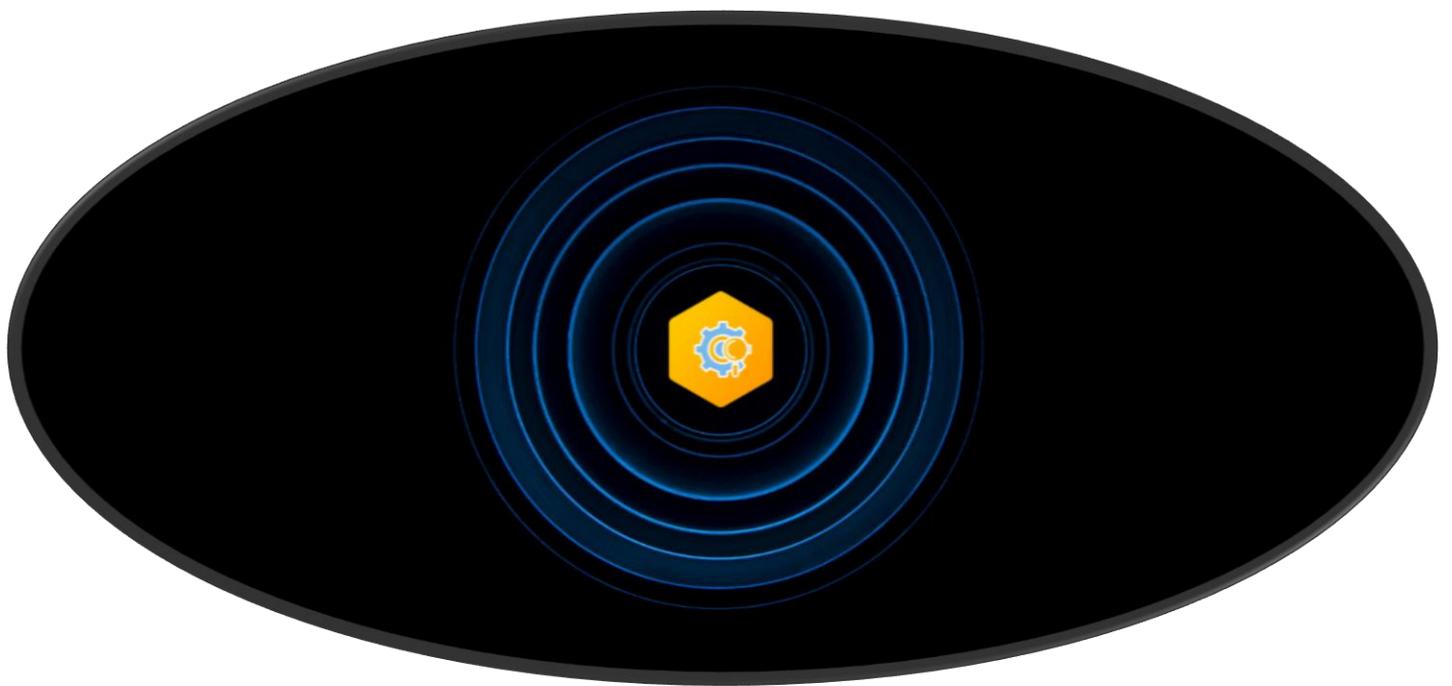
Solution

The issue with time, human error and costs is evident also in other industries, where we continue to deploy software with robotic process automation in mind.

When developing software, we analyze the inherent issue to provide the most comprehensive solutions.

The meat-processing industry with its need for analyzing uniform laboratory reports is no exception.

So, using our experience, we developed the ultimate solution for laboratory report analysis: **Taurus Analyzer**.



The software features:

- Easy Drag&Drop report upload
- Dashboard for report analysis results
- Data visualization in charts and graphs
- Guided process through reporting phases
- Smart report parsing according to set rules
- Swift integration with your current systems
- Total control over your data, user roles and permissions.

It can pull reports straight from emails, break them down and show you the test results in an instant, for you to be able to make decisions swiftly.

But don't take our word for it!

Schedule a demo and take the Analyzer on a test drive.

Towards a more productive future for your business.

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About Us

TaurusSoft B.V. is a software development company, headquartered in Schiphol-Rijk, the Netherlands. It was founded in 2016 by Jacky Lu, and since has had an excellent track record for providing premium services to its clients.



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