

# APIs to the Rescue

*Application programming interfaces solve problem for OnlineMetals.com.*

In this recovering, ever-expanding economy, companies are experiencing an influx of demand—demand that needs to be supported. Sometimes the increase in order volume can no longer be adequately managed by a service center's legacy software. This was the case with OnlineMetals.com, a division of ThyssenKrupp Materials NA.

In the case of OnlineMetals.com, the company was using an integrated website designed to handle both sales and administrative needs. With their system unable to sufficiently manage the increased order volume and inventory position, OnlineMetals.com began the search for software that could support the company's expansion and growth, while seamlessly working alongside the current website's functions. They ultimately chose Eniteo ERP software from Enmark Systems.

Enmark spent more than six months developing, testing and implementing several application programming interfaces (APIs) that would allow Eniteo to communicate with OnlineMetals.com's existing website. Today, OnlineMetals.com's custom legacy program takes care of the sales side of the business, while Eniteo handles behind-the-scenes components such as accounting, operations, purchasing and inventory management.

Enmark's APIs allow the two sides of the business to share information, so OnlineMetals.com's staff can spend less time inputting data. Instead, these employees can focus their atten-

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tion on other tasks and other parts of the company, making them more useful and versatile.

Enmark strives to continually stay ahead of the technology curve. Its API adjustment for OnlineMetals.com was just one of many updates to the code. Enmark releases a new update of Eniteo every month of the year. Customers are notified of the new code that is available and can choose when to implement new features. Today, the API functions that Enmark developed for OnlineMetals.com are being incorporated into the operations of many other Enmark customers. These customers report a significant decrease in time spent on manual data input and a comparable increase in employee productivity, as well as enhanced quality control. ■

*Enmark Systems Inc., Ann Arbor, Mich., offers the Eniteo full ERP system designed specifically for metal service centers. For more information, visit [www.enmark.com](http://www.enmark.com).*