PureTech Scientific: Positioning itself for further growth by smoothing new business operations in the cloud

Explore how PureTech Scientific digitalized in the cloud

Carved out of a global chemical conglomerate, PureTech Scientific LLC had limited time to set up its new business operations. Needing to move forward with agility, efficiency, and pace, it adopted SAP S/4HANA Cloud Public Edition through the GROW with SAP offering, facilitating its immediate operational needs and providing scalability for expansion.

Industry	Region	Company Size
Chemicals	Belle, West Virginia	50 employees

15 weeks
to complete the go-live of advanced ERP in the cloud.

US$5 million
worth of orders processed within two weeks of go-live.

> "With our focus on utilizing SAP technology as a business solution and not an IT solution, we can operate with a leaner IT department, focus on enabling our employees to add value to the company instead of managing solutions, and empower them to innovate and move the company forward."

Brian Hardee
CIO, PureTech Scientific LLC

Peeling away complexity to set up new business operations for growth

PureTech Scientific LLC is a global leader in organic synthesis of ultrahigh purity alpha hydroxy acids used in the life sciences and specialty chemical industries. Readily biodegradable, PureTech Scientific's nature-identical synthetic glycolic acid serves as a key component for various applications, including pharmaceuticals, personal care products, and electronics. The company is committed to delivering world-class products, innovations, and customer support for a healthier and safer world, all while reducing its carbon footprint.

With over 85 years of operating experience, PureTech Scientific was carved out from international conglomerate The Chemours Company in 2023, backed by a private equity sponsor, and set an ambitious growth plan. At the time of the carve-out, a transition service agreement (TSA) was put in place, giving PureTech Scientific limited time to set up its new business operations. With no internal IT team and only limited corporate knowledge from the original parent company, PureTech Scientific looked to the cloud for a solution that would enable it to move forward with speed, efficiency, and scalability.

> "As a new company, the core team that came over as part of the carve-out certainly had knowledge in the glycolic acid business, but they didn't have the institutional knowledge with respect to the transactional flow of the business. With no legacy processes, zero technology, and no IT team, we needed predefined processes and proven best practices from the get-go."

Brian Hardee
CIO, PureTech Scientific LLC

Transforming core operations and key business functions in the cloud

Looking to build the cornerstone of its new operations and meet its parent company's ambitious growth plans, PureTech Scientific sought a modern business technology infrastructure in the cloud. Because it wanted to adopt proven best practices from the very start and operate with a fit-to-standard mindset, PureTech Scientific invested in SAP S/4HANA Cloud Public Edition as part of the GROW with SAP offering.

Brian Hardee, the company's CIO, comments on the decision: "A big factor influencing our adoption of SAP S/4HANA Cloud Public Edition was its built-in leading business practices. This allowed the team to focus on research and development initiatives or our manufacturing operations rather than architecting core finance processes and workflows from scratch."

PureTech Scientific was also impressed by the scalability offered by the advanced ERP in the public cloud. Hardee explains, "With Iron Path Capital setting an ambitious growth plan, which includes expanding our foray into manufacturing and products, we needed a technology infrastructure that would grow with us. SAP solutions provided that technology foundation. And when you start with clean data and a clean core, it simplifies moving to the next level of growth and acquiring companies."

Hardee's prior experience working with SAP solutions and his knowledge around change management requirements for PureTech Scientific also factored into the decision.

> "SAP S/4HANA Cloud Public Edition offered us a solution that's scalable and has proven business practices and embedded real-time analytics, allowing us to be able to grow in line with our parent company's ambitions."

Brian Hardee
CIO, PureTech Scientific LLC

Smoothing access to real-time insights for quick data-driven decisions

By taking advantage of the prebuilt architecture and industry best practices and processes offered by SAP S/4HANA Cloud Public Edition through GROW with SAP, PureTech Scientific met the terms of its TSA, going live with the solution within four months.

With direct access to SAP experts through the SAP Preferred Success plan, the company implemented standard workflows for sales, distribution, materials management, quality management, plant maintenance, and asset management, as well as for financing and controlling. This allowed it to digitalize order-to-cash, procure-to-pay, and record-to-report business processes.

Hardee comments, "From start to finish, we were live in the public cloud in just 15 weeks through GROW with SAP. And within the first two weeks of going live, we fulfilled $5 million worth of orders without any challenges. Through real-time analytics, our internal business and parent company executives can monitor cash flow management. They can see the supply chain and have real-time insight into daily production to understand where the business stands. And the dashboards provide phenomenal visibility across business operations, displaying relevant KPIs."

Elsewhere, thanks to an ongoing engagement with SAP Preferred Success, PureTech Scientific is adding more functionality to provide it with even more breadth and depth of information. Hardee explains, "Since we implemented SAP S/4HANA Cloud Public Edition as standard, we can now move forward with the SAP Sales Cloud portfolio and the SAP Digital Manufacturing solution."

PureTech Scientific is using SAP Sales Cloud for customer relationship management, which is key for fulfilling its strategic goal around acquiring and managing different customers. Whereas the use of SAP Digital Manufacturing helps it with deeper insights into the supply chain and supports flexibility in manufacturing to meet changing market needs. Through SAP Preferred Success, the company has real-time access to important information on SAP solutions together with learning materials and guidance.

> "SAP Preferred Success provided a tremendous opportunity to get real-time access to key information, learning materials, and other guidance, including leveraging the SAP Activate methodology to steer the implementation. There's no substitute for the project management directives and the testing tools provided by this offering."

Brian Hardee
CIO, PureTech Scientific LLC

Exploring AI overlays to identify new opportunities

PureTech Scientific plans to take advantage of AI capabilities through the Joule copilot. Thanks to its ongoing engagement with SAP Preferred Success, Hardee has seen demonstrations of the technology and wants to explore using it to improve internal process efficiency.

He comments, "As we're running on SAP, our data is inside SAP solutions, so the Joule copilot can help us mine that data in real time using natural language. It also can help write small scripts so users don't have to be coders. And as AI is able to see across the data in our ecosystem, when we're mining data from a sales perspective, we'll be able to see which campaigns worked and which didn't work so well. This will help us determine the most effective campaigns with respect to winning the customer."