




## AMCOL International Corporation

### A Leading International Producer and Marketer of Value-Added, Specialty Minerals and Related Products

AMCOL International is a supplier of specialty minerals, providing products and technologies for a wide range of industrial and consumer-related markets worldwide. The company's products range from cat litter and landfill liners to specialized clay blends used in the casting of molten metals. Established in 1927, AMCOL today operates in more than 12 countries with over 1,200 employees, and has consistently paid dividends to its shareholders since 1937. AMCOL's various operating units are categorized in four areas: minerals, environmental, nanocomposites and transportation services. AMCOL was named to BusinessWeek's list of Top 100 Growth companies in 2005 and 2006.

#### AMCOL Challenges

- Meet its pending deadline and to sustain ongoing Sarbanes-Oxley compliance
- Need to monitor configurations and changes on more than 30 Windows servers
- Eliminate the manual process of managing server and security event log files

#### The Ecora Solution

- Ecora Auditor Professional™ automates multi-platform configuration data collection to a centralized configuration management database to generate hundreds of out-of-the-box reports to validate policies and meet compliance requirements

#### AMCOL Benefits with Ecora

- Automated configuration and change management to save significant time
- Delivered necessary reports validating internal IT controls to meet and sustain Sarbanes-Oxley compliance requirements
- Reduced the time and costs of managing changes and configurations, eliminating the need for an additional headcount

*"There may be other products out there, but for the money and ease of implementation I have not seen any better than Ecora Auditor Pro... In fact, with Ecora, we did not have to add an additional IT headcount which saved us a significant amount of money."*

**— Dennis Huck**  
Computer Operations  
and Network Manager  
AMCOL International

Technological leadership and a strong market position in its core competencies provide the foundation for AMCOL's continued growth and success. When the company needed to make the initial deadline to be in compliance with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, AMCOL turned to Ecora's leading change and configuration management technology to help automate the process and provide a solution to cost-effectively sustain compliance.

Dennis Huck, computer operations and network manager for AMCOL, needed a solution to manage changes and configurations on more than 30 Windows servers and create the reports to analyze event log files and validate its internal IT controls. Huck thoroughly investigated Ecora's Auditor Pro and one other solution from Computer Associates. He chose Ecora Auditor Pro because of its ease of installation and overall functionality.

"Ecora's ability to consolidate and quickly view important events, such as what's changed over time, from our Windows servers is invaluable," said Huck. "There may be other products out there, but for the money and ease of implementation I have not seen any better than Ecora Auditor Pro."

With Auditor Pro, Huck was able to immediately begin generating the reports required by auditors for Sarbanes-Oxley. “Without Ecora, we would not have been able to meet our security compliance with Sarbanes-Oxley on time,” added Huck. “There were too many server event log files that we would have needed to manually scan each and every day.”

The reports, out-of-the-box and customized, Huck generated using Auditor Pro proved to be more than sufficient as AMCOL met its Sarbanes-Oxley compliance deadline. Using the Ecora reports, auditors found no significant deficiencies or material weaknesses during AMCOL’s Sarbanes-Oxley IT audit.

“By automating our manual processes, Ecora saved us a significant amount of time and resources in meeting our Sarbanes-Oxley compliance deadline and is now providing a cost-effective means for sustaining compliance,” said Huck. “In fact, with Ecora, we did not have to add an additional IT headcount which saved us a significant amount of money.”

In addition to using Auditor Pro for its Sarbanes-Oxley compliance project, Huck is now discussing using Ecora as part of AMCOL’s change control procedure to help validate changes were properly made and maximize system availability.

Huck also had great praise for Ecora’s service and support group. “While Ecora’s product is intuitive and easy to use, the tight deadline to meet Sarbanes-Oxley compliance naturally raised questions on how to do certain tasks,” said Huck. “Ecora’s service and support group was always available to answer my questions in a timely manner and provide the guidance we needed to get the most out of our Ecora investment.”

### For More Information

To learn how Ecora’s automated configuration audit and analytics solutions can ensure that your IT infrastructure remains operationally effective, secure and compliant, call toll-free **877.923.2672** or **603.436.1616**, e-mail [sales@ecora.com](mailto:sales@ecora.com), or visit the web at [www.ecora.com](http://www.ecora.com).

#### BASICS AT A GLANCE

##### COMPANY

AMCOL International Corporation

##### INDUSTRY SECTOR

Mining/Manufacturing

##### NUMBER OF SYSTEMS

Over 30 Windows Servers

##### ECORA SOLUTION

Ecora Auditor Professional

##### WEB SITE

[www.amcol.com](http://www.amcol.com)

#### About Ecora

Ecora Software provides Configuration Audit and Analytics solutions to customers worldwide, ensuring their IT infrastructures remain operationally effective, secure and compliant. As a crucial element integrated into the overall Business Service Management (BSM) strategy, Ecora is the market leader in transforming enterprise-wide configuration solution into clear, actionable reports for regulatory compliance and enabling IT best practices. The Company’s flagship solution, Auditor Professional™, provides immediate value with its agentless architecture matched with rich report templates and pre-defined policies providing the foundation for effective change and configuration management. Ecora Software ensures that you are prepared for any IT audit before the auditor arrives, taking the cost and complexity out of compliance audits and enabling IT best practices for more than 800 worldwide customers across a wide range of industries, including many of the Fortune 1000. For more information, please visit Ecora at [www.ecora.com](http://www.ecora.com).