CASE STUDY

TIMBERWEST
Preparing For Growth with Microsoft Dynamics® AX

A Trusted Financial Management System Capable of Creating Efficiency, Enabling Growth and Reducing Corporate Risk.

Client Overview

TimberWest is Western Canada's largest timber and land management company, owning approximately 325,400 hectares/804,200 acres of private land on Vancouver Island. TimberWest runs fully contracted harvesting operations and leads the coastal industry in the growing and harvesting of second-growth timber. The company meets all Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI®) requirements in the management of those lands. TimberWest also owns renewable Crown harvest rights to 700,000m3 of logs per year.

CHALLENGE

As Western Canada's largest timber management company, TimberWest needed to replace its aging financial management system to set the stage for growth. "Their existing system was working but the vendor's technology was falling behind and did not provide a solid platform for future growth." stated Tom Amerongen, Sierra Systems Microsoft Dynamics AX Practice Lead.

OUR SOLUTION

In early 2012, the company conducted a review of possible replacements for their existing system. Criteria for the replacement system included the ability to handle growth (scalable), multiple currencies, as well as the ability to deal with multiple entities. TimberWest resolved that Microsoft Dynamics AX would be the best system to meet the current and future requirements of the company.

Sierra Systems was selected as the implementation partner for the project. "TimberWest chose Sierra Systems because we had a successful 25 year relationship and their proven track record in managing Microsoft Dynamics AX projects. Sierra brought together a dedicated and knowledgeable team that we felt provided us with the best opportunity to complete the project successfully" stated Al Shirley, TimberWest IT Manager.

Microsoft Dynamics AX is a solution that provides enterprises a purpose-built foundation for resource planning. Its comprehensive capabilities include financial management, business intelligence and reporting, sales and marketing, procurement and sourcing, supply chain management, project management and accounting, human capital management, global risk and compliance, environmental sustainability and more.

AX 2012

Microsoft Dynamics

Packaged in a single global solution that delivers rapid time to value, Microsoft Dynamics AX empowers teams to anticipate and embrace change so their businesses can thrive. This global nature of Microsoft Dynamics AX will enable the company to automate its future business processes, to avoid unnecessary complexity as the business grows. The joint Sierra/TimberWest project team implemented the following Dynamics AX modules: General Ledger, Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, Fixed Assets, Bank Management, Organizational Administration, and System Administration.

"The approach was to align TimberWest's harmonized business processes with standard Microsoft Dynamics AX 2012 functionality so as to leverage existing, 'out of the box' functionality and minimize customization. Sierra Systems utilized the Microsoft Dynamics SureStep methodology for its AX project tools, template, and guidelines as well as our own Sierra Way Implementation Methodology (SWIM) for project and risk management. Elements of SWIM were also used for our agile implementation approach such as sprints and daily scrum meetings, which further enhanced the effectiveness of our collaborative Sierra Systems and TimberWest project team." stated Tom Amerongen.

BENEFITS

Learn More

To learn more about how Sierra's solutions can assist your organization, contact us:

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1-877-688-1371
sierrasystems.com

With this solution, TimberWest has put itself into a situation where they will be able to accommodate any organization changes as the company continues to grow. "Users are reporting that Microsoft Dynamics AX is far more intuitive and they are finding it much easier to navigate compared to our previous ERP solution" said Mr Shirley. "As a result of this user acceptance we expect to start seeing useful gains in user productivity."

Scalability
The company now has a solid ERP foundation upon which it can look to expand its business.

Reduced Risk
Having a modern ERP solution backed by one of the world's most successful software companies provides a solid platform that will to continue to attract investment and new functionality thus reducing TimberWest's corporate risk.

Increased Efficiency
Providing a system that is easier to navigate and more intuitive allows the company to realize gains in user productivity over time.

Microsoft Partner

Gold Enterprise Resource Planning