

Motion International optimizes job orders for a major Italian electric and natural gas company

Motion International's customer is a leader in the Italian electricity and natural gas sector, one of very few Italian companies that produces electric energy and owns both hydroelectric plants and thermoelectric power station. Various branches of the group run businesses in different environments, touching various stages in the value chain.



The customer's need, led by three organizations of the group, was to adopt a **Project Accounting application that could manage and control all the activities and resources involved in power plants' construction.**

The project scope included implementing a single application and integrating it with existing applications: Oracle E-Business Suite, used for financials and accounting operations, and Microsoft Project, used for project operation management. The customer also wanted to create one data source for financial and realization job orders management: billing, expenses and timesheets.

Motion International implemented a web-based workflow management that allowed the customer access to all the expense information (registration, authorization and payment) according to different variables: cost center, job order, project activities within a single job order and expense type.

This phase (May 2004 – January 2005) ended with the implementation of the application to manage and monitor all the costs related to job orders of the three organizations within the group. **The second phase, focused on enriching the system with new functionalities, began after that.**

Cross-charge processes management

The customer has also required cross-charge processes management within the organizations. From January to March 2005, Motion International performed activities to add new functionality to the application to address this requirement.

Training

Motion International also conducted training courses for all the customer's employees, customized according to the attendees' roles and responsibilities. All the employees of the three organizations began to use the new web-based tool for inserting timesheets in January 2005. Project Managers then started to schedule projects using Microsoft Project, now integrated into Oracle E-Business Suite.

The major benefit has been switching from a paper-based system to a web-based system that can manage many variables and ensure a whole vision of cost trends.

The impact of Motion's training sessions on day-to-day activities was minimum, thanks to the user-friendly system: all Oracle E-Business Suite modules have a simple front-end system, and a handbook detailing basic instructions for the various activities was sufficient.

Benefits

The customer can monitor in real time all the job order cost trends and the physical enhancements of all projects, thanks to the Project Accounting application implemented.

The introduction of a web-based and self-service application system optimized all internal processes for timesheet and expenses registration, bringing efficiency to validation and expense deduction processes.

Totally integrated with existing systems, the application has also been utilized for forecast revenue.

Methodology

Motion International adopted the AIM (Application Implementation Methodology) methodology.

Resources involved

Motion International: 1 project manager, 3 functional consultants and a technical consultant team for ad-hoc implementation.

Customer: 1 internal project manager, 2 controllers, 2 job orders project managers, 2 HR resources.

Technology

Oracle E-Business Suite utilized from the back-office in standard module.

HTML technology for the web site for employees.

Applications implemented

Oracle Project Costing Suite, Oracle Project Billing, Oracle Project Management and Oracle Time and Labour.

Future Enhancements

Project Accounting implementation roll-out in three other companies of the group.



Motion International (www.motion-international.com) is an experienced, exclusively Oracle professional services company. One of very few firms that offers high-caliber multinational Oracle expertise worldwide, it has developed several proprietary best practices, tools and methodologies to ensure successful delivery. Headquartered in Minneapolis, Motion has offices in five countries and has delivered Oracle projects on five continents. Its clients include some of the world's largest global companies.