

CASE STUDY MAY 2008





CLIENT: THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

Challenge

A lack of a consistent standardised reporting framework across the University and the sheer volume of reports (in excess of 48,000 annually) made reporting a time-consuming and cost-intensive exercise at the University of Sydney.

The process for the management of budgeting, forecasting and modelling was also widely viewed as inadequate with a lack of opportunity for flexible management of budgets and forecasts.

A formulation and implementation of a Business Performance Management strategy was urgently required to allow for improved decision making capabilities and growth in an increasingly competitive tertiary education sector.

Approach

The University's primary project objective was to provide a robust, future-proof management reporting environment to enable specialised, periodic and/or on demand reports capable of meeting existing and envisaged information demands.

Taysols' role included the formulation of a BPM strategy and the conduct of a subsequent business impact analysis exercise. Taysols designed, architected and project managed the evaluation and subsequent implementation of a data warehouse, budgeting & planning and enterprise reporting environment in what is to date regarded as the largest EPM implementation in the Southern hemisphere.

Solution

Taysols established a comprehensive Hyperion-based solution which has dramatically streamlined the university's reporting and planning processes. Since implementing this solution, the university has reduced the types of reports it produces from 300 to 75 and has shortened its budget cycle by 50 percent. Armed with accurate and timely information, the university can now make better management decisions.

COMPANY DETAILS:

The University of Sydney, founded in 1850, is Australia's first university. Over the past 150 years, the University has built an international reputation for its outstanding teaching and as a centre of research excellence. As one of Australia's leading universities, the University of Sydney is a key member of the Group of Eight of Australia's major research intensive universities and the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU).

EMPLOYEES:

3,100

INDUSTRY:

Education

PROJECT TIMELINE:

6 months

TECHNOLOGIES:

Budgeting, Planning & Forecasting Business Intelligence System Integration & Warehousing

SERVICES:

Consulting Support

KEY BENEFITS:

Streamlined reporting and planning processes Standardised report formats Reduced reports Shortened budget cycle Established single source of accurate financial information Better decision making

66 Implementing a unified Enterprise Performance Management platform in a diverse environment like the University is a difficult undertaking. The leadership of Taysols greatly assisted the University in achieving the desired outcome and realising the associated benefits. We are now in an excellent position to build on our gained capabilities and incorporate other systems in the EPM framework.

Patrick Woods,

Director Financial Operations and Systems

