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IAN BULL
DIRECTOR
BECA

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Industry:

Engineering, Management, and Multidisciplinary Consulting

Geography:

Headquartered in Auckland, New Zealand

20 offices across Australasia, Asia, North America, South America and Europe

Employees:

2,500

Challenge

Headquartered in New Zealand, Beca has offices across the globe. Prior to partnering with BST Global in 2000, Beca operated on a labor-intensive centralized distribution system. The system could not handle multi-company, multi-currency, and was dependent on many paper-driven processes. Determining a project's financial performance required compiling information organization by organization, and resolving the inconsistencies across the business.

Beca recognized a need to make things more real-time, and empower project managers and business managers with all of the information they needed to perform their jobs as efficiently as possible.

Solution

After undergoing a rigorous RFP process and evaluating all of the products on the market, Beca selected BST Enterprise as the tool that would provide the backbone of its operational and project financial management processes.

Key to the selection were BST Enterprise's native ability to facilitate a multi-company operation and the ease of dealing with a multitude of multi-currency projects. Beca also liked the simple online work-flowed timesheet capture, approval and posting processes, and BST Enterprise's strong auto-billing capabilities.

Beca maximized its implementation of BST Enterprise through integration with other information systems. The company Intranet and in-house CRM solution bring in information via BST Enterprise integration; the HR system updates the BST employee master file every night; critical business triggers and alerts have been automated; and project manager tools have been developed that work directly with BST Enterprise.

“There was probably an 80% fit with our organisation using the solution ‘out of the box’, and we worked carefully to either change our organization towards better practices as facilitated by BST Enterprise, or to customize solutions around the core product so as to achieve the balance of fit,” said Ian Bull, Director of Beca.



Results

“Eight years on, the implementation of BST Enterprise is still seen as one of the most successful internal projects Beca has undertaken,” said Bull. “Between 2001 and 2009 we have more than doubled in size, and BST Enterprise has helped us to achieve that growth.”

A major benefit of the BST Global solution for Beca is the ability to deal with information in real time.

“BST can put information in the hands of management quickly, to allow them to make better decisions,” said Mark Stinson, Group Accounting & Compliance Director of Beca.

“BST Global has been regularly introducing new and innovative features within their product in recent years,” continued Stinson. “As an example, we now utilize the Business Intelligence capabilities of BST Enterprise in project and operationally focused web portals, which alert our managers to financial issues that they should be focusing on.”

“We see BST Global as a successful, intelligent and growing company and the welcomed challenge we face is to try and keep up with them.”

Beca CFO Chye Heng believes the timely delivery of information from BST Enterprise has been essential in enabling Beca to weather the global financial crisis well. “Our business needs meaningful, accurate, and up-to-date information to function efficiently. Market volatility requires extra vigilance to ensure costs are contained and revenues guarded. I believe BST Enterprise has given us the right platform to enable that focus.”

ABOUT BECA

One of Asia-Pacific’s largest engineering consultancies, Beca is also one of the oldest. Its multi-disciplinary team tackles projects that demand specific expertise as well as those requiring the integration of multiple technical disciplines. The firm’s client base includes government departments, public bodies, commercial and industrial conglomerates, as well as private individuals. Beca’s relationships with many of its clients span more than 30 years.



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