

Flying to Financial Freedom with Columbus Regional Airport Authority

Columbus Regional Airport Authority (CRAA) oversees three airports in Ohio; John Glenn Columbus International Airport (CMH), Rickenbacker International Airport (LCK) and Bolton Field (TZR). CRAA struggled to maintain security and workflow processes in their homegrown budgeting system. As a result, they found it difficult to establish accountability. With Prophix, Columbus Regional Airport Authority can run reports immediately and monitor airfares effectively, all while maintaining security permissions.

Business Challenges

CRAA's homegrown budgeting and reporting system was created by a former employee. Using a combination of Microsoft Access and Excel, CRAA struggled to complete their reporting processes. These programs also posed a cyber-security risk and Columbus' IT department was uncomfortable with the program's continued use.

Why Prophix?

CRAA considered implementing Microsoft Dynamics NAV with an additional budgeting module but decided to issue an RFP to Corporate Performance Management (CPM) vendors. After reviewing and seeing demos of several CPM software solutions, Columbus Regional Airport Authority chose Prophix. Prophix's CPM software would allow them to easily switch between dimensions, adjust time periods, business units and cost centers, and report on different aspects of the business without generating full reports from scratch.

With its vision to connect Ohio with the world, the Columbus Regional Airport Authority oversees the operation of passenger-focused John Glenn Columbus International Airport (CMH), cargo-focused Rickenbacker International Airport (LCK), and general aviation airport Bolton Field (TZR). An independent economic impact study found that the three airports and select businesses with direct ties to the airports account for more than 54,000 jobs, \$1.8 billion in annual payroll and \$6.6 billion in total annual economic output.

Operating: Since 1990

Website: www.columbusairports.com

Annual Revenue: 95 million USD

Employees (regional): 400

ERP: Microsoft Dynamics NAV

Results

Shortly after implementing Prophix, CRAA end-users started on their organization's budget. CRAA's Office of Finance built workflow processes that would enable the appropriate people to see and approve their parts of the budget, thereby raising accountability. This improved workflow functionality also helps the administrator know who is accountable for each portion of the budget.

Prophix has a direct connection with their ERP, Microsoft Dynamics NAV, allowing CRAA to run reports immediately after end-users input their budget data. Using Prophix's Report Binder function, they can automatically output polished report packages.

It is important to Columbus Regional Airport Authority that they can also monitor airfares. With Prophix, their Office of Finance can run 'what-if' scenarios, allowing them to analyze 'rates and changes' for airlines. When costs rise, Columbus can return to their departments and have them adjust their project spend. They can also decide to defer purchasing equipment, lower or delay pay raises or defer new hires to control fees.

And finally, CRAA compares department budgets to actual variance reports to help identify over/under budget spending. This also shows how they are trending on a monthly basis.



About Prophix

Prophix develops innovative software that automates critical financial processes such as budgeting, planning, consolidation and reporting – improving a company's profitability and minimizing its risks.

Thousands of forward-looking organizations in more than 90 countries use software from Prophix to gain increased visibility and insight into their business performance.



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