



Solution Overview

Organization Profile

The Corix Group of Companies specializes in providing products and utility infrastructure solutions for the water, wastewater and sustainable energy sectors.

Business Situation

Corix has grown in part via acquisitions, resulting in a patchwork of disparate IT systems that was costly to maintain. The company needed an IT solution that would keep pace with rapid growth.

Solution

Corix implemented Microsoft Dynamics® NAV software to streamline financial processes and standardize on a common platform.

Benefits

- Timely access to business data Enhanced productivity Foundation for future growth
- Low total cost of ownership Scalability and stability

Hardware

Software and Services

Microsoft Dynamics NAV

Vertical Industries

Utilities Industry

Country/Region

Canada

Corix

[Corix soaks in enhanced IT productivity and performance with Dynamics NAV](#)

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The Corix Group of Companies specializes in providing products and utility solutions for the water, wastewater and sustainable energy sectors. Corix has grown in part via acquisitions which resulted in a patchwork of disparate IT systems that was proving costly to maintain. The company was looking for an IT solution that would improve the financial and operational efficiency of its business processes and keep pace with rapid growth. To accomplish its technology goals, Corix implemented Microsoft Dynamics® NAV software as an enterprise resource planning (ERP) system for its management and accounting processes. As a result, Corix has streamlined its financial processes and standardized on a common platform – helping Corix improve IT support and optimize operations. Today, Corix represents the largest Dynamics NAV implementation in Canada.

Situation



“With Dynamics NAV, Corix now has in place a fully integrated business management system that covers financials, HR, complex invoicing processes and asset utilization to better manage operations.

Carol Wozney
Director of
Infrastructure Services
Corix



database environment.

As an industry leader in the utility services sector, the Corix Group of Companies specializes in providing products and utility services for sustainable infrastructure in the water, wastewater and energy industries. The company boasts more than 1,500 employees in 60 locations across North America.

Corix has gone from a company of 100 people to an organization of over 1,500 employees within nine years. By growing through acquisitions, Corix adopted multiple enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems that were becoming too expensive to manage and maintain and difficult to use. For example, company employees were forced to enter information numerous times which threatened the accuracy of data and delayed reporting timelines. Also, since these disparate systems were not connected, the company needed a more holistic view of its day to day operations.

According to Carol Wozney, Director of Infrastructure Services at Corix, the company prides itself on its in-house IT expertise and was looking for a business technology solution that could be customized to improve the financial and operational efficiency of its business processes and keep pace with rapid growth. More specifically, Corix sought to migrate from its outdated UNIX-based legacy systems towards an easier to manage SQL

“We were looking for an IT solution that was flexible enough to support our many business units and users on a single platform,” says Wozney. “Our process is critical to what we do and it is imperative to have an integrated ERP solution that is easy to configure and helps us make informed business decisions, faster.”

Solution

After a careful review of various technology products on the market, Corix selected Microsoft® Dynamics NAV® software as a common platform for its operations management and accounting processes.

“As we largely use Microsoft-based technology, we decided to consolidate everything on a Windows-based platform for easier data access. Dynamics NAV also offered more functionality to meet both the needs of the utility services business as well as our products distribution business,” says Wozney.

Microsoft Dynamics NAV is a real-time management system that allows Corix to better access data across the business. Today, Corix is leveraging the Windows-based solution to improve visibility into its expanded distribution operations by standardizing on a single ERP system.

In particular, Corix is using Dynamics NAV to help automate and integrate critical financial, operations, customer and distribution data into a streamlined, comprehensive platform to enhance productivity. The initial implementation took 3 months and currently 300 concurrent employees are using the platform.

“Being a very rapidly growing organization, we see a fair movement of staff between operational units. Someone might start as a warehouse employee in a water products distribution company and then move over to be a meter installer in a utility company. So for us, having the same tool set across our lines of business has a lot of benefits, like reducing the need for training on different platforms,” says Wozney.

The company was able to immediately leverage its in-house tech expertise with integration capabilities of Dynamics NAV, allowing Corix managers to query the system for on-line information within and across all applications and view it instantly from a single dashboard Corix is currently working with Microsoft® Gold Certified Partner Symbiant Technology Solutions Inc. for the ongoing support and maintenance of the new IT environment.

“The system has been extraordinarily reliable for Corix with minimal downtime, which is a key benefit given the number of users and the size of their business. The company also has an extremely lean IT staff maintaining the software, so it’s a very cost-effective solution,” says David Hutchinson, CEO, Symbiant Technologies, Inc.

By connecting its disparate systems, Corix is gaining greater visibility into day to day operations. The new platform also standardizes IT support and uses Microsoft SQL Server® 2005 at the back-end for its data store. Corix employees access the software solution from PCs running the Microsoft Windows® operating system.

“The flexibility of the new platform has been a key selling point for us. For example, one of our larger companies has about 20 million journal entries in its general ledger entry database. Regardless of the business unit size, we’ve managed to tailor fit Dynamics NAV to suit the specific needs of the respective business units,” says Wozney.

Benefits

Corix is benefiting from a consolidated, integrated business management system that provides a reliable platform for current and future growth. The new IT environment at Corix allows subsidiaries and the parent company to use the standard functionality of Microsoft Dynamics NAV and SQL Server while customizing the solution to meet specific requirements—all while consolidating financials and support.

“With the use of Dynamics NAV, Corix has in place a fully integrated business management system that covers financials, HR, complex invoicing processes and asset utilization to better manage operations,” says Wozney. “Being able to access real-time information from a scalable and single platform is an important business benefit for our company.”

Timely access to business data

Staff at Corix can now devote less time to inputting information and more time to analyzing data, giving the company a clearer view of its operations. For example, managers can ensure greater accuracy in the billing process – a task that was far too cumbersome to accomplish previously.

“One of the good things about it is that we don’t have ten different financial systems with ten different types of reports. There’s a lot more clarity and accuracy with our data processes which is great,” says Wozney.

Enhanced productivity

Corix is also experiencing significant improvements in workflow management. With Dynamics NAV in place, the process of entering acquisition information is electronically automated – saving the administration staff many hours in duplicate entry.

“Dynamics NAV is easily the centerpiece of our IT architecture, particularly when you consider that none of the companies that we acquired had any functionality around fixed asset accounting,” says Wozney. “So when it comes to asset management, our users are now able to quickly extract financial data and manage asset depreciation.”

Foundation for future growth

Today, the Dynamics NAV implementation at Corix is the largest such installation in Canada. Corix has aggressively increased in size through multiple acquisitions and the Dynamics NAV platform provides the flexibility to quickly adapt to accommodate additional systems and users. The Microsoft-based solution is helping Corix improve its financial management and reporting. As a result, Corix is streamlining its financial processes and standardizing on a common platform to help enhance IT support and optimize operations.

“We chose Dynamics NAV because we knew we would be growing rapidly and expanding our business from pure distribution to a combination of distribution and utility services. Since then, we’ve been able to quickly expand our new lines of business and we’re better positioned for future growth,” says Wozney.

Microsoft Dynamics

Microsoft Dynamics is a line of integrated, adaptable business management solutions that enables you and your people to make business decisions with greater confidence. Microsoft

Dynamics works like familiar Microsoft software such as Microsoft Office, which means less of a learning curve for your people, so they can get up and running quickly and focus on what's most important. And because it is from Microsoft, it easily works with the systems that your company already has implemented. By automating and streamlining financial, customer relationship, and supply chain processes, Microsoft Dynamics brings together people, processes, and technologies, increasing the productivity and effectiveness of your business, and helping you drive business success.

For more information about Microsoft Dynamics, go to:

www.microsoft.ca/dynamics

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