

SUCCESS STORY

LEGACY APPLICATION
RE-ARCHITECTURE



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— Chris Donato, Deputy Director
Budget Management Group
Capital Program Office, City of Philadelphia

Anexinet Re-Architecture Solution Reduces Costs for the City of Philadelphia to Budget and Manage Capital Projects

The Challenge

The City of Philadelphia's Capital Program Office (CPO) performs the budgeting, planning and execution of thousands of City projects annually, managing several hundred millions of dollars. Their legacy Budget Management System had great difficulty handling critical tasks and business volumes in accordance with City regulations and CPO procedures, causing an inordinate amount of costly manual intervention to properly manage funds and projects for client departments, in addition to the expensive legacy system support. Objectives were to implement a new system that would improve the automation of CPO processes and reduce the labor and cost demands of system use and support.

The Solution

Anexinet consultants worked with the CPO to design and build a new software platform utilizing an enterprise database platform and the latest technologies from Microsoft and Oracle. The system improves automation of activities associated with tracking budgets, allocations and payments of projects under the City's capital budget, including the flow of approvals and notifications for key financial events on each project. Business rules were engineered into the system according to regulatory guidelines and CPO procedures, ensuring that budgeting and management processes were much less dependent on manual intervention and thereby less susceptible to manual errors. The solution included an activity-based workflow to increase efficiencies and improve inter-departmental information sharing, as well as a usability design for end users to retrieve information and perform key activities quickly and easily.

The Benefits

"The Anexinet solution enables the CPO to access project information in a more efficient manner, even when workloads increase, thereby allowing us to focus on our core operations of providing capital infrastructure renovations for the citizens of Philadelphia," says Chris Donato, Deputy Director of the CPO's Budget Management Group. Existing staff are empowered to improve productivity through easier information sharing and activity-based workflow with streamlined automated procedures. This alone creates opportunities for the CPO to reduce operating costs with a more productive workforce and by replacing staff at a lower rate than our normal rate of attrition. The Anexinet solution can also be maintained with 50% less IT support and dramatically less system downtime for routine upgrades and maintenance actions.



The City of Philadelphia's Capital Program is the financing and implementation plan for the construction and renovation of City-owned buildings, public facilities and infrastructure. Unlike the capital budget, which provides annual appropriations for such improvements, the Capital Program is the City's six-year plan for investing in its facilities and infrastructure. The Capital Program is financed by City general obligation bonds and self-sustaining revenue bonds (in the case of the International and Northeast Airports and the Water Department), matched in some cases by state and federal grants as well as private funding.

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