

## Case Study

# Advanced Business Solutions boosts efficiencies at David Lewis Centre

**Client:** David Lewis Centre

**Sector:** Social Care

**Project:** OpenAccounts

**When you need to replace your finance system, you need to set clear parameters for what you require from the new investment. For the David Lewis Centre, the most important requirement was integrated fees billing to meet the invoicing needs of care funders, such as local authorities and primary care trusts.**

The David Lewis Centre, a national charity with an income of £25 million, provides care, treatment and residential accommodation for people with epilepsy and other related conditions. Based in Alderley Edge, Cheshire, the charity examined a range of solutions and chose OpenAccounts Financials from Advanced Business Solutions because it delivered the right functionality, and offered in-depth reporting and analysis tools to allow the David Lewis management team to run the business more proactively.

*"OpenAccounts met our requirements exactly and has delivered many benefits already." explained Erica Maslen, Financial Controller at the David Lewis Centre. "For example, our sales ledger team has been able to answer invoicing queries more quickly and accurately, and the whole business performance has improved as a result. Even our local authority customers have commented favourably on the invoicing format they receive."*



**DAVID LEWIS**  
national epilepsy centre

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## Improved efficiency with extended finance

David Lewis is currently planning phase two of its new finance system rollout, with the implementation of the OpenAccounts eBIS web system following later. This will allow budget holders at remote sites to raise requisitions, approve invoices and make enquiries on the core finance system via the web. The introduction of this web-based system will reduce the flow of paper around the organisation and generally speed up processing.

The OpenAccounts eBIS system is underpinned by a flexible workflow system that routes forms, both financial forms such as purchase requisitions and accounts payable invoices, along with non-financial forms such as holiday requests and sickness forms, to the appropriate person for approval. This latter feature will allow staff to report on the use of agency nurses to replace the current paper-based reporting system.

David Lewis was also impressed with the capabilities of OpenAccounts for data migration using the OpenLink integration toolset. Working with the Advanced Business Solutions implementation team, the charity was able to migrate data painlessly from its Sage Line 100 and Access-based resident information systems.

*"The whole transition from our old systems to OpenAccounts has been so easy," said Maslen. "The Advanced Business Solutions team clearly understood our requirements and was on hand to help throughout the migration process."*

## Document management

A key part of the solution delivered by Advanced Business Solutions was the provision of the VersionOne document management system integrated with OpenAccounts. This allows finance users to view scanned accounts payable invoices instantly within OpenAccounts, for approval and checking purposes. As a result, David Lewis is now able to free up vital office space, previously used for storing paper invoices, whilst speeding up financial processes for more efficient invoice approval.

The charity intends to expand the use of the scanning system to incorporate non-finance forms such as patient records, legal contracts and HR forms in the near future.

*"The VersionOne system has allowed us to totally streamline our business processes," said Mike Wilson, CFO and strategic development director at the David Lewis Centre. "Staff can now see an actual image of relevant financial documents, instead of just a standard finance screen. This provides the critical link between vital business documents and data within our OpenAccounts system. We're already making substantial savings in both time and money, as a result."*

## About Business Solutions

Advanced Business Solutions, an Advanced Computer Software plc company, provides leading integrated business applications and services that enable public, private and third sector organisations to retain control, improve visibility and gain efficiencies whilst continually improving corporate performance. Its award-winning software systems comprise core financial management, procurement, human resource and payroll systems, integrated with a range of collaborative, document management and business intelligence solutions. It also provides managed and bureau service options.

Advanced Computer Software plc is the UK's leading supplier of software and IT services to the health, care and commercial sectors. It comprises 3 main divisions and has 7000 customers and 800 staff worldwide.

## For more information

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