

Press Release

NB Real Estate

NB Real Estate Ltd discover a real need for **OpenPlanning**

NB Real Estate, a growing real estate consultancy business lending advice and service across all aspects of property ownership, management and occupation, recent invested in Advanced Business Solutions' budgeting and forecasting tool, OpenPlanning.

Having previously used Excel spreadsheets David Barrett, Financial Planning Manager at NB Real Estate, knew that they needed a more robust tool. 'We used Excel to put together our annual budget and monthly cashflow forecast reports', he says. 'If we made changes to one part of the model it would not automatically flow through to other sections so there was a lot of manual intervention'.

The financial team also found it difficult to extract information from other sources and to automatically populate Excel with that data. 'The large scope for human error when using spreadsheets was another factor', David comments, 'With two people using the model, we found it difficult to keep track of changes in Excel. Coordinating amendments and controlling report versions was hard work.'

NB Real Estate was not in the process of looking for a different system to replace the inaccuracies of Excel but David says, 'we had reached the conclusion that we had to do something so the timing of Advanced Business Solutions' call to us was perfect.' The company has been growing steadily and the Excel model had evolved gradually with it, eventually becoming rather unwieldy. NB Real Estate did briefly look at alternative products but felt they were too big and expensive for what the company needed.

David says 'We really liked the look of OpenPlanning and it was extremely well presented by the Advanced Business Solutions team.' He goes on; 'Advanced Business Solutions showed a real financial understanding and did not appear as salesmen having a guess at what finance teams need. We were confident that they understood what we were talking about.' David states that 'the personalities of the Advanced Business Solutions team I met had a lot to do with choosing the software'.

Through implementing OpenPlanning, NB Real Estate

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wants to speed up their monthly processes and to make their model more robust and accurate. In addition David feels the company can get much more out of using OpenPlanning than Excel and plans to start using rolling forecasts and budgets. 'We hope that we can quickly update our OpenPlanning model with the latest data', concludes David, 'OpenPlanning will do a lot of the grunt work for us so we don't have so many manual processes'.

Training and model scoping began in early February, and NB Real Estate hope to have a working model in place around March.

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. It's 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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