



Vantage Helps Anglian Water Achieve Better ROI through Improved Cash Management

Anglian Water is the largest water and wastewater company in England and Wales, covering 27,500 square kilometres, representing 18 percent of the area of England and Wales.

Cash flow management is critical to Anglian Water and it enables greater business advantage. A cash management solution integrated with core systems is vital for Anglian Water as it enables them to track the forecast and actual cash position. This in turn empowers them to maximise the return of investment on cash.

Business Challenge

Like many leading utilities companies Anglian Water is an asset rich business. It uses these assets to secure loans providing cash into the business. Managing this cash flow is critical to maximising its profits and greater visibility of cash movements would allow Anglian Water to take maximum advantage of investment opportunities; by investing for longer they can generate higher returns.

The key requirement was for a tool that would automatically load accurate and cleansed 'actual' data and compare it to 'forecast' data to deliver monthly actual and projected cash position. This would enable Anglian Water to proactively manage cash flow for greater business advantage.

In addition it would allow the monitoring of cash based financial ratios in compliance with loan covenants and help the business calculate key performance indicators.

Project Objectives

In order to improve cash management the project needed to deliver a system that would capture more financial information from all the business divisions of Anglian Water and present the data back to business users in a user friendly format. This would allow proactive cash management, reduce risk and increase the return on investment opportunities.



Vantage's Solution

Initially Vantage delivered a proof-of-concept to evaluate the effectiveness of SAP Business Planning and Consolidation (BPC) to meet the project objectives. On the basis of this evaluation Anglian Water then commissioned Vantage to work with their outsourced IT department to develop and implement the solution and provide consulting support.

anglianwater

Challenge

Anglian Water needed a solution to collect more data to give better visibility and support improved cash flow management.

Solution

With Vantage's help Anglian Water implemented SAP Business Planning and Consolidation (BPC).

Benefits

The new BPC system has enabled:

- Better cash management
- The use of business dashboards that give a good overview of the financial position
- The collection of more data so that analysis can be conducted at different levels of the business
- The opportunity to include financial data relating to more companies within the Anglian Water Portfolio
- Better integration with other systems
- Process improvement, less pre-work has to be done to achieve a better level of financial reporting

"Working with Vantage enabled us to quickly and effectively tailor the BPC solution to meet our needs. The analysis and reports we can now produce are helping us maximise our ROI through more effective cash management. Vantage supplied us with invaluable user guides that made it easy for us to train our users and get the best out of the system."

Andrew Griffiths
Assistant Treasurer - Cash



BPC has been integrated with Anglian Water's core SAP applications. Previously the actual data had to be extracted from the core applications then manipulated in MS Excel and manually re-keyed; this process is now automated.

The solution now collects more data from more layers of the organisation producing easy-to-read dashboard reports that pack all the key, high-level data onto one side of A4.

Results

BPC captures more data from more areas of the business than was previously possible. Having been integrated

with SAP core applications, BPC has streamlined the finance reporting process and provides granularity at the cash transaction level.

Each month the actual data is automatically loaded into the system, this has reduced the pre-work required, saving approximately two man-days per month. The actual data can then be compared to forecasts to deliver monthly actual and projected cash position and variance reports. This allows Anglian Water to monitor cash based financial ratios and calculate key performance indicators. "The automation of processes and reduction in pre-work is saving the Treasury Department valuable time and the dashboard reports make it easier to see a good snapshot of our cash position." says Andrew Griffiths, Assistant Treasurer – Cash.

BPC is enabling the Treasury Department to better identify and investigate variances and to manage cash deposits to maximise return on investment. "Greater visibility of cash allows us to invest for longer periods which generates greater returns." explains Andrew Griffiths.

The dashboard reports and familiar MS Excel-type interface has made financial data more visible to users. The increased focus on cash management is driving positive change by creating an understanding of the importance of cash management throughout the business.

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Why Vantage?

Valued for their knowledge and flexibility

Vantage is recognised as a leader in BCP implementations with proven expertise and deep product knowledge

Vantage consultants were able to rapidly transfer the required product knowledge to deliver business benefits and ROI quickly

Fully SAP-Certified implementation partner - reducing risk for Anglian Water

For more information please contact us at info@vantage-ps.com or call us on +44 (0) 20 7849 3120

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Vantage was founded by former SAP BusinessObjects Consulting Services team members in order to provide software users with access to the very best consultants with an independent perspective.

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