



Finit Solutions Upgrades Oracle Hyperion Financial Management (HFM) at a Fortune 500 Chemical Manufacturer

Oracle Products Implemented

Hyperion Financial Management (HFM)

Hyperion Web Analysis

Hyperion Financial Reporting

Hyperion Smart View

Highlighted Solutions

HFM Upgrade

HFM Application Clean-up

Automated Data Validation

Server Virtualization

Sarbanes-Oxley Compliance


End-User Training

The Client's Goals

With sales over \$8 billion, this global organization was intent on responding to the needs of its more than 250 financial reporting users. With their existing Hyperion Financial Management (HFM) application approaching 5 years in age, the firm became very interested in Hyperion's newest System 9 offering and its potential of increased system performance, more unified reporting, and better reach of end user analytical tools to their worldwide organization. Goals for the conversion included:

- To upgrade to the most recent version of HFM available at that time (9.3.1.)
- To clean up the HFM application metadata, rules, journals, and data.
- To maintain historical data integrity with a zero tolerance level for variances.
- To gain scale, efficiency and flexibility by building the new System 9 environment on a virtualized platform.
- To adhere to strict testing and documentation requirements throughout the upgrade in accordance with Sarbanes-Oxley control guidelines
- To thoroughly train and support end-users during the conversion.
- To reduce turnaround time to create the SEC disclosures.

"The consultants always acted in our company's best interests and were consistently prepared to address all our items. Overall, the consultants provided more value than what we paid for in fees, and it was a pleasure to work with them."



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Our Solution

Finit Solutions created the following solutions to help the client achieve their goals:

HFM Application Cleanup: The client had been using HFM for consolidation and analysis for 5 years, and over time the metadata, rules, journals and data had accumulated some items that were either incorrect or no longer useful. Finit performed a thorough review of all application elements and deleted or modified where necessary to ensure that the newly upgraded application was clean, relevant and efficient.


Automated Data Validation: Since the system being upgraded was responsible for producing the external financial statements, the team placed a zero tolerance level on data integrity errors. With 6 years of historical data, budgets, forecasts, exchange rates, tax rates and other statistical data coming over, the potential for these types of errors was a significant concern.

Finit mitigated this concern by providing hard evidence that data integrity was solid between the two systems. Finit developed a visual basic driven Microsoft Excel model that systematically pulled data from the legacy system, retrieved the same data points from the new system, compared the values, created a file detailing the results, and logged its findings. This model was built so it could dynamically switch entities, periods, years, and scenarios without needing any user intervention as it progressed. This model generated well over 6,000 verification reports, showing in detail that the two applications were in agreement and providing a high level of detailed assurance to both executive management and auditors.

Server Virtualization: The client wanted to update the technical architecture that HFM was housed on and build the new System 9 environment on a virtualized platform. Moving beyond the old “one server, one application” model gave the firm the flexibility and scale it needed to keep pace with its user community's ever-changing speed and size demands, while giving the company the benefits of utilizing IT resources in a more efficient manner.

Sarbanes-Oxley Compliance: Finit kept tight controls on the conversion process, using 4 levels of system development in sandbox, development, quality assurance and production environments. Two successful parallel financial closes were planned and performed in order to provide the confidence needed to sign off on a new system.

End-User Training: Dozens of onsite and remote training sessions were held for users all around the globe. Finit was on-site around the clock during the initial rollout to ensure that any problems encountered were dealt with quickly.



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The Client's Benefits

The vision of a better performing software package in concert with a more dynamic operating platform initiated the company's desire to upgrade to the latest version of HFM. Finit Solutions was selected to provide guidance and expertise while ensuring data integrity between old and new systems and complying with all Sarbanes – Oxley compliance and internal control procedures and policies.

Finit approached the situation in 3 simple steps - requirements gathering, execution, and confirmation. Carefully gathering requirements is a large part of any Finit engagement, because time spent discovering, discussing, and building consensus in the beginning always pays dividends towards the ultimate goal of a successful project. Financial, technical, and executive stakeholders were consulted in order to get out in front of issues that could prove more problematic and costly if discovered towards the end of the project.

By utilizing Finit's systematic approach, experience, and attention to detail the company was able to complete this project in less than 6 months. The goals of the initiative were achieved; the financial end users are now able to get to their mission critical data in a much more effective manner, the IT group is deploying its system resources with greater efficiency, and data integrity has been reviewed, confirmed and documented.

Efficient Delivery of Effective Solutions

Finit Solutions specializes in the design and implementation of Oracle Hyperion Enterprise Performance Management Solutions. From upgrades to designs to full implementations, Finit consultants apply their expertise in Hyperion Financial Management (HFM), Hyperion Financial Data Quality Management (FDM), Hyperion Enterprise, Hyperion Essbase, and Hyperion Planning to deliver concrete, effective solutions to meet your Finance IT needs.

Finit's approach on every project is to ensure that we exceed our clients' expectations, and we are proud to say that 100% of our clients serve as references. We pride ourselves on recognizing that each of our clients has unique goals, issues, and constraints, and each client deserves a solution that is developed, designed, and executed with that uniqueness in mind. Finit does not apply boilerplate solutions. We work as a team to look out for our clients' best interests and to find the *best* solution for every issue on every project, every time.