

Redpath

Mining Contractor Centralizes Cost and Productivity for Increased Efficiency

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- Rouan du Rand, General Manager Project Services, Redpath

The Challenge

Redpath, a leader in the global mining industry, was using disparate systems to manage projects. As a result, project setup took up to three weeks to complete, and project reporting was tedious, requiring many hours to manually key in redundant data. Reports were difficult to create, contained inaccurate KPIs, and did not reflect current project information. An enormous effort was spent on reconciling, estimating, controls, forecasting, scheduling, and ERP.



In 2009, Redpath selected Hard Dollar's HD Project Cost Management (PCM) to expedite and centralize cost and productivity information, eliminating multiple systems with a key objective: to better manage owner expectations and accelerate payments, particularly on EPCM contracts.

Rouan du Rand, general manager of project services at Redpath, says, “Redpath is a leader in the mining industry, and we need partners with the same vision. We found HD PCM to be an effective, efficient and integrated solution. HD PCM provides an enterprise solution to all of our business units and standardizes our estimation and controls processes.”

The Solution

Redpath was able to quickly deploy HD PCM, which allowed the firm to analyze

its workflow and instantly centralize cost and productivity, while HD PCM's single-source platform helped Redpath lower its overall licensing costs.

HD PCM's abilities to model heavy equipment and production cycles, and mix and match currencies for global work, were an enormous asset.

With HD PCM, Redpath quickly assesses historical resource information and costs related to any project. Once projects are under way, estimate data is compared with actual project cost from Oracle JD Edwards EnterpriseOne. Additionally, daily earned value is calculated through the integration of HD PCM, JD Edwards EnterpriseOne and Oracle Primavera P6. HD PCM's integration with Primavera P6 has allowed Redpath to automate schedule creation and updates, reducing data entry and seamlessly integrating live schedules into the estimate and project controls processes. This integration has improved project results through daily progress tracking that allows for swift responses to potential cost and schedule overruns. HD PCM field timesheet collection and progress measurement is utilized to update payroll and scheduling.

Return on Investment

Redpath's team utilizes HD PCM for daily business insight and informed planning. New efficiencies have been formed by automating processes with real-time job tracking and analysis. The team has shortened reporting cycles and the time it takes to complete tasks by as much as

60 hours a month. Tasks that previously took two weeks to convert a project from an estimate into a controls budget have been reduced to one day—a 90% increase in efficiency.

“With HD PCM, we have improved efficiencies because our information is centralized, server-based, backed up and accessible anywhere in the world that has an Internet connection. When one estimator is working on an estimate offsite, another estimator can access the project and provide real-time information to management,” adds du Rand.

HD Project Cost Management allowed Redpath to maintain current resource levels while managing more projects.

In 2013, Redpath began using Lasso Project Intelligence (LassoPI), Hard Dollar's cloud-based project intelligence solution. Du Rand predicts, “reporting that currently takes two to three hours on average per day will be cut down to 15 to 30 minutes per day to capture the same data.”

For collaboration between Redpath and its owners, LassoPI provides dynamic, on-demand reporting and flexibility with daily exception alerts to all project stakeholders. According to du Rand, Hard Dollar has proven to be more than just the publisher of a set of products, but rather a “strategic partner in developing a practical, cost-effective project management solution for Redpath.”