SERENIC® SOFTWARE

Serenic® Navigator Updates American Psychological Association's Systems

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— JERRY MCGLAUGHLIN

The American Psychological Association (APA) is the largest scientific and professional organization representing psychology in the United States. As the world's largest association of psychologists, with more than 134,000 researchers, educators, clinicians, consultants and students as members, the organization's 600 employees carry out its mission to advance the creation, communication and application of psychological knowledge to benefit society and improve people's lives.

Updating Older Financial Systems

The APA wanted to implement a new financial system. It wanted to move the organization to a new level – incorporating functionality, such as workflow, and viewing balances in the system right away as opposed to waiting for a sub ledger to close for the month, according to the APA's Senior Director of Information Technology Services Planning and Business Management Jerry McGlaughlin.

The organization recruited Serenic Navigator partner AVF Consulting and worked with AVF's consultants to identify and document APA's unique requirements.

"We have a 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(6) plus a real estate partnership, so we needed a validated balance sheet," said McGlaughlin. "We wanted a system with direct integration into our association management system that tied to our memberships and subscriptions."

The APA's ideal solution would maintain the integrity of transactions between multiple systems as well as unique identifications for members and vendors. It wanted to integrate its hosted payroll and HR solution electronically with minimal human intervention. APA selected Microsoft Dynamics NAV and Serenic Navigator as the software platform for the new financial system.

"The ability to modify data entry fields on the fly while going through the demo and Serenic's level of drill down capabilities intrigued us," said McGlaughlin. "We liked AVF's depth of knowledge and suitability as an implementation partner."

Winning Features For Financial Management Feats

McGlaughlin realized benefits within just weeks of Serenic Navigator's implementation, including automatically importing transactional data hourly – a key request the APA had for its new system.

The IT team knows the organization as a whole now will have a better, up-to-date grasp of its finances and expects Serenic Navigator's built-in workflow will make everyone more efficient and cut down on paper use. McGlaughlin said the system's self-serve aspect is having a big impact already.

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The organization's users were brought up to speed with the appropriate amount of training, and have found Navigator very intuitive.

"I have been doing this for 35 years, and this go live was so non-eventful that it was eerie," McGlaughlin said. "We did some practice runs of the conversion and system cut over plans and came up with detailed plans that were executed in conjunction with the AVF team. We went live and have been operating successfully ever since."

About Our Partner

AVF Consulting Inc. is a full-service Microsoft Certified Partner serving nonprofits for more than 25 years. With a deep understanding of organizations' needs related to fund accounting, encumbrance accounting, grants management and budgeting, AVF Consulting is considered one of the leading Serenic Navigator implementation and support firms in the country.

AVF's experienced and dedicated staff serves clients including the American Psychological Association, the Philadelphia Zoo, Carnegie Institution for Science, Habitat for Humanity and many others. Visit www.avfconsulting.com to learn more.

About Serenic Software

Serenic Software develops and delivers mission-critical ERP software solutions for public service organizations including: K-12 school districts/boards, public sector, nonprofits (NPOs), and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Serenic is a Gold ERP and ISV vendor and a development partner for Microsoft. Serenic public service solutions are trusted by over 1,000 organizations around the globe. You can learn more about Serenic Software at www.serenic.com.

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