



**WHEN REUTERS MIGRATED FINANCIAL PROCESSING
FROM 90 COUNTRIES TO JUST 4 LOCATIONS, HITTING
AMBITIOUS TARGETS, IT WASN'T JUST A SUCCESS >>**

IT WAS WORLDWIDE NEWS



Reuters, a world leader in information services, recognised the need to fundamentally transform its finance function to better meet the needs of the business and to reduce costs. The finance transformation programme delivered such significant benefits it made headlines across Reuters worldwide.

“Atos Consulting fielded a very strong and balanced team and committed them to our programme. Their global team quickly moved us from thinking to doing.”

Business Challenges

The issues facing Reuters were clear:

- > too many staff
 - > too much duplication
 - > too many individual finance systems
 - > too much inconsistency in data and processing standards
 - > too many home-grown reporting solutions
 - > too high a support cost
 - > too slow to change.
- Change was mandatory for Reuters to reach its annual savings target.

Solutions

Atos Consulting* worked with Reuters from business case to implementation and realisation of benefits on this large-scale change programme. Four regional business service centres, using standard finance processes and a single-instance of Oracle 11i, were established to serve Reuters' offices in over 90 countries.

Atos Origin's wider team helped to design and deliver an integrated approach, encompassing programme management, finance, Oracle applications, process re-engineering, management information, change management and business services.

The global nature of this project demanded extensive change management: beyond the 1400 finance staff, nearly every employee was affected by introducing self-service applications (eg web expenses) and the electronic approval of scanned invoices. Atos Consulting worked closely with Reuters to develop detailed communication plans, to design and implement market-leading finance processes and to migrate multiple finance systems to a single instance of Oracle 11i. The design was based on pre-defined processes from Atos Consulting's Rapid Return on Investment toolkit while strict change control ensured design changes were limited to business critical requirements. Atos Consulting helped to bring together the people, processes and technology to achieve Reuters' ambitious targets.

The benefits

- > Customer focus: more decision support from local finance
- > reporting: more timely, relevant management information
- > structure: finance re-aligned with new organisational structure, providing flexibility to integrate acquisitions faster
- > efficiency: increased productivity across the organisation with standard finance processes
- > savings: the targeted savings from the finance transformation programme have been exceeded.

The client's viewpoint

“Atos Consulting fielded a very strong and balanced team and committed them to our programme. Their global team quickly moved us from thinking to doing.

They understood our business and the challenges we faced – and delivered solutions. They implemented rapidly, integrating all aspects of change: people, process and technology.

We got what they promised – and more. As we moved through the phases of business case, design and implementation, they always provided the right skills in the right place at the right time. They drove us to build a rapid delivery momentum on a global scale.

Their consultants have been outstanding professionals who have brought vast experience and knowledge as well as strong technical skills, commitment and a passion for working with us. This was supplemented by programme management tools, techniques and knowledge, which has been transferred to us.”

Ken Thomson, Director of Global Business Services, Reuters.

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