



Dataflow Case Study Financial Services



JCB

JCB International achieves significant time and cost savings with *dataflow* financials

***dataflow's* ability to manage accounting transactions in multiple currencies has enabled financial services provider JCB International to save 10 days per month on this one process alone.**

Established in 1961, JCB International is a leader in the Japanese credit card industry with a reputation for providing superior customer service. Based in Japan and with 51.6 million cardholders around the globe, the company employs 2,350 staff in 52 offices and 8 service centres and generates an annual sales volume of JPY5.69 trillion Japanese Yen (approx. USD52 billion). JCB cards are currently accepted at 11.71 million merchants in 189 countries and territories worldwide.

As a global financial operation, staff at JCB International process transactions in a wide range of different currencies, and as a consequence their accounting operation has to be able to handle complex foreign exchange manipulation. Many of these accounting processes were undertaken manually until 1998, when JCB International decided to seek out a suitable software package flexible and adaptable enough to support multiple currencies.

According to JCB International's Company Secretary Devadas Vassanth, who was involved with the decision-making process, *dataflow* Financials emerged as a clear

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winner: "The only other possible system that we considered was Sun Accounts, which we felt was too expensive. There wasn't an equivalent product available in the market for SME's, with across-the-board multi-currency and multi-based currency functionality, apart from the Dataflow Financial system."

***dataflow* handles multiple currencies with ease**

Not only does *dataflow* Financials' adaptability allow it to support sales and purchase accounts in any currency, it will offset invoices in one currency, with payments in another, and handle exchange differences automatically.



The software supports an unlimited number of base currencies and can maintain completely parallel records of transactions and balances across all of these. All reports can be produced on demand in any number of base currencies - there are no costly or time consuming conversions to be made by members of the Accounts team.

Beyond the availability of multiple base currency options, *dataflow* makes provision for Euro based operations, should they be required. During a transition period the transactions can be viewed in both the Euro and national currency, allowing comparisons and drill down to the data.

Since implementing the Dataflow Financial system, JCB International has made impressive gains in time saved carrying out currency conversions. According to Devadas:

"By installing *dataflow* we were able to eradicate the manual currency conversion processes ..."

"By installing *dataflow* we were able to eradicate the manual currency conversion processes and that has enabled the company, just on this one process alone, to save two working days per week in man hours and an additional two days of time during the month end closure."



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dataflow also makes it straightforward for JCB International to undertake standard reporting operations, producing P&L and balance sheets for monthly reporting and creating accurate expense schedules on a monthly basis. Data is also generated from the system and transferred to Excel or Word documents to meet year-end legislative requirements for the company. "Putting this particular system in place has provided us with more information which is easily accessible for reporting purposes", notes Devadas.

***dataflow* Analyzer offers extra opportunities for data analysis**

Having used the *dataflow* software to produce automatic management reports reliably and efficiently month-in, month-out for the past eight years, JCB International are shortly to implement the Analyzer module to further increase efficiencies in reporting.

The Analyzer module transports relevant financial data directly from *dataflow* to the desktop, converting financial data into reports that are easy to use and which can be manipulated to suit changing requirements. The module includes a comprehensive report template generator with automated refresh and recalculated fields. Reports can be designed to include Sales, Purchase, Nominal and Cost Centre analysis, incorporating actual and budget monetary values, and Sales and Purchase quantities. Through Analyzer, information can be disseminated anywhere throughout the company for review, budgeting input or decision support.

The *dataflow* users within the Accounts Department at JCB International will be able to take advantage of the universally popular 'wizard' tutoring technique, which takes users step-by-step through the task of querying and publishing reports. The Analyzer module extensively uses the Microsoft Excel functions which is familiar to many users, including pivot table analysis, outline and data drill down directly to 'data mart' information.

JCB International moves forward with *dataflow*

Since installation, over the past few years *dataflow* has adapted easily to fit the changing needs of JCB International. Devadas notes: "We have added a substantial number of nominal accounts and currency information over the years and found it to be coping extremely well."

Choosing *dataflow* has proved a sound investment for JCB International for the last eight years. Says Devadas; "The flexibility of the system on foreign exchange manipulation definitely proved to be worth the investment, in addition to the reduction in processing time and labour cost." As JCB International continues to grow as a company they know that *dataflow* will cope admirably with any increase in demand for financial management.

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Darius Mogtader, Managing Director of Dataflow UK, comments, "We are very pleased that through *dataflow* we have been able to provide the multi-based, multi-currency requirement that JCB International were looking for".

Dataflow's Management Systems are already helping many companies to realise their true growth potential through streamlining their business processes. If you would like further information, please contact us on 0845 456 1020.

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