# Arqiva streamlines budgeting, forecasting and reporting to 'enable a switched-on world' with Brovanture

> Brovanture were great to work with. Through our partnership approach, they were there to support us throughout the process and were very flexible in meeting our requirements. We needed a major change late in the project; they were determined it would not delay us going live on time and it didn't!
>
> Ruth Kirby, Head of Finance Transformation, Arqiva

## Brovanture partners with Arqiva to transform finance with Oracle Cloud EPM Planning

Arqiva works in partnership with their customers, in the UK and around the world, building and operating the complex ecosystems and infrastructures through which data and content can move effectively, securely and sustainably at scale. This includes 1,450 radio and TV broadcast sites that reach 98.5% of the UK population through Freeview and smart metering networks that deliver 50 million data points every day.

Arqiva had used Oracle Hyperion Planning on premises for over 10 years. Beginning with a single application, by 2019 this had escalated to 12 production applications that had been developed by different consultants and employees over this period. Due to the way the applications had evolved there was little consistency and integration between them, offering scope to gain greater efficiency by simplifying and automating processes.

As part of a major finance transformation project to re-implement their Oracle EBS ERP solution across the entire business, it was also decided to re-implement their budgeting, forecasting and reporting applications as an additional project. In September 2019 they produced and issued an RFP for this project and then selected the Oracle Cloud EPM Planning solution and Brovanture to partner with them for its implementation.

## challenges

- Maintenance of multiple applications was complicated and required considerable resources
- Data and Metadata integration between applications was manual and time consuming
- High dependence on a few employees and Brovanture who had the expertise and knowledge of the applications
- Lack of role-based planning reduced the efficiency of the process
- Could not use Oracle Smart View for Microsoft Office for analysis
- Manual processes increased the risk of errors

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## results

From the beginning Arqiva were clear on what they wanted the project to deliver:

- Decrease the time taken to budget
- Support the generation of all financial statements
- Enable monthly reforecasting
- Enable a deep dive into the numbers at any time
- A high level of automatic integration with their re-implemented Oracle EBS and new Oracle Cloud HCM solutions
- Empower business leaders and cost centre managers through improved financial budgeting and reporting

The integrations with Oracle EBS needed to include GL, capital and contract projects and leases. Salary and role information should come directly from Oracle Cloud HCM automatically for budgeting and forecasting. Analysis should be done via Oracle Smart View.

To meet these requirements Brovanture designed and implemented Oracle Cloud EPM Planning so that Arqiva had the following processes and reporting:

- Budgeting – year to date plus two years forward
- Mid-year forecast – year to date plus two years forward
- Monthly forecast
- Actual vs budget analysis using Oracle Smart View

Underlying the new application were five models:

- Margin by billable projects
  - Project metadata and actuals integrated from Oracle EBS OPA projects module
  - Utilises Oracle EBS contract info to budget forward

- Group balance sheet and P&L
  - In line with new Oracle EBS chart of accounts
  - Metadata and actuals integrated from Oracle EBS GL
- Shared costs by site
  - Allocate shared costs based on set percentages
- Resource planning by role
  - Personnel costs and headcount/FTE actuals integrated from Oracle Cloud HCM
- Capex planning by project
  - Project metadata and actuals integrated from Oracle EBS OPA Projects module

The solution delivered has met the objective initially outlined by Arqiva and the major benefits of the completed project can be summarised as:

- Arqiva now has a single version of the truth for budget vs actual comparisons
- Direct automatic integrations with source systems have reduced process time and effort
- Actual information is refreshed every 30 minutes making it more recent
- Automating manual processes has improved the accuracy of information
- Improved information accuracy and timeliness has improved user confidence
- Budgeting and forecasting processes are now more flexible, straightforward and faster
- Users have the time, tools and information to do more value-add analysis

## execution

Arqiva and Brovanture commenced the project in January 2020 with a discovery session to determine the current and required processes and reporting for the future. Then Brovanture worked on the initial design and reviewed this with Arqiva to finalise the design. This was done with Arqiva project teams who were responsible for each of their areas of the business. Once the final design was approved Brovanture developed the application and set up and executed the UAT with the Arqiva teams. Final changes were made and the application was live in December 2020. Much of the project was undertaken remotely during the UK lockdowns due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Monthly forecasting, previously done outside the system, commenced in January 2021 and Arqiva produced their first full budget in the new application by April 2021. This was achieved with much fewer issues and the timescale was reduced by 20%.

> Brovanture engaged with users and stakeholders right across the business. They supported us by helping to identify the right people to get involved. This improved the outcome and helped ownership of the solution. This collaborative approach worked really well especially considering most of the work had to be done remotely due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
>
> Ruth Shervell, Financial Planning Manager, Arqiva

## about Arqiva

In today's switched-on world, companies and entire industries are grappling with how to share data and content across a myriad of connected devices. That's where Arqiva comes in. Fundamentally, we're enablers. Behind the scenes, we apply our knowledge and expertise to stitch together technologies that connect broadcasters and utilities to their customers, and the content, data, information and entertainment they want. Arqiva works in partnership with our customers, in the UK and around the world, building and operating the complex ecosystems and infrastructures through which data and content can move effectively, securely and sustainably at scale – whether that's through broadcasting and transmission services, or smart networks for energy and water.

**www.arqiva.com**

## About Brovanture

Brovanture Ltd, established in 2005, is a specialist provider of Oracle and NetSuite Enterprise Performance Management (EPM) and Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) solutions across all sectors and organisations, irrespective of size or budget. Initially, a Hyperion Partner, Brovanture became an Oracle Partner, following Oracle's takeover of Hyperion, and is also a NetSuite Solution Provider. Brovanture is an 'Oracle Certified Expert Partner' for Oracle Cloud EPM and Oracle Hyperion solutions, is an accredited supplier with G-Cloud and the Crown Commercial Service and has Cyber Essentials, ISO9001 and ISO27001 accreditations. The Brovanture team of highly skilled professionals deliver excellence, ensure success, and are experienced in providing services to a wide range of organisations including Edrington UK, Department of Health and Social Care, Mount Street Group, discoverIE, Arqiva, Reading Borough Council and Channel 4 Television.

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