CASE STUDY



NANTMEDIA ESTABLISHES THEIR New Enterprise Financial Ecosystem USING Microsoft Dynamics 365



Los Angeles Times





NantMedia Holdings, LLC (NantMedia) owns the Los Angeles Times and San Diego Union-Tribune after these businesses were sold by Tribune Publishing Company in June 2018. The acquired publications operated on the seller's systems via a Transition Services Agreement (TSA) for a period of 24 months. NantMedia needed to stand up their own integrated financial system for the newly carved-out entities.

NantMedia partnered with Infosys to implement Microsoft Dynamics 365 to roll out a cost-effective and flexible platform to build value-added functionalities on; Finance and Operations (ERP) was the first. The solution included the General Ledger, Accounts Payables & Receivables, Travel & Expense Management, Fixed Assets, and Cash & Bank Management modules.

The program was delivered in two phases with historical data migtrated from the seller's Oracle Financial Clould (OFC) Management reporting leveraged the full suite of Microsoft Power BI.

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Key Challenges

Integrate all open and a period of historical closed invoices (multi-million records) to support customer contracts and refund requests.

• Niche nature of billing practices with several variations based on a wide

range of publications, customer types, subscription models, frequency of billing, and advertisements

 Complex program management due to tight TSA timelines and managing 35+ interfaces developed by diverse teams of partners and third party service providers

 Compliance with work-from-home guidelines across project locations due to the Covid-19 pandemic during the go-live and hyper care phases

고 고 Solution Overview

The ERP Program had a team size of 50 that included the business, IT, and vendor/partners. Approx 89% of the team worked remotely from locations in the continental USA, UK, and India.

Infosys implemented D365 FO in two phases: Phase 1 included Procurement, Accounts Payable, General Ledger, Fixed Assets, Travel and Expense, Cash and Bank, and Budgeting. Phase 2 exclusively involved the implementation of the Accounts Receivable module, and customer Billing statement. Executive-level oversight from initial stages of the project ensured commitment across the program lifecycle for 1,400+ business users.

The UAT phase of the project was managed remotely due to travel restrictions imposed by governments during the pandemic. The UAT, cutover, and go-live phases spanned 10 weeks and 700+ activities.

A virtual war room was set up using videoconferencing for the cutover, go-live,

and hyper-care support. It successfully facilitated the collaboration between program teams at NantMedia headquarters in Los Angeles, CA and third-party consultants, business users, external vendors, and Infosys experts across USA (San Diego, Melbourne, Harrisburg, Houston and New Jersey), UK (London), and India.

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We selected Infosys for the implementation of our new ERP based on Microsoft Dynamics 365 Finance and Operations platform. We benefited from Infosys' rich past experience in ERP implementations, agile delivery model, and domain knowledge. Their willingness to go the extra mile to keep up with our stringent delivery schedules was remarkable.

Ghalib Kassam

EVP Chief Information Officer, Los Angeles Times



NantMedia spent 3 months to complete a product selection exercise, evaluating Oracle Financial Cloud (OFC), MS Dynamics 365 Finance and Operations, and Worday Financials. Microsoft Dynamics 365 was selected because of the integration to Microsoft O365, tight TSA timeline, and overall cost of ownership.

2. Infosys as well as two other partners were interviewed during the process. Infosys was selected because of their deep knowledge of the product and their publishing domain knowledge.

3. NantMedia's decision to select Microsoft Dynamics 365 replaced similar functionality in their legacy ERP of Oracle Financial Cloud (OFC), ARCS (Account Reconciliation tool), FCCS (Financial Close & Consolidation tool), EPBCS (Financial Planning tool), Concur (legacy T&E tool), and OnBase (Procurement tool) with an approximate savings of \$500K in licenses and annual recurring maintenance.

4. The new ERP reduced the Consolidation and Reporting time by 15% and accelerated the period close by 2-3 days every month.

5. Solution addressed monthly billing with additional cashflows for more than 5,000 advertising clients, leading to reduced revenue leakage with robust compliance

6. The program implementation including 35+ complex in- and out-bound interfaces that were also completed within the span of 12 months





Go-live planning included 1,500+ activities and a 250+ taskscutover plan.

- US \$500,000 saving in license, maintenance, and upgrade costs annually
- Reduced time for consolidation and reporting by 15% while ensuring business continuity by integrating with legacy applications and processes
- Provides seamless access to decades-old data for around four million records



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