Interactive Business Systems, Inc.

CASE STUDY

How IBS Helped a National Oil Company Master Security, Control Data and Streamline Communications Through SharePoint

The Client:

Duncan Oil, Inc. is an oil and gas exploration company with employees and investors in multiple locations across the country. They manage large amounts of data ranging from PowerPoints to seismic information.

The Challenge

A critical aspect of Duncan Oil's business is communicating information to employees and investors continually. From the time an oil well is sold to when work on it has been completed, both its staff and partners must be constantly updated. Keeping up with this ongoing flux of information presented major challenges, including:

- Tracking who had and hadn't received communication through email, Duncan Oil's primary means of disseminating information.
- Distribution restrictions: The outsourced email provider Duncan Oil used had mailbox size restrictions that often prevented emails from reaching investors.
- Weekly updates on an oil well's status: These were time-intensive to prepare and disseminate every week.
- Document version control: Important files were stored on a shared drive, making it difficult to ascertain which version was the most current.
- Making sensitive documents available to outside investors: The information was being retrieved through a Virtual Private Network (VPN).

The Solution:

Duncan Oil turned to IBS who, after carefully analyzing Duncan's internal and external governance issues, recommended SharePoint.

IBS first created an easy-to-manage user permission system that limited investor access to only the prospects and wells the investor had a stake in, while still granting full access to Duncan Oil personnel.

Next, a logical Information Architecture was developed for Duncan Oil's shared drives. The new navigation and list functions made information easy to find.

Furthermore, the SQL server reporting service was deployed to create detailed weekly well status reports. Whereas previous report creation consumed hours

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"SharePoint allows us to provide reports on demand for both employees and investors based on their unique permission level and participation in each project. Previous to SharePoint, large reports and prospect information were emailed to every investor and throughout the company, filling inboxes with multiple copies of soon-to-be outdated information. Today, the most recent version is available online, saving email storage and time both inside the company and for the partners/investors."

- Scott Krueger
  Vice President, Gulf Coast Exploration
  Duncan Oil, Inc.

SharePoint offers multiple advantages for managing and sharing information. Collaboration, reporting and data sharing are just a few of the ways SharePoint is helping companies manage information and communications.

***Contact us** to learn how SharePoint can benefit your organization.*

and required separate versions for the company and partners and investors, reports are now automatically created with the most current information, tailored to the recipient. Plus, new alerts ensure each user is aware of any changes that need review.

Previous to SharePoint, large reports and prospect information were emailed indiscriminately to people throughout the company as well as to every investor, filling inboxes with multiple copies of soon-to-be-outdated information. With the new solution in place, the latest version is accessible online to everyone, saving email storage and considerable headaches.

The Results:

The SharePoint solution that IBS implemented saved Duncan Oil significant time on their internal processes and streamlined communications with partners and investors.

It also helped the company better manage governance and security. Specifically: the remote, secure access to data via the web empowered Duncan Oil with incredible flexibility and the assurance that personnel and associates were always using the most current version of a document.

Scott Krueger, Duncan Oil's Vice President of Gulf Coast Exploration, summarized the impact of the SharePoint solution. "It definitely saves time in countless ways, including reports that used to take me several hours every week. All of the improvements save time both inside the company and for the partners/investors."

About IBS:

IBS specializes in custom-developed applications that bridge the realms of IT and critical business issues. Through high-value solutions using Microsoft and other current technologies, IT strategy consulting and flexible staffing services, IBS helps businesses succeed with increased efficiency and new business opportunities. IBS has been a leading IT services provider for nearly 30 years. For more information about IBS, visit www.ibs.com.

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