



Microsoft Dynamics Customer Solution Case Study



Customer: BRE Bank SA Group

Web Site: <http://www.brebank.com.pl/en>

Customer Size: 100–5,000

Country or Region: BRE Bank SA Group

Industry: Financial Services—Banking
Industry

Partner: Columbus Polska

Customer Profile

BRE Bank SA Group is a rapidly expanding financial institution based in Poland. It provides innovative financial services for private and corporate clients.

Software and Services

- Microsoft Dynamics
 - Microsoft Dynamics AX

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www.microsoft.com/resources/casestudies

Polish Financial Group Manages Fixed Assets Network with Centralised Business Solution

“Introducing Microsoft Dynamics AX across the business offered a standardised procedure for asset registration and management.”

Wojciech Karwowski, Project Manager, Columbus Polska

BRE Bank SA Group lacked a consistent approach to manage fixed assets across its decentralised network of subsidiaries, making it difficult to drive business efficiencies. BRE chose Microsoft® Gold Certified Partner Columbus Polska to implement business solution Microsoft Dynamics™ AX. For the first time, BRE has been able to introduce standardised asset management procedures and gain a consolidated picture across its operations.

Business Needs

BRE Bank SA Group is one of the largest capital holding groups in Poland. It has a wide portfolio of clients that operate in areas including corporate and retail banking and asset management. The group serves these markets through specialised subsidiaries. Each subsidiary manages its own strategy and retains original procedures and solutions for fixed asset, investment, or purchase management.

Following a period of rapid growth in 2005, the company recruited additional employees, and acquired more office space, fixed

assets, and equipment. BRE recognised the opportunity to deploy more consistent approaches to these areas of management that could offer advantages to the group.

Adam Furba, Project Coordinator, IT Development Department, BRE Bank SA Group, says: “Our ultimate goal was to reduce the costs of purchasing and maintaining fixed assets. To achieve this, we needed to improve the way we managed these processes. Inventory management was inconsistent and it was difficult to get a clear picture of the quantities and value of stock. Financial administrators also wasted



considerable time manually consolidating regional data for centralised financial or logistical planning.”

BRE was clear about how it needed to move forward. Furba continues: “By moving all data to a single central system, it would be easier to manage and manipulate for business reporting. This would increase the opportunity to reduce costs by consolidating areas such as ordering and negotiating better pricing deals.”

Solution

The project was ambitious both in scope and schedule for delivery. BRE pulled together a project team from across the business to identify the best solution and then manage the project. The first step the project team took was to identify a technology partner with the experience and knowledge that matched the company’s ambition. Furba and his team carefully evaluated all the options before selecting Microsoft® Gold Certified Partner Columbus Polska.

Columbus was responsible for identifying the detailed business requirements of the system. From the outset, Columbus recognised a number of challenges. The main issue lay in the scale of the project. More than 50,000 fixed assets were identified across the business. Information about these assets was spread across a number of disparate systems. The different definitions and methods used for fixed asset management added to the complexity of the project.

Columbus recommended Microsoft Dynamics™ AX as the business management solution that best met the needs of BRE.

Wojciech Karwowski, Project Manager, Columbus Polska, says: “Introducing Microsoft Dynamics AX across the business offered a

standardised procedure for asset registration and management. The biggest challenge proved to be cultural—that of getting the business to agree to uniform book-keeping profiles. The process of extracting and standardising the existing data was also critical.”

With only a short space of time to deliver the technology, Furba and his colleagues at Columbus focused on the standardisation of definitions used in the fixed assets module within Microsoft Dynamics AX. Some reporting functions were also included for basic reports requirements. Columbus then created conversion tools to handle data at the analysis phase. Despite the size of the project, it was completed successfully.

Benefits

BRE can now register and manage fixed asset data in a consistent manner with a single central system. Managers get a view of assets across the business and the foundations are in place to realise potential cost benefits from centralised services due to the introduction of standardised procedures.

- Managers are now able to effectively control the company’s fixed assets with all data collected and incorporated in the Microsoft Dynamics AX system. This centralised IT support function provides business managers with a core database of up-to-date information. For the first time, they can retrieve consistent data on each fixed asset or piece of equipment.
- Managers have greater value controls over fixed assets and warehouse purchases since using a single set of coherent rules to register fixed asset data across the business. As a result,

managers are now able to forecast depreciation levels of stock consistently throughout the business.

- Financial administrators no longer have to manually consolidate financial data from each subsidiary. This process is now carried out automatically by the system. Financial administrators are in a position to analyse the data and consolidate findings. Managers will then be able to further optimise the solution to achieve cost savings from coordinated services such as negotiating pricing advantages from centralised ordering.