Mining a competitive edge on the cloud

Process standardization and innovation at Coronado Global Resources
Coronado Global Resources Inc., or Coronado, is a leading international producer of high-quality Met Coal, an essential element in steel production. Coronado’s coals, transformed in the steelmaking process, support the manufacture of everyday steel-based products, including renewable energy infrastructure, that enrich lives around the world. Coronado has a portfolio of operating mines and development projects in Queensland, Australia, and Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia in the United States. Coronado is one of the largest Met Coal producers globally by export volume, serving customers on five continents. Coronado is committed to operating in an ethical and sustainable manner and supporting the communities in which they operate.

When Coronado’s on premises Oracle Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) application began to wind down, the company had options: upgrade the existing system and manage ongoing support costs or migrate to a completely new cloud system. The team reviewed potential ERPs and ultimately turned to Accenture given their extensive local skills in Oracle Cloud.
From “lift and shift” to transformation

After a rigorous process of reviewing what was available and the business needs, Coronado had a long wish list of requirements. The project covered the whole of the Australian business, with touch points throughout every department, including contractors and suppliers.

It was decided that a suite of modules within Oracle ERP Cloud, Human Capital Management (HCM) Cloud and Supply Chain Management (SCM) Cloud was the best fit for the business in terms of both complexity and scale. Initially envisioned as a “lift and shift” of Oracle E-Business Suite (EBS), it transformed into a large program encompassing Procurement, Projects, and Integration Cloud.

Notably, the project also represented the first, and most complex, implementation of Oracle Maintenance in the world.

The project’s original timeline was 18 months with a targeted Phase 1 go-live in May 2020 with ERP, and Phase 2 go-live in December 2020 with maintenance, procurement and supply chain. However, once the team started designing how to run both systems simultaneously, it was discovered that the approach would be too costly and complicated and create confusion for users. So, the project team decided to go-live with all modules in October 2020. The team finished the first round of design and demonstrations for all areas when the COVID-19 pandemic was declared.

Government restrictions closed Coronado’s Brisbane office and all non-essential staff began to work from home. The project was put on hold.

Like most businesses, Coronado was challenged by the general economic and geopolitical uncertainty that arose during the pandemic. During these challenging times, the Coronado and Accenture teams decided to redefine the nature of the contract.

The team delayed the go-live, rescooped the entire project and recommunicated all project timelines back into the business. Once the reengagement period was complete, the project moved through the remaining phases of integration, testing, User Acceptance Testing, user training, and finally went live successfully in April 2021.
Since going live on Oracle Cloud, the company is accelerating innovation by leveraging new and emerging technology. One example: Coronado digitized most of the HCM processes, allowing employees to log leave, access their employee documentation, and initiate requests via self-service – anywhere, any time, any device.

The teams are also planning to leverage Oracle Internet of Things (IoT) Asset Monitoring for real-time visibility, maintenance management and forecasting in the future. The introduction of a new supplier portal streamlined operations, removing the delay for the purchasing team to update supplier information. Now suppliers can update their details anytime.

In addition to getting more functionality for their buck, Coronado is reducing costs and improving efficiencies each year. Coronado’s legacy systems were at a point where they couldn’t be upgraded without major investment.

Implementation of the Cloud was the right decision at the right time for Coronado to improve its technology solutions as the company looks to grow.

By leveraging the cloud, the company could take advantage of quarterly releases that SaaS offered and save on on-Prem upgrades every 3-5 years.

Coronado has plans to leverage the platform for future innovation. One of the compelling benefits of the suite is that it is constantly evolving. Every quarter, users get access to new functionality available in the base product suite, which doesn’t require an extra license.

The business is constantly adapting to utilize new technologies, ideas, and processes to provide more efficiency and transparency into the data. This gives Coronado the insight needed to continually enhance, automate, and streamline business functions for the future.

With this new platform in place, Coronado is positioned for growth. By leveraging market-leading technology and processes, the company is aligned to their mission to make a positive contribution to the global economy through sustainable practices.
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