



LANCASTER COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Solver provides modern reporting and Data Management for LCSWMA.



www.lcswma.org

“Solver has been integral in many of our accomplishments with BI360 [Solver],” says Cale Fetterolf, Information Technology Manager of LCSWMA. “Due to the limited familiarity with the tool of our partner resource, we have found Solver’s support invaluable to the entire process.”

Company Profile

LCSWMA manages the municipal trash and recyclable materials from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania as well as refuse for the City of Harrisburg and surrounding Dauphin County communities.

Industry

Waste Management

Country

United States

ERP System

Microsoft Dynamics GP



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Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority (LCSWMA) was looking for a data warehouse tool that enabled reporting across disparate data sources, a reporting solution that was built within the Excel interface, and an online portal that enabled access to key reports and templates across the organization. Solver, formerly known as BI360, delivered on those needs – and more, ensuring the solution was written in an efficient manner that would address underlying business needs not only in the time of implementation but also moving forward in improving their internal reporting.

LCSWMA conveys its commitment to discovering and implementing new ways of utilizing waste as a resource to create a sustainable future. LCSWMA also is committed to creating value from waste, in order to benefit its community. When it came to this organization’s reporting and data management needs, LCSWMA found a solution for the immediate and future needs.

The organization sought a tool that could consolidate its information such that it can be aggregated, reported, and used to gain insight of its business and making decisions. LCSWMA conducted an extensive search for a product that satisfied its needs with a seamless integration with Microsoft Dynamics GP and preferably, in a single platform. The company found Solver to be the best value proposition and most cohesive solution. With the Solver data warehouse offering that interfaces not only with the report writer but also with Microsoft Dynamics GP, Solver offered a cost-effective solution to meet this need.

“Rather than aiming to build out reports and input forms solely based on previous formats, our Functional Consultant asked questions to ensure these products were written in an efficient manner that would address our underlying business needs,” says Metrics and Reporting Analyst Cassandra Capots. “Sometimes this required additional integration effort to facilitate data storage and reporting in an optimal manner. By facilitating additional thought in the beginning stages of the project, the outputs were ultimately more successful, and we were put in a position to ask ourselves similar questions as we move forward and improve our internal reporting.”

Solver has been part of LCSWMA’s transformation in its processes in key ways such as data availability in a centralized location for reporting, thus decreasing the manual process of report generation and enabling leaders to focus on analyzing the outputs and improving metrics and reports. Budgeting and

forecasting forms have also been put into place by which personnel can enter accurate information, allowing decision makers within the organization with better insight of its current financial health.

LCSWMA has integrated two of its main data sources which include

Its scale management system that tracks tons of waste, dollars, and key dimensions surrounding transactions across its scales and its accounting system. In terms of planning and reporting, Solver has helped streamline LCSWMA's process by organizing its forecast and budget forms into Tipping Revenue forms with inputs for assumed average daily volumes and the associated rates, Energy Revenue forms with inputs for key assumptions such as prices, kWH/ton, and etc., and "P&L" type input forms for other revenue and expenses that highly leverage line item detail information to track additional detail and key assumptions.

"Our model revolves around our General Ledger accounts, but since additional metrics and data sources are integral to the Tipping and Energy businesses, we need to draw upon additional details. BI360 [Solver] has facilitated such a structure that allows us to store and access data to the level of detail that helps us track and understand our progress to plan," says Capots.

LCSWMA has been seeing positive results for its data management initiatives due to Solver. Furthermore, they are looking forward to integrate additional data sources into the Solver data warehouse to build additional reports and refine processes. The company is interested in developing productivity reports and metrics upon integrating personnel data as well as integrating operations-specific data, particularly related to

maintenance and logistics to better understand driving costs and improve processes. Another goal is to refine its P&L forecast forms to automate calculations and capture key data points that will help the organization better evaluate its budget and forecast versus actuals. Ultimately, LCSWMA wants BI to be a central part of how all its departments operate.

Challenges

LCSWMA experienced difficulties in compiling reports due to several disparate data sources living in various forms and the same data being stored and reported multiple times throughout the organization, leading to mismatching data and confusion. LCSWMA wanted to invest in a solution that served the company's needs to produce quality reports in a timely manner without relying on their IT team to develop the reports. This organization wanted to streamline their analytical processes as well as their data management for easier access to decision-making analyses.

Result

Solver has helped LCSWMA by saving more time for data analyses and reports as well as a structural budgeting and forecasting process, allowing more timely and up-to-date insight on key items requiring action. LCSWMA has seen the value of a centralized data warehouse and report writer in a repeatable manner, and are now reevaluating their data and reporting practices and identifying further applications for Solver across several departments in the organization.

Resources

[Solver Data Warehouse Product Page](#)

[Solver Data Warehouse Informational Video](#)