ADAMS LAND & CATTLE, LLC

Adams Land & Cattle streamlines and expands reporting abilities using the BI360 Data Warehouse.

Recognized as one of the premier cattle feeding operations in the world, Adams Land & Cattle, LLC is a distinguished and innovative leader in agribusiness. Through management practices, computer systems and automation in equipment design, they are on the forefront of introducing technological advances to the beef industry. Through their best practices in safety, animal welfare, and environmental stewardship, they're on the leading edge of cattle and crop production, emphasizing a culture of continual process improvement.

Industry
Agribusiness

Country
United States

ERP System
Sage X3

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After switching from Sage 500 to Sage X3, Adams Land & Cattle quickly realized that they were in need of more robust, custom report writing that required a self-service BI data management system, which is exactly what the BI360 Data Warehouse has provided for one of the top cattle feeding operations in the U.S.

Adams Land & Cattle, LLC is a Nebraska-based agribusiness company that produces crops and beef, with a focus on food safety, animal welfare, and environmental stewardship. They have achieved their industry leadership status through research, development, and true innovation for more efficient processes and output. Adams Land & Cattle takes pride in exceeding the expectations of both corporate business partners and consumers alike.

After Adams Land & Cattle switched from Sage 500 to Sage X3, they knew right away that they wanted to expand their reporting efforts beyond the native report writing functionality, streamlining multiple types of information for sub-ledger analytics. "The out of the box financial reporting from X3 was lacking, so we needed a reporting tool for financials," Adams Land & Cattle Accounting/Financial Senior Analyst Tom Osmond says.

When Adams Land & Cattle was looking for a solution to upgrade their report writing, they knew they wanted to simplify and turbo-charge their processes. When looking at BI360, they liked that the "Data Warehouse, having an Excel-based report and form designer, was so familiar to our users because Excel is what we had been reporting our financials with in Sage 500," Osmond says.

"The BI360 Data Warehouse made it easy to create and publish reports without linking Excel spreadsheets because all of our data is in the warehouse. Simply, one source for the data, eliminating the need for multiple spreadsheets and the linking that is inherent within those spreadsheets."

The Solver solution, called BI360, is based on Microsoft SQL Server and Microsoft Excel. Solver is headquartered in Los Angeles, CA, and operates internationally, with a total of 115 employees across its US and global locations that supports an

extensive partner network.

"The experience of Solver employees was extremely helpful in getting the data loaded, as well as training us to create our own reports with data from the warehouse," Osmond says. "We spent time in training, and then Solver worked with us one-on-one to create reports that were needed, like financials, budget-to-actual variance, and much more. They also showed us how to set up our own modules and dimensions in the BI360 Data Warehouse, so that we could upload data and use that in conjunction with already created reports."

Nils Rasmussen, Solver's Principal, says: "We are seeing a rapidly increasing number of companies realizing that a centralized data warehouse to combine their different data sources is the answer to the goal of self-service business intelligence and 'one version of the truth' in their budgeting, analysis and reporting processes. We are very excited to work with the talented team at Adams Land & Cattle on their journey towards world class corporate performance management."

Furthermore, Adams Land & Cattle wanted to truly expand their reporting efforts to have more in-depth analytics. Solver provided suggestions about how to harness the functionality of the BI360 Data Warehouse, including how BI360 could help customize the reporting experience. "In the beginning, it was General Ledger data, which we use to report our monthly financials and budget-to-actual reporting," Osmond says. "We have since loaded fixed asset data, which will be used for capital expenditure budgeting and actual reporting, as well as payroll data, which will be used for reporting budgeted versus actual hours and rates. Additionally, we are in the beginning stages of loading cattle data."

While financial reporting has been the initial focus in implementing the BI360 Data Warehouse, Adams Land & Cattle also uses the BI360 Planning module for budgeting and forecasting models. "We create balance sheet and income statement forecasts, and BI360 allows us to store the values and update whenever drivers change and rerun reports for the new budget or forecast," Osmond says. "In the future, as we continue to load more cattle data, we're eager to build reporting off of the data in the BI360 Data Warehouse."

Challenges

Having switched ERPs from Sage 500 to Sage X3, Adams Land & Cattle, LLC was looking for a business user friendly, self-service BI data management system that would allow them to produce custom, general ledger and sub-ledger reports in order to continually improve their workflow and analytical processes – and on a bigger scale, Corporate Performance Management. More specifically, this agribusiness leader was seeking a consolidated space for their diverse data types to create and publish reporting that goes beyond the native ERP report writing functionality.

Result

BI360 has not only allowed Adams Land & Cattle, LLC to achieve some of their reporting goals, but has also provided more opportunities to leverage their Sage X3 data to better understand the overall financial health of their organization and effectively plan for the future. The company plans to continue adding other types of data to the BI360 Data Warehouse for richer analytics and smarter organizational decision-making.

Resources

BI360 Data Warehouse Product Page
BI360 Data Warehouse Informational