Cranfield University



Postgraduate specialist makes cost savings of £1 million (and counting)

Cranfield creates leaders in technology and management, unlocking potential by partnering with business and governments to deliver transformational research, postgraduate education and professional development.

INFO

INDUSTRY: Higher Education SIZE: 1,650 employees LOCATION: UK PRODUCT: Unit4 Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)

Achievements

Agility and independence

The team no longer needs external and ancillary IT resources, to implement and adapt the system to change.

Improved operations

Supported by the Unit4 ERP solution, Cranfield was able to evaluate and undertake a major campus consolidation.

Efficiency and governance

Finance staff can access the information they need and deliver reports using any device, from any location, and at any time.

The Challenge

Cranfield's aging ERP system wasn't coping with existing pressures. Other expected challenges — such as changing regulatory and compliance requirements, new fee and funding models, management and process reorganizations, and increasing competition — added to an urgent need to find a better solution.





"We agreed that we didn't want to use legacy systems like Oracle, because of the horrific cost and maintenance issues. The beauty of installing these Unit4 solutions is that we can use our own internal implementation staff. We, don't have to hire or pay for the usual software vendor army of highly priced, external ERP consultants."

Ian Sibbald, Director of Finance, Cranfield University

How did Unit4 help?

We not only worked as partners to provide the right software capabilities but, crucially, Cranfield gained genuine ownership. Its own teams can implement and keep adapting the solutions to meet changing needs; end-users can carry out sophisticated, flexible reporting themselves – all without expensive external IT support.

People Platform	
Unit4 ERP	
Estates/Asset Management	
Procurement	Budgeting & Forecasting
Management	HR/Payroll

Impacts



Ongoing annual savings of £90K



20 days of expensive external IT consulting saved each year



More than £1,000,000 accumulated savings

