

Strategic Solutions NW



FEI Company

Microsoft Dynamics AX 4.0 Implementation & Outsourcing Services

Strategic Solutions NW— 11200 SW Allen Blvd., Ste. 200, Beaverton, OR 97005

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Situation

FEI is a world leader in pioneering industry-leading technologies and applications that deliver imaging solutions for 3D characterization, analysis, and modification/prototyping with resolutions down to the sub-Ångström level.

Headquartered in Hillsboro, Oregon, FEI has sales and service operations in more than 50 countries around the world. When FEI Technologies was born, a division of FEI that is a leading supplier of ion- and electron beam microscopes to a broad range of nanotechnology markets, FEI turned to Strategic Solutions NW for system guidance.

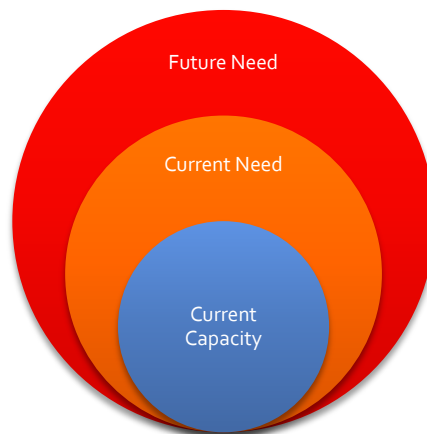


Analysis and Strategy

To best support a new division with new products, FEI Technologies needed a robust ERP system to track all aspects of supply, demand, service, and warranty operations.

Using the legacy system was not an option because it had been heavily customized to meet the parent company's traditional product lines. FEI Technologies required a solution that would be fast and easy to implement, but also capable of fulfilling all the financial and operational needs of a rapidly growing division.

After careful research, Dynamics AX was chosen for its ability to integrate with external applications, its complete functionality, and scalability.



MICROSOFT SPECIFICATIONS

- ▲ Microsoft Dynamics AX 4.0
- ▲ Windows Server 2003
- ▲ SQL Server 2005
- ▲ Sharepoint 2007

Process Improvement and AX Implementation

FEI Technologies neither had in-house IT staff to support Dynamics AX, nor did they want to hire or build the required skills internally. Instead, they opted to rely on external partners. A local infrastructure hosting company, EasyStreet, was hired to host the hardware for Dynamics AX, and Strategic Solutions NW was hired to provide the application support for users.

FEI's strategic outsourcing has been extremely cost-effective for FEI Technologies, and has allowed them to acquire experienced functional and technical consultants without having to make the investment of building their own internal technical group. They also have access to Strategic Solutions NW's pool of highly specialized and skilled development staff for any future customization assistance they may require. Our senior consultants have collaborated with the FEI management team to define the IT strategy for FEI Technologies, and are currently involved with the ongoing enhancement and support of Dynamics AX.

About Strategic Solutions NW

Strategic Solutions NW is a technology and management consultancy with many years of experience exploring and applying technology solutions to improve business functionality.

We harness our decades of combined consulting experience, much of it acquired in global firms such as Accenture, to provide our clients with comprehensive solutions to streamline and enhance operations. We pride ourselves on establishing strong relationships with each of our clients, working closely with them to identify inefficiencies, and guiding them through the transition to an ideal future state and beyond.

The combination of our team's experience and focus enables us to solve significant problems for our clientele while delivering compelling solutions through the power of teamwork and genuine collaboration. Our solutions are as diverse as our clients, and range in scope from full cycle system implementations to the creation and operation of accounting centers for half billion dollar businesses.

We encourage you to browse our site, and invite you to contact us to discuss how we may help your business realize its full potential.

