

Strategic Solutions NW



StanCorp Financial Group, Inc.

Process Management and Integration Services

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Identifying the Need

StanCorp Financial Group, Inc. is a holding company for businesses that provide insurance, retirement, and investment products and services. StanCorp's subsidiaries include Standard Insurance Company, Standard Retirement Services, and StanCorp Mortgage Investors, LLC. The company is headquartered in Portland, Oregon, and has roughly 3,400 employees nationwide.

Strategic Solutions NW has performed a variety of services for Standard Insurance Company and Standard Retirement Services, but the relationship began with an application and IT general controls readiness assessment for Sarbanes-Oxley compliance. Strategic Solutions NW's role involved interviewing representatives from both the business and IT departments about key controls in their applications and systems, determining controls suitability, and identifying opportunities for preventive and detective controls. Approximately twenty applications and systems, including the custom developed applications in Employee Benefits and the Oracle database security model used throughout Standard, were extensively reviewed.

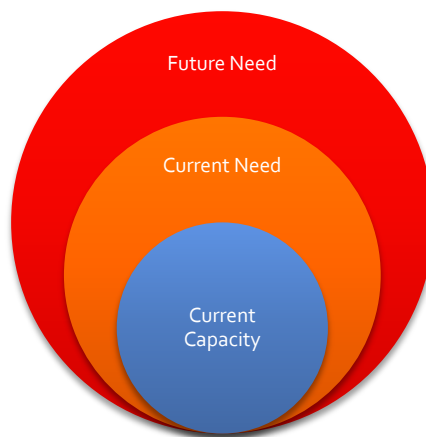
Strategic Solutions NW also assisted Standard with the design, development, and implementation of a set of internal controls by restructuring business processes and core technology within the Operations department. Application tools were developed to automate controls, and monitoring activities were implemented to provide management with control performance visibility. Strategic Solutions NW also provided accounting guidance and coaching on accounting best practices, accounting organization development, internal controls, and accounting treatment.



The Standard[®]
Positively different.

Analysis and Strategy

Initially, Strategic Solutions NW provided Standard with a systematic, structured approach to managing the multitude of projects aimed at revising the Operations department. The program focused on optimizing the timing of the change, providing deployment activities for all projects, and managing specific business projects. In the second year, the program expanded division-wide. In the third year, Strategic Solutions NW transitioned the program to a newly created shared services department.

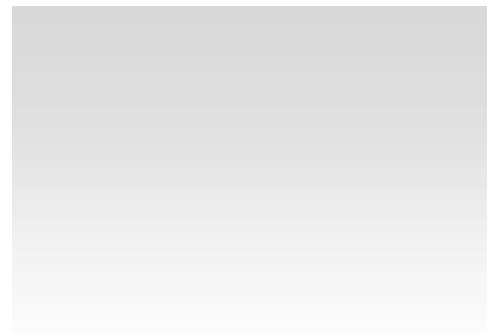


SOLUTIONS

- ▲ Sarbanes-Oxley compliance assesment
- ▲ Optimized process management
- ▲ Project expansion management
- ▲ Integration deployment strategy

Process Improvement

StanCorp again enlisted Strategic Solutions NW's expertise to develop a business process plan and to analyze and create 150+ future state processes and procedures for acquisition integration. Strategic Solutions NW provided methodology, leadership, and guidance to the Standard team to execute the plan. Additionally, Strategic Solutions NW developed the integration deployment plan for Standard's customers and workforce, which included strategy, approach, work plans, team organization, and resource estimates for all deployment activities.



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.

