

Pharosinformatics

News

Pharos signs collaboration link with Geac on Strategic Management Module

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About Geac

Geac (TSX:GAC and NASDAQ: GEAC) is a USD \$445 million turnover global enterprise software company for Business Performance Management. The company provides more than 18,000 customers worldwide, including approximately 48% of the Fortune 100, with the core financial and operational solutions and services to improve their business performance in real time.

Geac MPC Performance Management Solution

Geac MPC provides a web-based comprehensive Business Performance Management solution. Geac MPC incorporates budgeting software, fully integrated with modules for planning, forecasting, financial consolidation, and management reporting and analysis with strategy management to ensure that the business operations match the strategic plan.

The entire application sits on a single platform, so information is continually cycled throughout the enterprise in a closed-loop process that provides ongoing feedback and promotes collaborative decision-making. Geac Performance Management enables management to set strategic direction based on insight into all facets of corporate performance - then execute those strategies by connecting top-down goals to budgets and operational plans. As a result the finance departments within best practice organisations can spend 88% of their time analysing financial data (compared to just 49% on average).

Key drivers for adopting Performance Management

- Regulatory pressures - need for clear disclosure (Sarbanes Oxley, UK Companies Act and IFRS)
- Corporate Governance - greater accountability to shareholders
- Shareholder and institutional demands - companies need to avoid any 'surprises' in their results and prove the board's ability to delivery on their strategic objectives
- Overriding need for greater effectiveness - ability to link strategic plans to operational plans and performance measures throughout the enterprise.

Effective management processes

Geac Performance Management helps enterprises to ensure effective strategy management, planning, budgeting, forecasting and financial consolidation. Each of these five processes is supported by full reporting and analysis functionality that allows the organisation to review the consequences of action or inaction, identify and understand value drivers, spot trends and implement plans to further improve performance.

Strategy Management

Geac Performance Management provides a framework for the creation, communication, deployment, monitoring and management of strategic plans. By linking strategic plans to operational plans, budgets and performance measures, organisations can visualise, report and analyse how the actions of operating units and individuals contribute to overall strategic goals. This results in enhanced understanding of, accountability for and commitment to all goals across the business.

Planning

Geac Performance Management helps organisations to identify and seize opportunities. It speeds up the processes of scenario analysis, target setting, investment analysis and contingency planning. It can also assist with the creation of realistic strategic plans.

By testing the impact of new products, mergers and acquisitions, investments, revised profit targets and competitive activity, Geac's multidimensional modelling capabilities help organisations to prepare for the future. As data is held on a single platform, there is no need to link spreadsheets, verify data integrity, create pivot tables or search through lengthy reports, allowing users to focus on performing analyses rather than gathering and cleaning data.

Budgeting

Geac Performance Management provides online collection of data, a single system to assure only one version of figures, automated calculations and built-in currency translation, reducing the time, effort and errors associated with traditional spreadsheet-based budgeting. It allows organisations to plan across management structures (division, department, region) and also by project, product, account, version and strategic initiative.

Geac software features a Microsoft Excel interface and users also benefit from multidimensional analysis, drill-down capabilities, user security and integration with the application's single platform. The creation of rolling budgets and forecasts are supported by a continuous flow of accurate financial and nonfinancial performance data from the business's existing ledger, ERP, CRM and other systems.

Financial Consolidation

Geac Performance Management automates key functions such as the loading, validation and consolidation of data. It streamlines the collection and consolidation of data from multiple organisation locations, which often incorporate the use of different ledgers, ERP systems and charts of accounts. The software is able to handle multicurrency conversions, inter-company eliminations, allocations, minority interests and recurring adjustments, leaving full audit trails to satisfy both internal and external auditors.

Compliance Management

Geac Compliance Management is a process-orientated software solution that helps companies document their internal controls and manage the process of testing them so they can reliably certify their effectiveness. This software not only enables companies to satisfy regulatory obligations, it also helps to make businesses more efficient.

MPC's built-in financial intelligence helps global organisations meet International Financial Reporting Standards, European Monetary Union requirements, Financial Accounting Standards Board translation rules, Sarbanes-Oxley Act requirements, US GAAP, Canadian GAAP and UK GAAP. The automated production, distribution and maintenance of standardised reports makes sure the relevant people know vital information in time to make decisions about required disclosures.

Forecasting

Geac Performance Management provides objective, time-series forecasting at the summary and detail level. Users can select a subset of data on which to base a prediction. The software then analyses the data, automatically selects the appropriate forecasting technique and generates an impartial prediction. The functionality module is also used to seed budgets and verify the likely accuracy of user-submitted revenue projections and cost budgets.

Information to Insight

Geac Performance Management helps businesses to make sense of their data. The application delivers graphics for simplifying data comprehension and analysis; real time general ledger interrogation for uncovering hidden details behind summary numbers;

proactive email exception alerting for highlighting problems and opportunities and automated online report production and distribution.

Users can create unique, personalised data views, easily creating calculations, charts, trends, maps and tables. The software allows performance to be analysed by categories such as strategic initiative, market share, product mix, revenue, customer satisfaction, productivity rate, quality, expense, ratio, geographical location, profitability, return on investment and more.

Geac facts and figures

- Founded in 1971 – over 30 years of experience with a global customer base
- Over 2,300 staff worldwide
- Over 18,000 customers spanning more than 95 countries
- 2004 revenues of US \$445.3 million
- Reported a profit for 13 consecutive quarters (as at August 2004)
- **Solutions**
 - Geac delivers cross-industry applications for financial administration and human resources functions, and enterprise resource planning applications for manufacturing, distribution and supply chain management.
 - Key markets – food & drink, apparel & footwear, healthcare, financial services, automotive, retail, professional services and local government sectors
 - Geac provides industry-specific software tailored to the real estate, restaurant, property management, construction, libraries and public safety marketplaces.
- **Customers:**
 - Geac works with Global 2000-class companies such as Société Générale, Prudential, Wal-Mart, General Motors, Bacardi Martini, Ford Motor Company, Hewlett-Packard, Boeing, Panasonic, Citicorp, Merrill Lynch, AT Kearney, .
 - UK customers include Diesel, ICI, Coats, Ernst & Young, New Balance, Clerical Medical, Dairy Crest, Calypso, Danzas, Luton Borough Council, South West Water
- **Partnerships**
 - Geac has a 20 year relationship with IBM and recently joined IBM's ISV Advantage Initiative in both North America and EMEA
 - Geac is gold certified Microsoft partner

For more information visit: www.geac.com