

ePartners and HIMSS Upgrade Financials System with Great Plains 8.0

HIMSS (Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society) is the healthcare industry's membership organization exclusively focused on providing leadership for the optimal use of healthcare information technology and management systems for the betterment of human health. Founded in 1961 with offices in Chicago, Washington D.C., and other locations across the country, HIMSS represents more than 15,000 individual members and some 220 member corporations that employ more than 1 million people. HIMSS frames and leads healthcare public policy and industry practices through its advocacy, educational and professional development initiatives designed to promote information and management systems' contributions to ensuring quality patient care.

Business Situation

HIMMS had been using Microsoft Great Plains to manage their financials for a number of years. They were happy with the product, but knew it was time to update their implementation and take advantage of other key functionality not currently available to them. This included more robust reporting and analysis and the ability to customize the user interface for their needs. HIMMS had an implementation partner, but was concerned about the partner's ability to fully understand their needs and create a technology plan that aligned with their business objectives. As a technology focused organization, HIMSS had very high standards and needed a partner that would adhere to industry best practices and provide accurate feedback along the way. They found a provider with the experience and resources to help in ePartners®.

The Solution

ePartners met with the HIMSS team to determine goals for the technology upgrade, documented a plan and provided a written scope of work that was agreed to by both parties. ePartners upgraded their implementation to the latest version of Microsoft SQL Server and Microsoft Great Plains (version 8.0). Phase II included upgrading existing workstations and deploying Integration Manager for several users. ePartners consultants were able to create a GL General Journal transaction integration based on sample data supplied by the HIMSS team. After quality assurance testing by ePartners and HIMSS, the system went live.

"We are in the technology business so you can imagine our expectations for a software implementation partner are pretty high. We expect our vendors to act professionally, employ industry best practices and understand their role in helping us succeed. ePartners did just that."

~ **Marcia Zitowsky**
Chief Financial Officer
HIMSS

Business Benefits

The upgrade to Great Plains 8.0, which was completed on time and within budget, was considered a success by both ePartners and the HIMSS team. Financial management and reporting improvements have helped them more efficiently analyze transactional data, streamlined tracking and accounting processes and bolstered confidence in spending decisions.

With a successful implementation of Great Plains Financials under their belt, HIMSS has decided to move forward with Microsoft Great Plains Project Accounting as well. As a growing business, they recognize the need to maintain tight control over strategic direction, support resources effectively and ensure that projects are completed on time and within budget. By connecting their project activities with company financials, they will be able to take advantage of extensive reporting capabilities and ensure accurate accounting and billing processes throughout their project life-cycles.

Products & Services

- > Microsoft Great Plains v8.0
- > FRx Forecaster
- > Integration Manager
- > Microsoft SQL Server 2000
- > Microsoft Windows Server 2003

Industry / Vertical

Not For Profit, Association, Healthcare

"I'm extremely happy with the work ePartners provided during our financial upgrade and just as impressed with the ongoing support. Their willingness to listen, quickly provide accurate answers and general professionalism has given us the confidence to move forward with Microsoft's Project Accounting Series as well."

~ **Anna Parks**
Director of Accounting
HIMSS

The World's Leading Microsoft Business Solutions Consultancy.



After more than a decade of arming its customers with a competitive advantage, ePartners has established itself as one of the leading Microsoft consultancies worldwide. From aligning clients' business and IT strategies, to improving business processes, and deploying and supporting solutions that accelerate business results, no other technology partner offers more comprehensive information technology solutions and services than ePartners. Last year alone, more than 400 leading companies spanning 45 industries turned to ePartners for strategic business solutions and consulting services.

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