

# BUILDING A CENTRAL, ERROR-FREE FINANCIAL REPORTING SYSTEM FOR A LEADING PROPERTY SPECIALIST

## Project benefits and outcomes

More relevant and advanced financial reporting

Less time spent on sharing and manipulating financial data

Strict legal requirements for reporting are now easily fulfilled

Errors minimised creating a greater trust in numbers

Multiple teams can report finances into one central location



"I was convinced that the cloud was the way to go, and the other week when I was slicing and dicing data, I knew it was the right choice. I can't tell you how important it is to be able to do that."

Martin Webster, Project Manager, at SDL Property

# About

SDL is an East Midlands property specialist, trading since 1989. SDL offer risk management, surveying, lettings, estate agency, mortgages, and insurance broking across the UK.

In July 2017, they were named one of the fastest-growing East Midlands firms, following a 75% increase in profits over the past three years. Due to multiple acquisitions and their fast growth, SDL needed a forecasting solution to support the necessary legal consolidation.

## The Challenges

SDL wanted to be able to provide the management team with an operational overview of the same data. The company encompasses many sectors and subsidiaries and is based all around the UK. Unsurprisingly, month-end was taking far too long, requiring input from multiple teams in separate locations.

SDL's management pack needed to successfully present information by division, property, area, and service, covering all company boundaries. Furthermore, internal resources were unexpectedly moved off the project for three months. Deploying Workday Adaptive Planning, Kainos stepped in and worked tirelessly in the background to keep delays to a minimum.

## How Kainos Helped

Drawing upon their experience as a leading Workday partner with a network of Workday Adaptive Planning specialists, Kainos created a new system. This robust solution enables data to be quickly uploaded from several source systems, reducing workload, and speeding up the consolidation process.

Intercompany differences are quickly identified, even before month-end. This allows eliminations and consolidation adjustments to be handled automatically. The financial and management accountants can now forecast and budget from the same integrated set of data simultaneously.

Martin Webster, Project Manager, had been concerned about the deployment but was quickly put at ease. Multiple teams based around the UK now report into one central location via the cloud. This considerably reduced the time spent on sharing and manipulating data thanks to Workday Adaptive Planning. Errors have been minimised, and the business has greater trust in the numbers. Financial reporting is now management friendly, allowing Martin and his team more time to focus on the numbers and gain greater analysis.

The advantages of this are twofold, with the strict legal requirements demanded by consolidation reporting now being met in full. "I was convinced that the cloud was the way to go, and the other week when I was slicing and dicing data, I knew it was the right choice. I can't tell you how important it is to be able to do that." – Martin Webster, Project Manager at SDL.

"Deployment is the most daunting part of adding new software, and we were helped enormously by Kainos. They were able to get under the skin of our business and understand what we needed, which meant we could get out of the blocks very quickly."

**Martin Webster, Project Manager, at SDL Property**

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**Find out more about Workday Adaptive Planning**

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