

Mikisew Group Reduces Financial Process Labor by 90% with Saltbox Integration



Leading oil sands services company integrates 20 SAP Business One Databases via Saltbox



ABOUT



Based in Alberta, Canada, Mikisew Group has been a leading oil sands partner specializing in site services, maintenance, logistics, and construction. The company fosters the responsible development of their land's resources while powering sustainable economic progress in their communities and beyond. Mikisew Group strives to have a true, hands-on partnership with every one of their best-in-class partners. Mikisew Group strives to have a true, hands-on partnership with every one of their best-in-class partners.

Guided by traditions and knowledge of the land, Mikisew Group is the distinct business entity of the Mikisew Cree First Nation. As such, Mikisew Group is a proud market leader in hiring and retaining Indigenous employees, both from the Mikisew Cree First Nation and from Indigenous communities across Canada. Visit them on the web at www.mikisewgroup.com.





A standard process is not always an efficient one



Mikisew Group (Mikisew) has grown rapidly since 1991 and today has three wholly-owned companies and ten majority-owned partnerships. With that growth has come a lot of data to manage. So, Mikisew relies on an SAP Business One system that consists of 20 unique databases to underpin their multiple business entities.

To gain efficiency and position themselves for further growth, Mikisew's leadership undertook a major initiative to standardize data and processes where possible. "As an early step, we were determined to standardize our financial chart of accounts across all 20 SAP Business One companies," said Lisa Lam, Director of Finance at Mikisew Group. "We succeeded in standardizing the process, but it ended up creating a data input and accuracy monster."

The process became time-consuming and error-prone, occurring every time the chart of accounts required a change or addition. Typically, an employee would have to spend five minutes to make a single change to a chart of accounts. Then, they would have to make that exact change within multiple databases. As an entirely manual process, it usually required 60 minutes of work in which the user had to log in, make the change, then log out of each database. Over several years, the high amount of manual input also led to numerous errors and inaccurate reporting. All of this prompted Lisa to search for a way to make the standard process faster and more accurate.

Bring in the Saltbox integration platform for speed and accuracy

As Lisa looked for a faster way to update Mikisew's chart of accounts across their databases, she discovered Vision33's Saltbox integration platform. "It sounded like just the thing we needed. Saltbox had a pre-built integration that would let us make a change in one place and have it automatically appear in all 20 databases," Lisa explained.

As they implemented Saltbox, Mikisew named one of their databases as the 'Master Database' and used it to dictate all changes to the businesses' chart of accounts. The Saltbox platform acts as an intelligent monitor that immediately identifies any changes made to the 'master' and automatically updates all relevant databases with the new data.

Thanks to its monitoring and automated workflows, Saltbox has reduced the time needed to update the chart of accounts from 60 minutes down to just 5 minutes. Today, Mikisew enjoys high data accuracy and quality business process design that ensure reports and intercompany transactions work 100% of the time.

Lisa also noted that Saltbox is effective because the Vision33 consulting team that supports Saltbox has broad and deep experience with SAP Business One in her industry. "They first make sure that Saltbox is a good fit for the business requirements. If it is, they're flexible and creative in making it work exactly as the requirements specified."



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Vision33 (www.vision33.com) helps growing companies deliver on the promise of technology through enterprise resource planning (ERP) solutions, including SAP Business One and Sage Intacct, automation, and integration solutions. Vision33 has the people, processes, and technology to help businesses solve everyday challenges and seize new opportunities for growth and transformation. With proprietary solutions such as iDocuments and Saltbox, Vision33 helps businesses leverage the right transformative technology for their digital transformation journeys.

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