

Customer success story:

Forest Research achieves year-end accounts certification on schedule despite the challenges of a pandemic

The Challenge

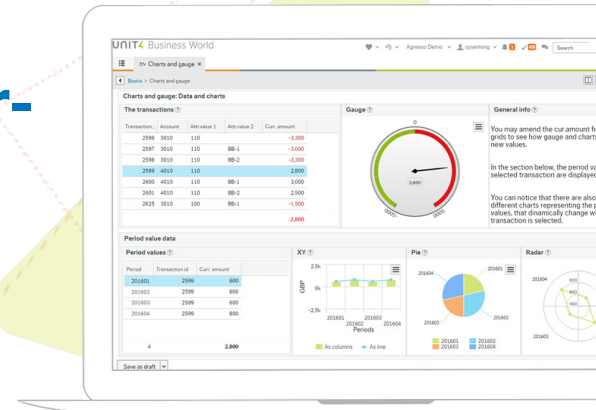
Forest Research is the research agency of the Forestry Commission. It is internationally renowned for the provision of science, research, evidence, data, and services in support of sustainable forestry.

A third-party shared services environment led to separate silos of data, fragmented knowledge, and delayed decision-making. With income generated both from government and external sources, it was essential to have a single source of finance and HR truth.

This would enable Forest Research to be more confident in its decisions, consistently hit financial targets, and drive a great employee experience.

The Solution

Unit4 Cloud ERP - Finance Management, Time & Expenses, Sales Orders and Procurement.



Customer name
Forest Research

Industry
Public Services

Company Size
250+

Headquarters
Farnham, United Kingdom



Finance



Procurement



Budgeting

The Results

"I absolutely love Unit4. Their technology, people, and roadmap for the future ensure Forest Research meets its financial, compliance, and efficiency goals."

- Meirion Nelson, Finance Director, Forest Research

Key takeaways from the project



One of the first to lay accounts before Parliament, despite lockdown



99.6% of suppliers paid within 10 days



Non-stop operation during Covid-19 lockdown

Final Summary

- **Organisational agility:** One of the first Central Government organizations to achieve accounts sign-off, despite the Covid-19 restrictions.
- **Financial compliance:** Accurately met annual revenue breakeven budget.
- **Accelerated decision-making:** Single, golden record of finance and HR accelerates decision-making and agility.
- Comprehensive, connected finance and HR data enables teams to harness meaningful insight and transform the workplace, take control of finance, and optimize planning.
- Automated procurement cycle - from services requests, indirect purchasing, and requisitioning to paying vendors.
- People enjoy using the platform, owing to its intuitive navigation, simple dashboard reporting, and mobile collaboration.

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