

Sharp Packaging Services Saves More than 600 Man Hours per Year – and their Finance Department’s Sanity

Sharp Packaging Services is a global leader in contract packaging, providing unique and complex commercial and clinical packaging solutions to the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry.

With three state-of-the-art facilities in the United States alone, Sharp Packaging uses a third party payroll service to manage the weekly and bi-weekly payroll for their 1,000 U.S. employees. Each week, it would take one employee at least 5 hours to key the payroll transactions from the payroll service provider into QAD.

“That was 240 man hours a year of time that wasn’t adding any value,” says IT Manager Paul Spaulding. “It was a significant diversion of key Finance resources and contributed greatly to the month-end crunch. At fiscal year-end – when

you add in the budget entry hours – it became frightening.”

Managing the budget at Sharp Packaging was even more time-consuming. It took 35 man hours per month to key in budget data.

They could only key into one account number and cost center at a time in QAD – and they have more than one thousand! The Accounting Department was forced to use 4 out of their 6 people for at

least a day to key in budget data. If there were errors it became even more time consuming to back them out of the system. And this was always at the most stressful time for the department as they were at period-end.

Things changed for Sharp Packaging’s Finance Department after they discovered 32 Soft’s [GL Transaction](#) and [GL Budget Manager](#) Data Loaders. They now simply manage their payroll and budget data in easy-to-use Excel spreadsheets and upload the data to QAD in minutes. If there are errors, the Data Loader stops the upload and allows them to fix the errors before uploading to QAD.

“When 32 Soft came along,” says IT Support Specialist Gwen Flounders, “it was a great fix! The Finance Department uses it for *all* their general ledger entries now. It is a dream solution.”

In, fact, when Sharp Packaging was contemplating the migration to the QAD cloud in 2014, the Finance Department’s main concern was whether the Data Loaders would work in the cloud environment.

“The Finance Department didn’t even want to think about not having these tools– that’s how valuable they are to them,” says Gwen. “We reached out to 32 Soft and in an hour they and QAD had it working and we’ve been happily operating in a cloud environment since.”

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