

MYOB Advanced

Client Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) | Location Australia
Product MYOB Advanced | Industry Government



Simpler reporting and streamlined audits at MAV

Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) is an independent body providing support services to councils and other government organisations. These wide-ranging services are supplied to 79 councils, and alongside strict governance requirements, make this small company surprisingly complex. MYOB Advanced offered the right mix of small-business simplicity with the big-business controls and reporting they desperately needed.



Problem

Complex organisation lacking audit controls

Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) is an independent body providing support services to councils and other government organisations. These include insurance schemes, workers' compensation, managing grants and projects, and running up to 150 events a year. All 79 councils in Victoria are members.

Although MAV is small in size, the work it does requires auditing and governance at the level of a publicly-listed company. That's where issues arose.

Previously, MAV was using MYOB AccountRight, which had worked reasonably well for many aspects of the business. MAV Finance Consultant Allen Holmes explains: "All our business units used MYOB AccountRight and we found it quite simple to use. But, with more audits, we were coming under more scrutiny."

He continues, "We're an SME, but with the audit requirements of a publicly listed company. The ramifications were that we couldn't fulfil our obligations to the audit committee in the way they wanted. We kept getting recommendations to do certain things that we just couldn't do."

Detailed reporting of purchases wasn't tracked, which meant information about suppliers, vendors and the tender process wasn't available to auditors. Not only that, but day to day, using the system became slow – the team had to log in and out whenever they wanted to use a different programme or update data.

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Solution

Five programmes managed by one system

After using MYOB AccountRight for many years, the MAV team made the decision to implement a new ERP system. Because the business offers five separate programmes – Insurance Schemes, WorkCare, Guaranteed Funds, Healthplan, and MAV – the solution needed to be flexible, consolidate financial reporting, and meet audit requirements across the organisation.

They looked at several options including Xero, which didn't offer the financial controls or reporting functions they needed. In the end they chose MYOB Advanced, with the help of their MYOB Platinum Partner.

Implementation was a steep learning curve for the team at MAV. The new software was very different from MYOB AccountRight, which meant users needed to learn to use a whole new system.

MAV worked with their business partner team to implement the system, train users and build a custom reporting module that allows MAV to separate out various elements for the financial reports.

Although the implementation process wasn't always easy, Allen Holmes explains that their partner helped it run as smoothly as possible.

"Advanced's consolidation functionalities lead to easy and accurate reporting for their board."

Outcome

Switching to MYOB Advanced a significant leap

Although the new system has only been in place for a short time, it has already changed the way the MAV team works – especially when it comes to creating a consolidated set of financial statements. This is in sharp contrast to the previous system of lookup tables and spreadsheets. It's all part of consolidating the five main areas of the business, and being able to access data from every programme, without losing the ability to separate out the strands when necessary.

The custom report writer means that the business can now easily generate detailed, accurate financial reports. Finance Manager Candace Ong says that being able to generate different reports for different business areas is a significant gain for the business.

MYOB Advanced is also streamlining management of the many events that MAV delivers every year. Candice continues: "The big win was to get the reporting for the conferences and events extracted out."

Allen Holmes agrees: "We're a complex little business. We have to separate out elements to report on. That part has become easier, I've got a lot more confidence in that, now."

Audits were the major triggers for change, and MYOB has delivered in this area as well. Although an external audit hasn't been completed since the changeover, Candace Ong explains that the management team is optimistic.

"We're definitely delivering the internal audit data they're looking for."

Although MAV delivers a wide, complex range of programmes, it's still a small-to-medium enterprise, so switching over to MYOB Advanced was a significant leap for the organisation. Advanced offers wide-ranging functionality, and Allen Holmes estimates that the business is only using 20-30% of its capacity at this stage. But this isn't a negative.

Because the new system is designed for larger businesses, it sets MAV up for significant growth and should help it avoid the need for upgrades in the future.

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Before	After
+ Limited financial reporting	+ Detailed, customised financial reporting
+ Older, slower system	+ Software with better controls
+ Inability to meet audit requirements	+ Ability to generate audit data
+ Separation of different business areas	+ Consolidation of all business areas