

Customer Case Study

Cogdell Spencer ERDMAN

Cogdell Spencer ERDMAN designs, constructs, develops and manages healthcare facilities across the United States. With more than 5,000 completed projects throughout the country, CSE brings innovative facility solutions to communities nationwide, regardless of size or location. Their team of 450 multi-disciplined professionals serves seven full-service regional offices and more than 25 property-management offices nationwide.

Issue

CSE didn't have a cost-effective method for harnessing cost data from previous construction projects to quickly and accurately develop conceptual budgets for future projects. They used JD Edwards software applications to measure and compare actual project costs with original project budgets. While this approach was absolutely necessary to effectively manage the construction process, data being collected did not allow the kind of cross-project analysis necessary for creating accurate conceptual cost models. And they recognized that there had to be more cost-effective alternatives for both creating detailed estimates and then successfully managing projects.

Resolution

"Modelogix allowed us to create a historical project cost database that could be easily queried for the fast, accurate development of conceptual budgets," said Frank Kosmach, CSE's estimating manager. "Now, using Modelogix, we can easily publish both estimated costs and as-built costs from our Oracle database in JD Edwards into the MS SQL database. In fact, we successfully published the estimated and actual costs for over 150 past projects to the Modelogix database in very little time."

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"Now, we can quickly sort and filter projects based on common project characteristics; we no longer have to search through our wall of three-drawer filing cabinets. One of the unexpected benefits was that Modelogix allowed us to store other important project-related documents along with cost data, like drawings, scope documents, photos, et cetera. Developing conceptual budgets with the ability to show project photos alongside each of the estimates used provided us with an excellent sales tool," Kosmach added.

Bottom-Line Results

Since implementing Modelogix, CSE has dramatically reduced the cost of developing conceptual estimates. When they present a client with an initial construction budget, the client can easily see that the budget is viable, and is based on projects of similar scope, scale and type. CSE management knows they are getting more value for their investment in the costs associated with estimating and managing each of their projects.



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