



Time-saving Benefits of Microsoft Dynamics GP Helps Blood Bank Reduce Staff

Every staff member at the Blood Bank of Alaska is committed to their mission of serving the people of Alaska by providing high quality blood products in a cost effective way. "This is a very fun and easy organization to work for," says Finance Director Lisa Green. "I'm proud of how we're able to operate efficiently so we can provide blood products around the clock to people in need."

Having a solid operational foundation is critical. "It was very easy for us to get started using Microsoft Dynamics GP," says Green. "Arctic Information Technology provided us a very good map of how to get where we needed to be. They gave us great training and provided detailed instructions for preparing the data from our old system for importing."

Arctic IT's guidance and Green's motivation to start using a more efficient system helped them come in \$20,000 under their implementation budget. They've also seen significant time savings in other areas. "One of the ways Microsoft Dynamics GP has really helped us is its import-ability," explains Green. "We were collecting paper time sheets from more than 100 employees. That required at least a full day every two weeks of validating and entering the time sheets before we could process payroll." They've since implemented a web-based time clock system that integrates with Microsoft Dynamics GP, and it's cut their payroll processing time down to 15 minutes. "To say that we've saved time because of Microsoft Dynamics GP is an understatement," says Green.

Tracking medical supplies is also critical for the Blood Bank. "Sometimes we have recalls of particular supplies," explains Green. "We rely on the detailed Inventory reports to pinpoint exactly where the recalled supplies are located." Green also looks to inventory reports to track supplies usage and costs across the Blood Bank's many Alaska locations. "We have an intricate process of distributing medical supplies across our locations," says Green. "The flexible inventory system and detailed reports help us immensely."

Green also relies heavily on the many data extraction methods provided in Microsoft Dynamics GP. "I use SmartLists, Inquiries, and FRx reports extensively," says Green. "The system helps us better track and extract information and easily move data between Microsoft programs, which helps us do our jobs much more efficiently."

So much more that they were able to reduce their administrative staff to make room for more donor-facing resources. "There were three accounting people when I got here," says Green. "We've been able to reduce that down to two because of the efficiencies we've realized using the Microsoft Dynamics GP system."

Green appreciates Arctic IT's efficiency and responsiveness, as well. "They are really good in responding to requests for assistance," says Green. "Occasionally, we need them to come out and help us resolve a situation. Having someone local is very helpful to us."

Green recommends both Arctic IT and Microsoft Dynamics GP to other businesses and non-profit organizations. "The ease-of-use of Microsoft Dynamics GP and responsiveness of Arctic IT make it much easier to do my job."

The Blood Bank of Alaska (www.bloodbankofalaska.org) is a non-profit organization committed to serving the citizens of Alaska since 1962. A client of Arctic Information Technology, they have used Microsoft Dynamics GP for two years.