
CASE STUDY

The Carlyle Group OneStream XF Success Story

THE CARLYLE GROUP

GLOBAL ALTERNATIVE ASSET MANAGEMENT

Company:

The Carlyle Group

Industry:

Financial Services,
Asset Management

Implementation Partner:

Finit Solutions

About The Carlyle Group

The Carlyle Group is a global alternative asset manager with \$195 billion of assets under management across 317 investment vehicles. Founded in 1987 in Washington, DC, Carlyle has grown into one of the world's largest and most successful investment firms, with more than 1,600 professionals operating in 31 offices in North America, South America, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia and Australia. For more information, visit www.carlyle.com.

“Now that we’re live, I can truly attest to and appreciate the value we’re getting from a single, unified CPM platform. We have dramatically simplified our technical landscape while improving our reporting and analysis capabilities through the use of extensibility, self-service workflow-based reporting, etc.”

—Ryan Wild, VP, Global Technology & Solutions
The Carlyle Group

The Challenge

Carlyle had been struggling with a fragmented approach to their financial reporting and planning needs. For financial consolidation and reporting the company was using an outdated version of Oracle Hyperion Financial Management (HFM) that wasn't compatible with Windows 10, and had a complicated design that made change management difficult. They were facing increased costs for extended support, and Oracle was pushing their cloud offering which offered limited functionality.

For financial budgeting and planning, Carlyle was using Business Objects Planning which was no longer supported by SAP and was running on an outdated and unsupported operating system. There was no flexibility to expand the application's functionality, and no ability to automate actuals vs. budget reporting and analysis due to differing levels of detail between systems.

In addition, Carlyle was using a legacy HR budgeting and forecast system that was single user, causing version control issues. The system relied heavily on Excel-based data integrations, with limited and manual reporting and manual maintenance of key reference data.



Corporate Performance Management Solutions Delivered

- ✓ Financial Consolidation & Reporting
- ✓ Budgeting, Planning and Forecasting
- ✓ Financial Data Quality
- ✓ People Planning



Business Challenges

- ✓ Outdated version of HFM wasn't compatible with Windows 10 and was difficult to maintain
- ✓ Outdated planning system was unsupported and lacked flexibility
- ✓ Actual vs. budget reporting was highly manual
- ✓ Legacy HR budgeting and forecasting system relied on Excel data input and had limited reporting capabilities



Key OneStream XF Benefits

- ✓ Consolidation times reduced by more than 50%
- ✓ Revenue and expense budget updates reduced from 1 week to 5-10 minutes
- ✓ Updating allocation metrics reduced from 1 week to 30-60 minutes
- ✓ Updating headcount assumptions reduced from 1 week to 20 minutes

The OneStream XF Solution

The Carlyle team evaluated Oracle's EPM Cloud and other alternatives and agreed that an investment in OneStream made the most sense, if the platform was used to replace the existing financial and HR planning systems, as well as HFM for financial consolidation and reporting, and other point solutions such as account reconciliations in the future.

The Carlyle team projected that an investment in OneStream would yield the strongest ROI (36% over 5yrs) when compared to an all-Oracle investment. Key drivers of savings/cost avoidance in the business case included avoidance of costly upgrades, reduced IT/admin staffing, and reduced software maintenance costs.

Streamlining Financial Consolidation and Reporting

With OneStream, Carlyle implemented a direct connect to their PeopleSoft GL and automated the loading Excel-based templates that were done manually before. They now perform matching of intercompany GL balances in transactional currencies to isolate true FX impact. They also use Guided Workflow for loading non-GAAP data, and have segment reporting aligned with FP&A.

Improving Visibility in Budgeting and Forecasting

With OneStream, Carlyle leverages the direct connect with PeopleSoft to load project-level actuals, and is now able to budget and reforecast at both the legal entity and project level. In addition to automating reporting and segment allocations, the company has improved visibility and traceability into allocations and budget version changes, with real-time budget impact viewing capabilities. And they have implemented decentralized, self-service reporting and analysis for business users that enables them to see the immediate impact of changes on plans and reports, driving a new level of efficiency and control at the business user level.

Extending the Investment with People Planning

Leveraging the People Planning solution from the OneStream XF MarketPlace, Carlyle now has detailed modeling capabilities for new positions, promotions, transfers, and other adjustments. The solution includes compensation and benefit drivers by geography supporting their global employee base. And, changes to the workforce plan can be pushed into their Financial cube in a matter of minutes so that budget owners can see the impact in real-time.



Simplification of Technical Landscape

Carlyle was able to simplify their IT landscape and reduce costs compared to their previous Hyperion system. OneStream was easier to install, taking 90 minutes via WebEx, and VMs used for OneStream were less than half that of Hyperion. System monitoring is much easier and Carlyle has received immediate responses to support tickets with rapid issue resolution.

System and Process Efficiency Gains with OneStream

The implementation of OneStream has resulted in significant process improvements for Carlyle. Consolidating a full year of GAAP actuals was reduced from 6-8 hours to 3-4 hours while including significantly more detail than was previously loaded in Hyperion (e.g., project-level details). Submitting revenue and expense budget updates and reviewing the impact was reduced from 1 week to 5-10 minutes. Updating allocation metrics and reviewing the impact was reduced from 1 week to 30-60 minutes and is now run four times daily. And updating headcount assumptions and reviewing the impact was reduced from 1 week to 20 minutes.

Future Plans

Carlyle plans to extend their use of OneStream with XF MarketPlace solutions for Account Reconciliations and Close Management. Other areas under consideration include decentralizing their use of People Planning, implementing Cash Forecasting for Treasury, financial reporting for fund accounting, and advanced scenario modeling for FP&A and key budget/forecast stakeholders.

About the Implementation Partner

In 2002, Finit's founders created a company where people matter more than profit. They loved building solutions and working with technology but were unsatisfied with the large consulting company approach. They believed that by doing excellent work and doing it with the highest standard of integrity, they could create unmatched experiences for both clients and employees. Finit, with its unique business model of compensating consultants based on client satisfaction not billable hours, has a track record of 100% success, never having failed a project. That's thousands of projects for hundreds of clients, including many Fortune 100 and Fortune 500 companies. Finit empowers the CFO organization by consistently delivering value through excellent EPM/CPM solutions with integrity and with a constant focus on what is in the best interest of the client. Finit was the very first OneStream implementation partner and has implemented the largest and most complex OneStream solutions in the world. Follow Finit on LinkedIn at Finit Solutions and on Twitter at @Finit_Solutions. For more information, visit finit.com.

About OneStream Software

OneStream Software provides a market-leading CPM 2.0 solution, the OneStream XF SmartCPM™ platform. OneStream XF unifies and simplifies financial consolidation, planning, reporting, analytics and financial data quality for sophisticated organizations. Deployed via the cloud or on-premise, OneStream's unified platform enables organizations to modernize Finance, replace multiple legacy applications, and reduce the total cost of ownership of financial systems. OneStream unleashes Finance teams to spend less time on data integration and system maintenance – and more time focusing on driving business performance.

The OneStream XF MarketPlace features more than 50 downloadable solutions that allow customers to easily extend the value of their CPM platform to quickly meet the changing needs of finance and operations. We are driven by our mission statement that every customer must be a reference and success.

For more information, please visit OneStream Software onestreamsoftware.com or on Twitter @OneStream_Soft.

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Implementation Partner:

