

Financial Services Customer Success

Case Study: Global Financial Services Company Accelerates M&A Integration with Oracle Cloud EDM

This success story illustrates how a global financial services company overcame significant data governance challenges, primarily related to mergers and acquisitions, by implementing Oracle Cloud Enterprise Data Management.

Business Pain and Need

The client, a multi-national financial services firm, was an industry leader known for its aggressive growth strategy driven by frequent mergers and acquisitions. Their existing data management was manual and spreadsheet-based, creating a major roadblock to their business objectives. Each time they acquired a new company, they were faced with a painstaking process of reconciling different charts of accounts, departmental hierarchies, and legal entity structures. This effort was not only a source of constant frustration for the finance and accounting teams but also caused significant delays in achieving a single, consolidated view of the new entity's financials. This slowed down critical decision-making and delayed the realization of a deal's intended value, creating significant financial risk. The CIO's team was spending an inordinate amount of time on data reconciliation instead of on strategic IT initiatives, which was a core pain point. They desperately needed a modern solution to automate data governance and accelerate their M&A integration process.

The Solution

The company selected Oracle Cloud EDM to serve as their central hub for master data. The solution was implemented to:

Establish a "Single Source of Truth": They used EDM to create a single, governed master list for their chart of accounts, cost centers, and legal entities. This ensured all financial data, from the core ERP to the planning and reporting systems, was consistent and aligned.

Automate Data Governance Workflows: They configured EDM's robust workflow to route all data change requests for approval, ensuring that every change was reviewed and logged. This eliminated the need for email-based approvals and manual tracking.

Model and Visualize Changes: The firm used EDM's scenario modeling capabilities to simulate the impact of an acquisition before any data was moved. This allowed them to see how the acquired company's financial hierarchy would map to their own, drastically reducing integration risk.

Accelerate M&A Integration: By leveraging EDM, the company could onboard an acquired entity's data into their financial systems within weeks instead of months, ensuring a faster path to a single, accurate view of the new combined business.

Implementation Timeline

The implementation was completed in approximately four months. This included the initial discovery and design phase, the configuration of the EDM application, the setup of data governance workflows, and the integration with their existing Oracle Cloud EPM and ERP systems. The phased approach allowed the company to begin with a critical business unit and then scale the solution to others, including newly acquired entities. The initial four-month timeline was considered a significant achievement compared to the typical 12+ month timeline for a similar project using traditional methods.

ROI and Business Value

The implementation of Oracle Cloud EDM provided a clear and compelling return on investment, with a payback period of under a year. The key business values and ROI metrics included:

Reduced M&A Integration Time: The company reduced the data integration time for acquisitions by over 70%. This allowed them to realize synergies and accelerate strategic decision-making, directly impacting the bottom line.

Faster Financial Close: By providing a single source of truth for all financial data, EDM helped the finance department reduce the time spent on manual reconciliation by over 60%, which directly shortened the financial close cycle.

Improved Data Accuracy and Compliance: The automated, auditable workflows ensured 100% data consistency and provided a transparent audit trail for all changes, which simplified the annual audit process and reduced compliance risk.

Empowered Business Users: By empowering business users with a self-service tool, the company freed up IT resources by 50%, allowing the technology team to focus on more strategic, high-value projects rather than day-to-day data management.