incisive™

Incisive helps construction management firm provide clients with transparent and accurate spreadsheet data

Industry

Construction Management

Function

Project Management

The Challenge

Validate data accuracy from inherited, extremely complex spreadsheets

Incisive Benefits

- Increased productivity using a streamlined and structured pro‑cess for reviewing spreadsheet accuracy
- Dramatically reduced spreadsheet review time from 8 hours to 15 minutes
- Gained confidence that the inherited spreadsheet data was accurate, and client-ready

The Company

This privately held construction management firm has several offices located throughout the United States. Its projects are extensive in scope and range from hotels and event centers to business centers and hospitals.

When a senior manager inherited several spreadsheets for a client project, he instinctively knew some of the data was incorrect but couldn't pinpoint the issues. Unfortunately, the previous manager had left the company so there was no available history about the spreadsheets. In the end, it took this senior manager six weeks to completely review the details, make corrections and "work out the bugs."

Today, this manager oversees more than 25 outside consultants and "deals with lots of numbers" for public projects. His responsibilities include reviewing extremely detailed budget spreadsheets and scenario estimates for each of their 26 locations. Not only are the budget and scenario estimate spreadsheets linked together, but each one is linked to its own summary overview spreadsheet, so any mistake in the data could play a significant part in the "go/no go" results for a project. Final numbers are provided to regional executives for review and then a third-party organization presents the data to the public for bond voting.

"I have an obligation to my boss, my company and the public to make sure that the information I supply is accurate as well as provide transparency as to how these numbers came to be," the manager said.

Therefore, each spreadsheet must be studied in detail for accuracy and consistency. Once the review process is finished, the information is "rolled up" into master detailed and master summary spreadsheets which are presented by a company executive to the client. Checking and rechecking costs a minimum of 8 hours per spreadsheet because of the intricate web of data flowing between them.

How Incisive Helps

From his first experience with inherited spreadsheets, this senior project manager knew he needed a solution that would address the current, tedious cell-by-cell checking method, and the fact that spreadsheets created by others weren't always reliable.He chose Incisive's spreadsheet management solution to automate his spreadsheet review process. The software easily handled extremely large and complex linked workbooks with multiple tabs, saving him time and providing confidence in the data.

The Results: Increased Confidence in Spreadsheet Data

Incisive's spreadsheet management solution reduced review time from 8 hours to a mere 15 minutes per spreadsheet. The reliability and thoroughness of Incisive's software has helped this manager be more efficient throughout his projects.

He also noticed a productivity boost when highlighting questionable cells in different colors with the type of error the cell may have. He was finally able to answer questions such as: Are the operational functions correct? Are they pulling the correct information from the correct spreadsheet? With Incisive's software, the manager developed a structured process for reviewing spreadsheets.

Now, every time this manager creates a spreadsheet or receives one from a colleague, he uses Incisive's software to analyze for accuracy. While he doesn't expect errors, this procedure gives him assurance that the information presented to clients is correct. *"Life happens, people leave the company or get too busy and they forget to take time to check their work. If I don't know how they created the information, I must confirm it's correct for the benefit of my company and my client. Incisive's spreadsheet management solution assures me that the information I present is accurate."*

"Incisive's spreadsheet management solution gives me confidence that the information I present is accurate."

—Senior Project Manager at a national construction company

ABOUT INCISIVE

Based in San Jose, California, Incisive provides award-winning and innovative spreadsheet risk analysis and management solutions. Our enterprise offerings provide visibility and control to all business areas that use or interact with spreadsheets. Incisive products have been recognized for accurately and reliably highlighting risks to give users confidence in their spreadsheet information. For more information about Incisive and the company's solutions, visit www.incisive.com.

incisive™

Incisive Software Corporation
300 Santana Row, Suite 200
San Jose, CA 95128
408.660.3090 | info@incisive.com