



CUSTOMER SUCCESS STORY

CUSTOMER

EmploymentGroup

INDUSTRY

Staffing services

LOCATION

Battle Creek, Michigan

Number of Locations

Eight

Number of Employees

75

SYSTEM

Sage MAS 500

Modules in Operation

- Accounts Payable
- Cash Management
- General Ledger
- Financial Reporting

EmploymentGroup: “Good People” Work Even Better With Sage MAS 500

“Good people” make the difference at EmploymentGroup (EG). Focusing primarily on light industrial and clerical staffing, EG provides contract-to-hire, direct placement, and contract labor placements options. The company works with leading companies to help them meet professional, technical, clerical, and industrial staffing needs, and is ranked as one of the Top Ten employers in many Southwestern Michigan markets.



But even the best people can't compensate for an outdated business system, as EG discovered. Its legacy software had been heavily customized, making upgrades next to impossible. It was becoming unstable and unreliable. Files could not be attached to documents and financial statements could not be produced in a timely fashion. The final straw came when the manufacturer was sold to another larger firm, and began charging exorbitant amounts for maintenance.

Inter-company Intricacies

“Our goal was to find a new enterprise resource solution that would help move us towards a paperless office,” says Christy

Quick, accounting manager. “At the same time, we needed software that could handle the complexities of inter-company transactions, which were all being done manually. We asked for recommendations from industry colleagues, and solicited quotes from several business management software firms. Sage MAS 500 ERP was by far the best fit.”

Sage MAS 500 is a reliable, robust, and integrated set of business applications that provide comprehensive functionality for midsized companies. It is flexible, scalable, and full-featured, delivering a total business management solution to automate key business processes.

Today, EmploymentGroup relies on

CHALLENGE

Legacy software was heavily customized, and could not be upgraded; system was becoming unstable; did not support paperless work environment

SOLUTION

Sage MAS 500 with financial modules, automating inter-company transactions and contributing to reduction in paperwork

RESULTS

Financial reports that used to require two days of work are now run in a matter of minutes; 1099s can be produced one day faster than before

"The move to MAS 500 has enabled me to take several days off this month-end process."

—Christy Quick
Accounting Manager
EmploymentGroup

ABOUT SAGE SOFTWARE

Sage Software has been responding to the needs, challenges, and dreams of small and mid-sized businesses for over 25 years. With a complete range of business management solutions and services, Sage Software helps companies improve customer relationships, reduce costs, and automate and integrate a variety of operational activities. Its solutions support the specialty needs of a broad scope of industry segments, including manufacturing, distribution, construction, real estate, nonprofit, and professional services.



Sage MAS 500 to automate its general ledger, accounts payable, and cash management functions. The software manages transactions between EG and EmploymentGroup Holdings, its parent company, which is responsible for the firm's administrative expenses. As Quick says, "The inter-company function in Sage MAS 500 makes transactions seamless, so we don't even think about what's going on."

Quick Runs Faster Financials

The software generates financial statements every month and posts accounts payable transactions. "Our executives are pleased because they are getting financials sooner," Quick adds. "The move to MAS 500 has enabled me to take several days off this month-end process."

Senior management has noticed the improvement. "Our executives are really happy with us now because they're getting financials on time. Before, when they asked me for numbers, I'd always say I was still running the report. But since getting Sage MAS 500, we've gotten our financials on time every single month."

Electronic Archives

Now that EG is using a high-speed scanner, it is making progress towards a paperless office environment. "With paper files, people were always storing documents in the wrong place. Finding things in the archives were always a 'fun' task," Quick notes with a hint of sarcasm. "Doing away with paper filing will eliminate all that, and save us a great deal of time. It's our next big step in total process improvement."

Efficient Reporting

Generating 1099s was a major headache before implementing the new software, as EG had to input data manually. "This year we produced 1099s with Sage MAS 500

and the task took only a third of the time we previously experienced," says Quick.

EG creates balance sheets and income sheets with Sage MAS 500, as well as custom reports. "We have many different reporting trees and need to run versions of reports for various managers and offices," Quick explains. "Sage MAS 500 makes this easy."

Solo Implementation

With the help of its IT department, EG was able to implement Sage MAS 500 almost completely on its own. "Our Sage Software business partner came out for several days and showed us the basics," Quick says. "Then I set up the accounts by myself because I wanted to learn the program inside and out. I was able to set up both companies successfully, including all the modules."

"With help from its reseller, EG also performed the conversion of a year's worth of accounting data, plus 700 vendors, after asking a few questions from our business partner," she continues. "The fact that we could do so much without an outside consultant really shows how easy and intuitive the software is for users."

Preferred Partner

EG's Sage Software business partner was one of the main reasons Quick selected Sage MAS 500. "Other consultants were pushy and difficult to negotiate with," she explains. "Our business partner, on the other hand, met our needs up front without playing hardball. We certainly appreciated their approach and found it easy to build a true relationship of trust with them."

How does Quick feel about the decision to switch to Sage Software? "Now that we've moved to Sage MAS 500, I wish that we'd been on it for years."