Plymouth University

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by Quest

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UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH

Client Profile

Plymouth University is the **15th largest** university in the United Kingdom with approximately **27,000** students and **3,000** staff

Challenge

The Enterprise Architecture (EA) Practice of Excellence is part of the university's centralized IT organization and is responsible for delivering services and support. The team relied on disparate spreadsheets, diagrams, documents and databases, and tying all the information together was an enormous challenge.

Solution

They selected erwin® Evolve by Quest® to organize their assets through a centralized repository for more efficient use. Much to their delight, they realized they could start using the erwin solution within a day.

They were able to use their existing information and data to produce some initial architecture models and, thanks to the SaaS-based tool, were up and running promptly since no software implementation was required. "Getting started was totally painless and very quick as the tool is intuitive to use," commented Craig Douglas, enterprise architect.

The team is continually building out and maintaining a baseline architecture so they can understand the impact of change across the entire organization. Working collaboratively, technical and solution architects can submit information into erwin Evolve, which is immediately available to others for modeling and analysis. As a web-based tool, everyone can access information regardless of whether they use a PC or Mac.

"Once the data is entered into the tool, the reporting and analysis comes into play. Impact analysis lets us see how changes and investment decisions in one area can affect related concepts elsewhere in another department or another area of the university," said Craig. "Customizing and reporting on the metadata is also extremely useful for our business planning activities."

"By utilizing the efficiencies in erwin Evolve, our team can add value to business areas outside of IT, which reinforces how a modern and agile IT function can aid the entire organization," said Adrian Hollister, head of strategy and architecture.

☑ Results

Being able to use erwin Evolve to customize and report on metadata is extremely useful for our business planning activities.

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Craig Douglas
Enterprise Architect

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> Established a centralized, web-based enterprise architecture repository

> Proved the value of enterprise architecture to the business by eliminating costs and business/IT complexity

> Adopted a collaborative approach to enterprise architecture management

> Increased agility in producing reports and architectural analysis for senior decision-makers

> Created closer alignment of overall business and IT strategy objectives

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