

POET LLC Founded in 1987, POET LLC is a U.S. biofuel company that specializes in the creation of bioethanol and, since its inception, has grown to one of the world's largest producers of ethanol and other bio-refined products. The privately held corporation, originally called Broin Companies, is headquartered in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Producing 1.7 billion gallons of ethanol per year, POET operates 27 ethanol plants spread across seven states and has over 1,600 employees. POET has also collaborated with other companies, including Deere & Co. and Vermeer Company, to develop manufacturing equipment for harvesting corn cobs used in ethanol production. The company is committed to developing natural, renewable food sources and alternatives to petrochemicals with a goal to reduce the reliance of the United States on foreign energy to revitalize global agriculture and provide a cleaner, affordable alternative to fossil fuels.

Client's needs

To improve efficiency and user satisfaction across their enterprise performance financial processes with the proposed Financial Forecast Integration initiative (FFI), POET needed to evaluate the benefits of purchasing Oracle Hyperion's Enterprise Performance Management (EPM) and Business Intelligence (BI) software suites. To achieve their goals, POET recognized a need to define a future state vision that will build and support a business case, align stakeholder expectations, educate them on software capabilities and possibilities, establish project phases and scope boundaries, and lead to the identification of requirements and design.

Benefits Realized

With a concrete Roadmap to use as a tool and a reference, POET clarified and solidified its business case and aligned stakeholder expectations. They gained improved understanding of software capabilities and possibilities and established project implementation phases and scope boundaries, effectively preparing them to move forward to achieve their FFI initiatives to design, build, test, and rollout EPM/BI applications for planning, forecasting, and modeling; strategic, capital, and workforce planning; business project management; and management reporting.

Alithya's Solution

Alithya developed a relationship with POET and proposed services for the entire implementation with an initial Strategic Roadmap to address all the precursors to achieving a future state vision of Enterprise Performance Management processes and the successful implementation of technology for the Financial Forecast Integration initiative.

In one week, Alithya team members conducted a series of workshops to develop and deliver a Roadmap to:

- > Provide solution and infrastructure architecture diagrams
- > Recommend appropriate timeline and project phases
- > Identify resources, risks, and constraints
- > Estimate order of magnitude implementation effort and cost
- > Develop a project plan and business unit application interfaces and other supporting analysis

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