

Rose State College Efficiently Upgrades ERP Systems Using Sierra-Cedar's Upgrade Lab and Onsite Support

BACKGROUND

Rose State College (RSC), located in Midwest City, Oklahoma, is a public, open admissions, associate degree-granting institution. RSC offered its first classes on September 21, 1970. In December 1973, the College became a member of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education. The College has grown from an initial enrollment of 1,700 in 1970 to a fall enrollment of approximately 8,200 students. RSC provides lifelong learning through programs and services for a diverse community. The vision of the College is to be recognized as one of the nation's premier two-year colleges, distinguished by: superior student retention and success rates; a growing multi-cultural and multi-generational student body; development and efficient use of fiscal resources; and exceptional quality and diversity of programs and personnel.

CHALLENGES

RSC had been operating PeopleSoft Financials 8.0 and Student Administration/HCM 8.0 on Microsoft SQL Server. The applications had a moderate number of modifications, the majority of which were designed and developed by previous consultants. Because RSC's technical staff was dedicated to maintaining the existing PeopleSoft applications, it lacked the technical resources necessary for a major upgrade. To address these challenges and minimize the impact on staff, RSC wanted to upgrade to PeopleSoft Financials, HCM, and Campus Solutions 8.9 in parallel and as quickly as possible. Another challenge the College faced was that existing modifications had to be redesigned and developed to be compatible with 8.9. RSC also needed to complete the project as cost effectively as possible to stay within the allotted budget.

SOLUTION

RSC selected Sierra-Cedar to provide onsite functional and technical consulting and lab upgrade services to upgrade PeopleSoft Financials 8.4, HCM 8.0, and Campus Solutions 8.0 to PeopleSoft 8.9. Sierra-Cedar tailored the scope of its onsite services to stay within RSC's budget by augmenting RSC functional and technical staff when and where necessary. Sierra-Cedar provided a full-time project manager to manage the project, expedite the decision making process, facilitate knowledge transfer, and resolve issues as they arose. Sierra-Cedar's functional consultants facilitated onsite fit/gap sessions for six weeks, using an approach similar to a re-implementation so that RSC's staff could acquire the necessary knowledge to set up and use 8.9. We



Industry	Higher Education
Services	Sierra-Cedar Lab Upgrade Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lab-based • On-site functional consulting
Application & Modules	Lab Upgrade: Financials 8.0 to 8.9 Campus Solutions 8.0 to 9.0: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campus Community • Recruitment & Admissions • Student Records • Financial Aid • Student Financials • Student and Faculty Self Service HCM 8.0 to 9.0: • Human Resources • Payroll
Client Since	1998

further emphasized knowledge transfer by developing thorough documentation of the configuration and redesigned modifications, and involving RSC staff in testing. By using the Sierra-Cedar Upgrade Lab to perform the entire technical upgrade, including redesign or elimination of modifications because of new functionality in 8.9, RSC was able to meet its targeted go-live date. Particularly notable is that College staff dedicated to the project and Sierra-Cedar consultants worked weekends and holidays to lessen the impact of the upgrade on RSC students, faculty, and administrative staff.

Rose State was very happy to work with Cedar-Crestone on the project. We appreciate the friendly and professional consultants and the timely response to our concerns throughout the project.

John Primo

Vice President for Information Technology

RESULTS AND BENEFITS

Sierra-Cedar consultants reduced the total number of modifications and redesigned some of the remaining modifications to operate more efficiently in the 8.9 environment. By utilizing the Sierra-Cedar Upgrade Lab, RSC achieved an “on time and within budget” upgrade of its entire PeopleSoft suite within a seven-month period. Its project leaders confirm that they could not have achieved this goal without Sierra-Cedar’s assistance and lab capability. The consultants’ knowledge transfer to RSC staff was key to the success of the project and to the ongoing support of its PeopleSoft environment.

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