Sierra-Cedar

About

Kansas is a U.S. state located in the Midwestern United States. It is considered the birthplace of eGovernment and employees 52,000 people. The state is divided into 105 counties with 628 cities and has a population of nearly 3 million.

Working with Sierra-Cedar has been a rewarding experience. We have found them to be unique in this market space. Unlike many of the larger firms, they are large enough to flexibly address resource needs. Sierra-Cedar's ability to adapt to project changes and creatively resolve project challenges when presented make them a great partner to work with.

Sarah Gigous
Director, Office of System Management

Corporate Headquarters:

Topeka, Kansas

www.kansas.gov

Industry:

Public Sector

Technology:

GL, Commitment Control, AP/AR, Asset Management, Treasury/Cash Management, Billing, Projects, Grants, Purchasing, Contracts, Expenses, Strategic Sourcing, Supplier Contract Management, eSupplier Connection, and eProcurement.

About Sierra-Cedar

Sierra-Cedar delivers industry-focused client success by providing consulting, technical, and managed services for the deployment, management, and optimization of next-generation applications and technology.
www.Sierra-Cedar.com

Background

Sierra-Cedar has been providing PeopleSoft Services to the State of Kansas since 2006. Sierra-Cedar has continually assisted the State of Kansas with each HRMS and Financials upgrade to the current versions. Most recently in October 2014, Sierra-Cedar was awarded a five-year contract for providing the State with PeopleSoft and Oracle BI Hosting and Disaster Recovery services utilizing our datacenter and administrative personnel.

Challenges

By moving to a hosting partnership for the statewide enterprise applications, Sierra-Cedar anticipated the following project objectives:

- Continue mission-critical availability of services for end users
- Maintain stability of applications/hardware
- Support business process needs for HR/Payroll, Finance, Reporting
- Comply with federal and state laws and regulations to secure confidential information
- Maintain/improve processing times for batch and on-line response
- Update/complete required upgrades

Solution

The State of Kansas, has successfully upgraded the SMART Application (PeopleSoft Financials) 9.0 to 9.2. As part of this upgrade, the State of Kansas utilized Sierra-Cedar's Upgrade Lab and it included migrating both the State's HCM and Financials applications from the State-hosted hardware into the Sierra-Cedar Hosting Center. Sierra-Cedar also added WorkCenters across all available modules, Mobile Applications, and implemented eSupplier. WorkCenters was configured for Business roles, and individual users will be able to tailor WorkCenters to streamline their daily business processes. These new functionalities helped the State improve business processes and operate more efficiently:

- Reduced down-time due to hardware/system issues or failures
- Reduced time required to apply/complete major application upgrades
- Reduced time required to apply tax updates, bundles, fixes
- Remained current with updates/bundles/fixes/patches
- Eliminated out-of-pocket expense for on-site hardware
- Focused existing resources on core mission objectives rather than day-to-day maintenance/upkeep of system, reducing the backlog of outstanding enhancement requests for the enterprise systems

HCM 8.0 to 8.9 Upgrade Support
April, 2006–July 2007

FSCM 9.0 to 9.2 Upgrade
December 2014–December 2015

HCM 8.9 to 9.1 Upgrade
January 2011–Jan 2013

Managed Services
November 2006–January 2008

FSCM 9.0 Implementation
January 2009–August 2010

Full Service Hosting
October 2014–2019