

Peters Elworthy & Moore Finds True Value in CaseWare



The picturesque and thriving city of Cambridge is home to one of the leading accountancy firms in East Anglia, Peters Elworthy & Moore (PEM). With 14 partners and 140 staff, the firm’s size, experience and depth of expertise enable it to provide clients with a full range of accountancy, taxation and related services. The firm works to establish long-term collaborative relationships with its clients, delivering all of the attributes of the largest firms, while providing personalised advice and service. Aiding PEM in its work is the premier Accounts Production and Paperless Audit tool – CaseWare.



how well it works and the benefits it can bring,” she says. “Accounts preparation with auditing in one tool is a tremendous advantage and the ability to go paperless can revolutionise a firm’s operations.”

Revolutionise the Operation

“Before CaseWare we had an outdated paper-based system that had become too burdensome and inefficient,” recalls Kelly Whitehouse, Audit Partner for PEM. The firm evaluated its options. The broad functionality of CaseWare, from Accounts Production, Paperless Audit, Connector, and Charity Accounts set it apart from its competitors.

Less Paper, More Productivity

Gone are the days when teams lugged reams of paper to clients’ offices. With CaseWare, team members check out the files they will be working on electronically. They can then work on the project, merging their changes with the master file to ensure everyone has access to the most current data. “Rather than having someone compile everyone’s changes, we can each work on our own sections simultaneously – at the office or at the client’s site,” notes Whitehouse.

Whitehouse joined the firm during its CaseWare implementation and says that the firm’s choice of CaseWare was a big factor in her desire to join PEM. “I have used CaseWare elsewhere and know

CUSTOMER

Peters Elworthy & Moore (PEM)

HEADQUARTERS

Cambridge, England

Number of Locations

One

Number of Employees

14 Partners, 140 Staff

CHALLENGE

PEM’s paper-based accounts production and audit system was inefficient and burdensome to maintain.

SOLUTION

CaseWare Accounts Production, Paperless Audit, Connector, Charity Accounts, and IFRS Accounts have proven to be an ideal solution for the growing firm.

RESULTS

Time spent to prepare an audit file is cut by 25%. Intelligent XBRL tagging ensures compliance and offers competitive advantage. PEM’s unique workflow requirements are supported.

"By using CaseWare, we have cut the time required to prepare the average account by 25 percent."

Kelly Whitehouse
Audit Partner

CaseWare UK Limited

Accountants and auditors in practices large and small, in corporations, and government recognise CaseWare International as the premier creator of assurance, reporting and analysis tools. CaseWare's family of products and services helps professionals in over 130 countries perform their engagements more easily and efficiently.

PEM partners and staff appreciate the CaseWare Connector component that links CaseWare engagement file data to Microsoft Excel® workbooks and Word® documents. "It is a real-time, interactive link," explains Whitehouse. "The changes we make in CaseWare are immediately reflected in the linked documents. We have eliminated the time spent updating multiple files, and the ever-present potential for errors within the process."

Accurate and Efficient

Whitehouse says the biggest benefit CaseWare brings to the organisation is increased efficiency due to the elimination of redundant data entry and increased collaboration among the staff. "Our offices occupy four separate buildings; before it was not uncommon for staff members to trek from one building to another to gather the paperwork they needed to work on a file. Now information is securely located and accessible from one place. By using CaseWare, we have cut the time required to prepare the average account by 25 percent."

Additional time savings come from the inherent system of checks and balances within CaseWare – checks that would otherwise need to be done manually. "It is more than just verifying sums," explains Whitehouse. "There is extensive cross-checking done that highlights potential problems in detail so that they are easy to track down. Now it is virtually impossible to send out an account file with an error."

Workflow Support

CaseWare supports the firm's policies by allowing PEM to establish workflows within the software. "For example, we can dictate

which users can access which portion of a file and who may sign off on the audit," Whitehouse explains. "This gives us great assurance that our policies and procedures are being followed."

Adding Value

The easy data access and integration across platforms is also adding value by enabling PEM to interrogate files in new ways, uncovering insight and information for its clients that might otherwise have gone unnoticed.

Whitehouse is impressed with the ease in which PEM is able to draw data from clients' ERP applications into CaseWare. "This is another way CaseWare is saving us time," she says. "There is no need for manual entry; we can upload the latest data from our clients quickly and easily."

XBRL Compliant

Recently, as XBRL tagging requirements were introduced, accounting firms braced themselves for what would surely be a difficult transition. "We thought it would be a disaster," says Whitehouse. "However it has been a complete non-issue. CaseWare was one of the only providers to be XBRL compliant, so we were ready. In fact, our readiness has given us a distinct competitive edge. As a result, we have been able to quote and win additional work for new clients."

No Better Tool

"At PEM we want to perform our clients' audits as efficiently as possible," concludes Whitehouse. "There is simply no better tool for accomplishing that goal than CaseWare. Using CaseWare, we are confident that our work will be accomplished in a timely, secure and accurate manner."



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