



CUSTOMER

Kiesling Associates, LLC

HEADQUARTERS

Madison, Wisconsin

Number of Locations

Five

Number of Employees

100

Kiesling Associates Places Its Trust In CaseWare

Many things have changed since Kiesling Associates, LLP opened its doors in 1952, but the regional accounting firm's commitment to honesty, integrity, and reliable service to its clients remains steadfast. Specializing in the telecommunications and utility sectors, the firm has made a decision to invest in its technology infrastructure, adopting and utilizing business processes that are modern, efficient, and highly effective. A vital component of Kiesling Associates' business processes is CaseWare® Working Papers, the premier software solution used by professionals in over 130 countries.

"We selected CaseWare after an extensive search for a paperless solution to help us prepare and manage audits and working paper preparation for our clients," explains Justin Huebner, supervising senior accountant with Kiesling Associates. "We tested other solutions, but none came close to providing what CaseWare does. It's an extensively tested and well thought out solution."

The Paperless Audit

For most accounting firms, auditing is a paper-intensive process. Such was the case for Kiesling Associates. Although staff made extensive use of word processing and spreadsheet software,



piles of audit working paper files were produced for the required evidence of work. Printed copies of ledgers from clients' computerized accounting systems were included in the file. As a result, it wasn't unusual for a client's file to span multiple notebooks and have paperwork four to five inches thick.

Kiesling Associates has now slashed the amount of paper required for an audit. CaseWare's Working Papers accepts accounting data from clients using dozens of popular accounting software packages. This means that Kiesling Associates' staff can import transaction data directly into Working Papers, eliminating the need to print and store the clients' ledgers. Other files, including spreadsheets, PDFs, and word processing documents are all stored within CaseWare. "Even correspondence we receive through the mail is scanned and stored electronically," says Huebner.

CHALLENGE

Like many accounting firms, Kiesling Associates audits were a paper-intensive process. The firm sought a way to minimize paper and increase overall efficiency.

SOLUTION

Kiesling Associates selected the CaseWare's Working Papers software solution following an extensive search for a paperless audit solution.

RESULTS

To date, Kiesling Associates has saved 1,100 hours in financial statement generation and is experiencing a 20-30 percent time savings on work paper preparation.

"In total CaseWare's Working Papers has saved us more than 1,100 hours in my office in financial statement preparation alone."

Justin Huebner, Supervising Senior Accountant

About CaseWare International Inc.

Accountants and auditors in practices large and small, in corporations, and government recognize CaseWare International as the premier creator of assurance, reporting and analysis tools. CaseWare's family of products and services helps professionals in over 60 countries perform their engagements more easily and efficiently.

Professional Financial Statements

The CaseView component of Working Papers speeds financial statement generation. "It's like a combination of Word and Excel," explains Huebner. "You type in paragraphs and put cells into those paragraphs. We create all of our financial statements in CaseView now. With Excel or Word, we'd have nagging little problems aligning underscores and double underscores. With CaseView the formatting is automatic. It seems like a small difference, but it saves us a great deal of administrative time and the documents are consistent and professional."

The ability to use templates with the CaseView component of Working Papers further increases efficiency and increases standardization of the final product.

Streamlined Audits

During the audit cycle, Kiesling Associates sends a team of accountants and support staff to a client's site. Before Working Papers, the team arrived with a large briefcase filled with the prior year file, check lists, and various background materials. Today, the team arrives with their laptop computers, setting up a small mobile network on site. Through secure Internet access, the entire team can work with the client's Working Papers file. From within the mobile network, members of the team check out the various documents they need to work on, and when completed, check them back in to allow the rest of the team access.

"Now, we all have access to current information, but no one can accidentally overwrite another's work. It's organized and highly efficient," says Huebner.

As each step in the audit is completed, a check box is marked. The firm's partners can view this checklist at any time, providing them with a quick status report on each engagement.

Gain the Competitive Edge

Huebner feels CaseWare's Working Papers gives Kiesling Associates a competitive advantage. "Increasingly, we're noticing that clients are looking for a firm that uses technology effectively—they consider it a sign of efficiency," he explains. Long-term clients have noticed the firm's efficiencies as well. When a client calls with questions, the staff is able to instantly access the electronic Working Papers file and answer those questions—and even e-mail a requested document directly from the software.

Significant Return On Investment

Kiesling Associates performed a thorough return on investment analysis of its Working Papers solution, and found substantial savings. "We've now used Working Papers through five busy seasons," reports Huebner. "In total CaseWare's Working Papers has saved us more than 1,100 hours in my office in financial statement preparation alone."

The firm also looked at audit efficiency, and found a similar savings. "Conservatively, we're experiencing a 20-30 percent saving on work paper preparation as a result of CaseWare," says Huebner. "Not only has our investment in CaseWare paid off in measurable time savings, but our overall increase in efficiency enhances our firm's reputation."

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