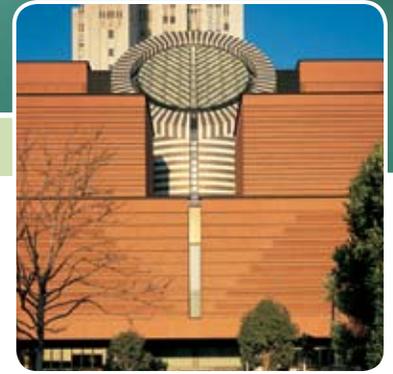# SF Museum of Modern Art Adds Sage MAS 500 to Permanent Collection

When it opened its doors in 1935, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA) was the first museum on the West Coast devoted solely to 20th century art. SFMOMA's collection is distinguished by the major works of Clyfford Still, Robert Rauschenberg, Marcel Duchamp, Philip Guston, Alfred Stieglitz, Ansel Adams, Edward Weston, Henri Matisse, Paul Klee, and artists from Mexico, Southern California, and the San Francisco Bay area.

In addition to its museum exhibitions, SFMOMA offers many educational activities, public programs, and runs a research library with more than 40,000 catalogued items.

SFMOMA operates Museum Stores at the museum, San Francisco International Airport, and the Embarcadero shopping center. Its Artists Gallery on the San Francisco waterfront rents and sells works by local artists on commission.

An Unruly System Collection

"Open for interpretation" is the watchword at SFMOMA. But like any business, there's no room for creative interpretation when it comes to the financials. With a budget topping $30 million, every penny must be accounted for.

SFMOMA had maintained separate non-integrated systems for various parts of its business. It was difficult to get information out of the systems, and impossible to integrate data from the museum's diverse operations. A consultant was retained to research and recommend alternative accounting systems. Of the top three, SFMOMA chose Sage MAS 500 ERP for its superior reporting and drill-down functions, flexible chart of accounts and advanced distribution features.

A Masterpiece of Efficiency

Sage MAS 500 provides SFMOMA with an end-to-end business system for the ultimate in financial control. Deposits from museum admissions are entered into Sage MAS 500 on a daily basis, with end-of-month admissions data reconciled through the Cash Management module and recorded as revenue. Cash register receipts from Museum Store sales are rung up in Fusion 2000, an integrated point-of-sale system from Mik and Associates, and batched and posted to the Inventory, Accounts Receivable and Cash Management modules daily. Donations are entered as

Customer:

SF Museum of Modern Art

Industry:

Private art museum, nonprofit organization

Location:

San Francisco, California

Number of Locations

Five

Number of Employees

350

System:

Sage MAS 500

- Customizer
- Data Porter
- General Ledger
- Accounts Payable
- Accounts Receivable
- Cash Management
- Inventory Management
- Inventory Replenishment
- Purchase Order
- Sales Order
- Allocations
- FAS Asset Accounting
- Warehouse Management

CHALLENGE

Acquire an advanced financial solution that can manage the diverse information integration needs, reporting and distribution requirements of a $30 million operation.

SOLUTION

Sage MAS 500 financial and distribution modules.

RESULTS

End-to-end, streamlined integration; complete financial control; exceptional intercompany functionality; seamless data flow; easy look-up/drill-down features; precise transaction tracking; superb reporting.

deposits through Raiser's Edge, a third-party module for fundraisers, and then transferred electronically into the accounting system using the DataPorter module.

"The Cash Management module has really made our lives easier," says Elizabeth Vaziri, controller at SFMOMA. "Before we had no way of getting AP to tie out to an outstanding check list. Now when we pull up Cash Management, we can identify exactly which entries were made to each of our eight bank accounts."

Vaziri also relies heavily on the Sage MAS 500 intercompany features to perform fund accounting and segregate expenditures. She sets up funds as restricted accessions, endowments, in-kind gifts and parking garage, which facilitates general ledger entries and post voucher distributions between them.

Inventory purchases go through Sage MAS 500, too. "Our store buyers love the Purchase Order module," says Vaziri. "They use the replenishment function to automatically determine order quantities. The system even creates suggested order lists. Goods received are immediately entered into the Purchase Order module. With the old system, we couldn't trace transactions until after the inventory arrived. It's great to have all this information automated now."

Security is another aspect Vaziri appreciates. She establishes users based on title, rather than name. As people come and go, she merely assigns a new name to a title, giving the new hire identical access to the person they replaced.

"I really like the look-up and drill-down features in Sage MAS 500," Vaziri comments. "Now I can go from general ledger and find virtually anything I want, all the way down to the 'view/edit vouchers' screen."

Drill-down capabilities have added value to reports for upper management and auditors as well. "We can trace financial statement line items to the actual GL accounts without using a map, which makes us look much better during an audit."

Vaziri says she's glad the Museum switched business systems. "Sage MAS 500 is a heads-and-tails improvement over our old system. It's powerful, straightforward and flexible enough to meet the needs of a diverse organization like ours."

"Sage MAS 500 represents a heads-and-tails improvement over our old system. Although it's very powerful, it's also straightforward and flexible enough to meet the needs of a diverse organization like ours."

ABOUT SAGE SOFTWARE

Sage Software supports the needs, challenges, and dreams of more than 2.7 million small and midsized business customers in North America through easy-to-use, scalable, and customizable software and services. Our products help manage a complete range of business functions including: accounting, operations, customer relationship management, human resources, time tracking, merchant services and the specialized needs of the construction, distribution, healthcare, manufacturing, nonprofit, and real estate industries.

sage software

Your business in mind.