Caesar Park Reports on Hotels and Resorts With Sage MAS 500

Caesar Park Hotels and Resorts owns seven hotels, in locations ranging from the bustle of downtown Vancouver to the luxurious sands of Hilton Head. All are managed by Westin, of "heavenly bed" fame. But each used its own front-office accounting system, creating a not-so-celestial headache when headquarters staff needed to consolidate data for reports.

"We received hard copies from each hotel's general ledger system, and reinput data into spreadsheets using our own format," says Kurt Van Saders, corporate treasurer. "We also converted figures from Canadian to U.S. dollars. Only then could we attempt company-wide consolidation reports."

Efficiencies Through Integration

Caesar Park's Sage Software business partner introduced them to Sage MAS 500 ERP, a solution offering end-to-end integration. Today, Sage MAS 500 performs all financial functions at headquarters, including general ledger and accounts payable, so that both Canadian and U.S. hotels can be managed from the New York office.

"Data comes in from individual resorts with general ledger, profit and loss, balance sheet, physical statistics, occupancy, and average daily room rate information," Van Saders explains. "Sage MAS 500 automatically formats data to mirror our internal consolidation process, making it immediately usable. We have better statistical data, with more details. And we can prepare reports as soon as the data is in the system. In this one area alone, Sage MAS 500 is saving us months of time each year."

Faster Reports, Better Analysis

Caesar Park uses Microsoft FRx Professional to create a wide variety of reports from Sage MAS 500. "We can produce reports with the push of a button, as opposed to manipulating information from dozens of spreadsheets, thanks to the combined power of FRx and Sage MAS 500," says Van Saders. "The new system allows us to do sophisticated analysis, as opposed to simple number crunching. And because reports are available in a more timely manner, they are much more valuable to management."

Customer:

Caesar Park Hotels and Resorts, Inc.

Industry:

Hotel holding company

Location:

New York, New York

Number of Locations

Eight

Number of Employees

4,000

System:

Sage MAS 500

- Accounts Payable
- Cash Management
- Data Migrator
- Microsoft FRx Professional
- General Ledger
- Multicurrency Management

CHALLENGE

Disparate front-office systems at seven hotels in two countries required manual input for consolidation, and weeks of spreadsheet work for each quarterly report.

SOLUTION

Sage MAS 500 with financial and Multicurrency Management modules has provided a fully integrated company-wide solution.

RESULTS

Elimination of paper-based systems is saving months of work each year, freeing staff for more important strategic projects.

Although Sage MAS 500 has not reduced staffing in Van Saders' department, it has transformed the nature of the daily workload. "Rather than spending all our time cranking out reports, we now have the relative luxury of giving quality attention to big-picture issues," he notes. "We can research each hotel's performance and profitability. We can investigate trends in cash flow. These are all things that were never possible before."

Business Insights

Caesar Park's reseller was amazed at the complexity and magnitude of the company's manual systems. Yet they also had a clear understanding of how Sage MAS 500 could simplify the workload. "Our reseller has been an important resource throughout implementation," Van Saders notes. "They have been there for us every step along the way, showing us how to get the most out of Sage MAS 500, and also sharing important business insights."

Soon the company plans to implement its Sage MAS 500 Cash Management module to streamline transaction processing and reconciliations. It will also use the Data Migrator module to validate and input data from legacy systems.

"Acquiring Sage MAS 500 was the best move we've made in years," Van Saders says. "It gives us the tools to manage our system of hotels and resorts in a more efficient, professional way, and ensures that each of our properties is run in the most profitable manner possible."

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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.

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