

National Society for Epilepsy saves £40k as a result of implementing IRIS Exchequer

The National Society for Epilepsy is committed to providing information and support to people with epilepsy. It also provides care for people with epilepsy through medical and residential services.

In late 2006, the organisation replaced its existing accounting solution with IRIS Exchequer. The team were looking for a flexible financial management solution that would save them considerable time within the accounts department.

Richard Carlidge, Finance Manager at the National Society of Epilepsy comments, "Since going live with IRIS Exchequer we have saved at least 0.8 full time employees which equates to £40k. We have become more disciplined in our data input; IRIS Exchequer is simple and straightforward to use and I feel we have greater control of our finances. Our accounts are more auditable."

The objectives of adopting IRIS Exchequer were to offer the National Society for Epilepsy more control over its financial management information. The organisation was particularly impressed with the interoperability offered between IRIS Exchequer and Microsoft Excel, making regular reporting and sharing of information much easier.

IRIS Exchequer is now used on a daily basis by the Bought Ledger Supervisor, Cashier, Sales Ledger Supervisor, Residents Benefits Officer, Finance Director and Richard himself.

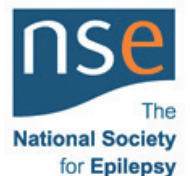
Richard continues, "IRIS Exchequer presents data on-screen very clearly and concisely so that you can see your financial position at a glance. The system allows you to easily print standard profit and loss and balance sheet reports. The management accounts are therefore compiled and printed using the live links to Microsoft Excel from IRIS Exchequer via the import function, which is what gives me

that sense of being more in control. I can query items just by drilling down into that account and getting the detail I require. I also use the live links to post the monthly journals to the General Ledger.

Richard now feels his reporting processes are much more streamlined and is planning on giving managers access to the database so they can view the accounts and query postings themselves. The National Society for Epilepsy also takes advantage of being able to email the accounts and general ledger listings directly to managers.

In conclusion Richard comments, "IRIS Exchequer has delivered a significant return on our investment both financially and due to increased productivity. I also calculate from efficiencies achieved that there is a further £20k worth of savings yet to be made. We have simplified our accounting processes and are working much more effectively. We are discussing further enhancements of the system with IRIS, including remote access by senior managers via the Sentimail module."

"IRIS Exchequer has delivered a significant return on our investment both financially and due to increased productivity. I also calculate from efficiencies achieved that there is a further £20k worth of savings yet to be made."



“

Since going live with IRIS Exchequer we have saved at least 0.8 full time employees which equates to £40k. We have become more disciplined in our data input; IRIS Exchequer is simple and straightforward to use and I feel we have greater control of our finances.

”

Echoes of Service become major fans of IRIS Exchequer

Established in 1872, Echoes of Service is committed to serving Christian missionaries around the world through financial support and information services.

The missionary service group has been using IRIS Exchequer for nearly 3 years to handle the transmission of funds - mainly receipts of gifts and payment of bills.

"We were previously using a bespoke system that was written by computer specialists, not accountants," continues Andy. "This meant that it functioned well, but was very cumbersome and non user-friendly."

Echoes of Service chose to use a third party Project Manager to assess the financial management packages available on the market. The company short-listed Sage, IRIS Exchequer and Access Accounts, with Echoes of Service subsequently selecting IRIS Exchequer. "IRIS Exchequer was quite simply the most user-friendly and easy to understand solution in the market," reflects Andy.

Due to the nature of its business, Echoes of Service has requested several bespoke additions to IRIS Exchequer. However, Andy feels that the training and support received from IRIS has meant that they have the right product for their needs that is flexible enough to suit an organisation in the charity sector.

IRIS Exchequer is used on a daily basis at Echoes of Service to manage the regular donations that come in via cheque or bank transfer. Beneficiaries are given money each month based on individual donations and an internal allocation, which is applied using a formula.

This allocation is calculated in Microsoft Excel, which means that Echoes of Service benefit from the interoperability between the everyday Microsoft solution and IRIS Exchequer.

"IRIS Exchequer gives us the ability to run off monthly management reports, interrogate data, interpret figures and so much more. The ability to break information down by department, cost centre etc is invaluable. However, the best thing about IRIS Exchequer is that it is easy to operate and very logical, even to non-technical people", states Andy.

Echoes of Service have recently upgraded its 8-user IRIS Exchequer solution to v6, taking advantage of the Premium Upgrade Service. This means that IRIS engineers handle the entire upgrade process from start to finish.

Andy comments, "We knew there were some enhancements with v6 and we wanted to make sure we were up to date on the latest technology. The new version is working brilliantly and the installation was seamless. We had two IRIS engineers and two hardware specialists on site who completed the upgrade in half a day with very little interruption to working practices. We're so impressed that we have already recommended other similar organisations do the same."

Since going live with IRIS Exchequer, Echoes of Service has seen accounting errors reduce significantly as well as an improvement in identifying any issues before they become a problem.

This is mainly due to the tight financial control IRIS Exchequer allows Andy and his team to maintain through standard features such as General Ledger Views where Echoes of Service can configure up to 999 different views of the General Ledger data to present vital business information.

The organisation also takes advantage of additional IRIS Exchequer modules such as the Visual Report Writer which generates valuable management reports in seconds and Paperless which helps to reduce the costs involved in using and storing paper, as well as lowering carbon footprint.

In conclusion Andy comments, "There is nothing negative I can say about IRIS Exchequer as we think very highly of both the solution and service."

To see how other organisations are benefiting from implementing IRIS Exchequer please visit www.iris.co.uk/exchequercasestudies

Solutions that deliver



“

"IRIS Exchequer gives us the ability to run off monthly management reports, interrogate data, interpret figures and so much more. The ability to break information down by department, cost centre etc is invaluable."

”