

HOW KING FAHD UNIVERSITY MAKES PROGRESS



TOP OF THE CLASS WITH SAVVION

King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals (KFUPM) was officially established by Royal Decree on September 23, 1963. The first students were admitted a year later on September 23, 1964, when 67 young men enrolled in what was then the College of Petroleum and Minerals (CPM). Since that time, the University enrollment has grown to 9,500 students.

Considered to be the MIT of the Middle East, King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals (KFUPM) boasts a total number of 9,500 students and serves as a role model for both other universities and business leaders. Among the strategies that keep KFUPM at the top of its class and able to offer the highest level of teaching and service to its students, is a commitment to ongoing improvements.

King Fahd University of Petroleum & Minerals

CHALLENGE

Improve business processes and functions across the university.

SOLUTION

Progress® Savvion™ Process Modeler and Process Asset Manager

BENEFIT

- > *Immediate ROI*
- > *Empowers individuals with a sense of ownership*
- > *Improves quality of work with BPM standardization*
- > *Reduces process time, e.g., research grant submittal*

CHALK TALK: BUSINESS PROCESSES KEY TO SUCCESS

KFUPM initially used the Progress® Savvion™ Process Modeler to map out the process to complete an enterprise resource planning (ERP) project. With Savvion, King Fahd University realized an immediate return on investment. Scheduled to take three months, the ERP project was actually completed in less than 30 days because of process improvements enabled by Savvion software.

“Progress Savvion gave us a tool that we could use to model and analyze processes quickly and easily. Also, because the output is a model, and not just a diagram, it has certain rules, which allow us to simulate our business processes in the academic and administrative functions so that we could run the university more smoothly,” explained Iftikhar Nadeem, Advisor, Information Strategy, and ERP Project Manager.

USAGE QUICKLY EXPANDS

Initially, KFUPM used the free Savvion Process Modeler, but quickly realized its value and purchased it and Progress® Savvion™ Process Asset Manager. “By using Process Asset Manager, we realized that we could take these models, centralize them and use them as assets for the university. From there we now have a springboard to best practices and can continue to optimize the processes—taking the processes with the highest value and turning them it into a live application,” said Nadeem.

SAVVION IN ACTION

Scientific and applied research grants play an important role in maintaining KFUPM’s leadership position. With the Savvion Process Modeler, each request is modeled and then placed in the Savvion Process Asset Manager so new faculty members and researchers can refer back to best practice when submitting for project grants. “Over 60% of our faculty are foreign—they come and go with each university handling grant requests differently,” said Nadeem. “With the Savvion Process Asset Manager, new

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*Iftikhar Nadeem
Advisor
Information Strategy
ERP Project Manager*

faculty can get up to speed quickly. What used to be a complex process is now easy to understand and far less intimidating.”

EASE OF USE ENABLES STANDARDIZATION

As in many university environments, users at KFUPM are not all that technically savvy. The ease of use of Savvion was very important during the evaluation process and proved to be invaluable when the business process management (BPM) solution was adopted. “Before Savvion, our projects were handled primarily by consultants. Because Savvion is so easy to use, our people are handling processes themselves, which instills a sense of ownership that has significantly improved quality of work. We have also been able to standardize on Savvion across all users,” said Nadeem.

Savvion plays a critical role in KFUPM’s infrastructure. With over 100 people using Savvion, KFUPM has more than 320 processes modeled in the areas of finance, scientific research, applied research, materials management, admission and registration. “We essentially modeled the university with Savvion” concluded Nadeem.

PROGRESS SOFTWARE

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WORLDWIDE HEADQUARTERS

Progress Software Corporation, 14 Oak Park, Bedford, MA 01730 USA
Tel: +1 781 280-4000 Fax: +1 781 280-4095 On the Web at: www.progress.com

For regional international office locations and contact information, please refer to the Web page below:
www.progress.com/worldwide

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