



CASE STUDY

ASSET MANAGER – SAAS PORTFOLIO MONITORING, ANALYTICS, & REPORTING PLATFORM IMPLEMENTATION

An A&M Case Study on Harnessing Process Automation Technology to Facilitate a Complex Implementation

SEAMLESS TRANSITION TO A NEW PLATFORM

Innovative use of process automation technology, combined with deep operational and technical expertise, enabled an accurate, speedy and seamless migration from legacy systems to the new Portfolio Monitoring platform.

Significant Resources & Time Saved

- Saved 200+ hours of implementation work
- Achieved timely validation of historical data for 31 funds and 700+ investments
- Conducted on-site training sessions resulting in full-scale adoption by asset management, portfolio management, operations, and senior front office
- The successful implementation saved the client approximately 1,500 hours of their asset managers' time

SITUATION

Data Management Across the Investment Lifecycle – No Single Source of Truth

The client—a leading investment management firm focused on alternative real assets, with hundreds of properties and dozens of portfolio managers—had no centralized system to monitor portfolio and fund performance. Investment-level information was often complex, and was contained in disparate Excel outputs, making it challenging for senior management to generate portfolio-wide reports, and difficult for limited partners to track investment performance.

The client had conducted a year-long search for a software solution to meet their sophisticated needs. The client also had minimal internal resources to dedicate to the implementation and roll-out of the platform. Based on Alvarez & Marsal's experience with large, diverse funds and intricate investment structures, the client chose A&M to lead the implementation.

A major hurdle identified in the implementation process was how to extract historical financial data from thousands of legacy documents, sort and centralize the data, and efficiently ingest it into the new platform. The client estimated that several weeks of staff bandwidth would be required for the data extraction alone.

WHAT WE DID

The A&M Fund Analytics Services team gathered the legacy files onto a secure, shared drive. We recommended the use of process automation technology to extract and prepare the data for the new platform. Our innovative proprietary technology, combined with our understanding of the source files, enabled us to design a process to achieve a rapid and accurate transfer of the relevant data points.

We programed our bots to identify and extract the specific information required into a database file in less than two hours. The verification of the data confirmed its accuracy and ensured stakeholders' comfort with our methodology. A process anticipated to take weeks, was done in a few days.

A&M Fund Analytics Services also led training programs for the investment professionals and senior management teams which were well-received, increasing the favorable uptake of the new platform. The client reported that users throughout the organization quickly became comfortable pulling investment-level data from the system, and reviewing fund-level reporting on the portal interface. With enthusiastic adoption of the new performance-monitoring system, there were no regrets at leaving behind the legacy approach.

A&M'S EXPERTISE LEADS TO RESULTS

Unlock Efficiency with Our Leading-edge Approach to Implementation Challenges

Clients faced with large or particularly challenging implementations turn to A&M Fund Analytics Services to ensure best practices and execute optimal platform use-cases from the outset. With its operational focus, technical expertise, and years of experience working with alternative asset managers, A&M delivers executable plans with emphasis on completion and satisfaction. In this case study, A&M worked seamlessly with the SaaS vendor and a multiplicity of company stakeholders to achieve for the client:

- More accurate reporting functionality and improved response time
- Superior portfolio-level and fund-level performance tracking capabilities
- Reduced key-man risk and deal-team strain
- Improved data integrity, analytics quality and reduction of errors in data & process
- Resourceful application of proprietary technology to remediate implementation barriers

“Within four months of A&M's implementation, we were able to achieve a significant ROI with regard to our annual planning process. Year-over-year, we saved thousands of hours of our asset managers' valuable resources, enabling them to complete mission-critical tasks in a fraction of the time.”

*– Managing Director,
Operations*

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ABOUT ALVAREZ & MARSAL

Companies, investors and government entities around the world turn to Alvarez & Marsal (A&M) when conventional approaches are not enough to make change and achieve results. Privately held since its founding in 1983, A&M is a leading global professional services firm that provides advisory, business performance improvement and turnaround management services.

With over 4,500 people across four continents, we deliver tangible results for corporates, boards, private equity firms, law firms and government agencies facing complex challenges. Our senior leaders, and their teams, help organizations transform operations, catapult growth and accelerate results through decisive action. Comprised of experienced operators, world-class consultants, former regulators and industry authorities, A&M leverages its restructuring heritage to turn change into a strategic business asset, manage risk and unlock value at every stage of growth.

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