

September 28, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

Back in the early 90s, I was an accountant for the international group at Itron, Inc. We were in need of a financial solution that would allow for consistency across our foreign subsidiaries as well as allow for a quicker consolidation of our month end financial close. With the time difference and language barriers, this was not a simple task. As this was before email, we were in need of finding a way to electronically communicate with more than just Revenue, Cost and Balance Sheet information via facsimile with our subsidiaries in England, France, Germany and Australia. It was also imperative for system compatibility with Macintosh computers, to perform VAT (Value Added Tax) reconciliation, and to map the system effectively from required local international account numbering schemes to the Itron corporate accounting structure. We needed a system that would allow for detailed financial analysis down to the account level with budget versus actual comparisons.

Bill McEwen was hired to find a solution and implement it. He was very in tune with our needs and spent several days doing requirement planning with various staff including myself. He came back with a solution that would work, but did not meet the requirement for French language invoicing or consolidation. He assured us that he could make it work and he did. Another big challenge was transmitting data through international phone lines. He worked with our IT department to make this a success as well.

Bill literally flew around the world, stopping at each location and implementing the systems. He did this in little over a month. Afterwards, he was available for technical support for Europe and Australia and my office at any hour.

Local accounting rules made the General Ledger accounts different in several countries. They had to be consolidated into one account, however, for corporate. Bill built an interface that satisfied our requirements for consolidation. Due to Bill's efforts, our international group was finally able to provide Corporate the information needed for comprehensive and detailed analysis. As a result of this project, I personally experienced professional growth, being closely involved in the implementation of these systems.

There is no question that Bill is dedicated to performing quality work that meets the needs of the users. He cares about the people he works with and is not concerned about the hour on the clock if a deadline needs to be met. I would recommend Bill to any company wanting to install or improve their Information Systems.

Please feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance at (208) 660-1769.

Sincerely,



Darla Bowers
Director, Distribution Channels
Itron, Inc.