

CLIENT

National Institute for Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR)

OVERVIEW

The Budget Office at NIDCR, through the Grants Financial Analyst is responsible for creating various Pay Plans. This Pay Plan will draw information from the funding plans presented at the Extramural Budget Meetings and will only incorporate those applications that have been approved for funding by the NIDCR Director. The Pay Plan created is then routed to different users (associated with the Pay Plans) for their approval/rejections along with their digital signatures.

CHALLENGE

LCG was faced with the following challenges during the development of PayPlan:

- Automated workflow to route Pay Plan files to users
- Incorporating digital signatures
- Ability to view data in both the form and Excel file
- Store Pay Plan forms in a secured location with limited users accessing it

SOLUTION

The LCG Team at NIDCR implemented a Pay Plan Approval solution which is hosted in NIDCR's SharePoint environment. The new business process is architected in SharePoint, using the Microsoft InfoPath forms for digital signatures and representation of the Excel Data. The entire workflow process is taken care of in Visual Studio Workflows, making the users independent of the emailing process.

This solution enabled users to achieve the following features:

- Automate workflow
- Capability of Digital Signature and customized permission levels for high levels of Security
- Progress bars and status indicators to verify form status

RESULT

The UAT and Internal testing of the Pay Plan Approval solution was successful in the development, quality assurance, and production environments. It is currently being used as the official Pay Plan approval routing mechanism by NIDCR. By integrating various out-of-the-box technologies provided by Microsoft, LCG converted a complicated workflow into a simple, automated, and a user friendly process.

BUSINESS VALUE

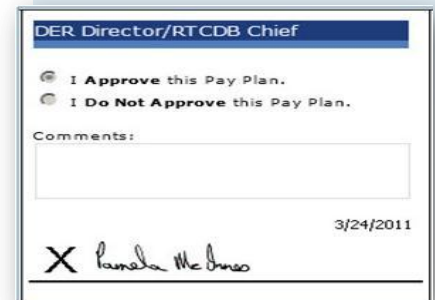
LCG has proven expertise in the development of budget and grants analysis applications.



■ Pay Plan Detail Form



■ Pay Plan Status Indicators



■ Pay Plan Approval Form