

The Bristol Port Company improves safety and engineering management through integration using IFS Ultimo



IFS Ultimo

Cost-effective logistics

The UK's most centrally located deep seaport employs more than 600 people directly with over 12,000 more employed within businesses on the Port's 2,600 acre dock estate. Bristol Port offers one of the most cost-effective logistics solutions to its customer base through its ability to handle vessels of up to 130,000 deadweight tonnage and its proximity to a major populous area of the UK with 43 million people, 67% of the UK population, within a 250km radius. Bristol Port is a key national asset and a major economic driver for the South-West region: Each year, Bristol Port handles over 3 million tons of dry bulk goods, 550,000 motor vehicles, 27% of all UK aviation fuel imports and 25% of all animal feed imports. The Company and businesses on the Port Estate contribute more than £1 billion to UK GDP.

Reduced complexity: A single, centralized EAM for simple and easy use

Bristol Port started implementation of the IFS Ultimo Enterprise Management (EAM) solution in 2021 to replace its existing maintenance management system as well as over 50 databases and spreadsheets. The goal was to increase safety, reduce complexity and enable standardization across the port. IFS Ultimo was selected from a list of 6 because it offered the best value proposition, according to Richard Ashley-Smith, Asset Manager at Bristol Port.

Implementation with support of DNASTREAM and IFS Ultimo

The implementation of IFS Ultimo was done by subcontractor and support partner DNASTREAM. Richard Ashley-Smith commented, "It was a complex task to complete since we first needed to decide how we wanted the whole system to operate. This meant a lot of internal work and all of our existing processes needed to be reviewed. DNASTREAM and IFS Ultimo proved to be very reliable partners in this phase."

About Bristol Port

Ports are the gateways to the whole world: The city of Bristol was built on shipping and the roots of its modern business trace back to the 1870s. A constant theme in the development of shipping over the centuries is that vessels increase in size. Ports need to keep momentum with this development and The Bristol Port Company is no exception, continually investing to maintain its position as a critical link in the supply chain.



**THE BRISTOL
PORT COMPANY**

A lot of customization and configuration work was done during this phase of work. For example, the important Permit to Work (PTW) implementation, handling permits leading to better visibility of hazardous and non-hazardous jobs was done by IFS Ultimo, while DNASTREAM took care of all other customizations and configurations requested by Bristol Port. “After the implementation, IFS Ultimo EAM was easy to use and made our whole asset management approach much simpler than before,” explained Richard Ashley-Smith.

One system to work for everyone

Bristol Port now uses a wide range of IFS Ultimo EAM modules like Asset Management, Stock Management, several HSE modules, Work Order Management, Periodical Maintenance, Project Management, and Reports. In addition to this, IFS Ultimo is fully integrated with Microsoft Power BI.

IFS Ultimo enables us to reduce complexities and improve efficiencies

Richard Ashley-Smith, The Bristol Port Company

The integration with Proactis, the financial system used by Bristol Port, will follow in the near future. “Currently, we are using 150 full licenses for operations, maintenance, and business roles. This is complemented by over 200 self-service licenses for other staff functions and contractors working for Bristol Port.”

Making the best business decisions based on better data, now and in the future

Implementation of IFS Ultimo has evolved the Port’s business processes: The management team at Bristol Port now has complete control over the data that is being collected. “We have rationalized the data capturing process and are now capturing better data, enabling us to make the best business decisions based on better data,” said Richard Ashley-Smith. “In addition to improvements such as reduced complexity, cost savings, improved time efficiencies and safety, we are very content with the overall performance of IFS Ultimo’s EAM solution as well as the system’s usability and the futureproofing it offers us going forward.”

The next phase of implementation will integrate the port’s financial system (purchasing and invoicing) with IFS Ultimo. Further training on the EAM solution and refresher courses are also planned.

Results

- A future-proofed, integrated and centralized Enterprise Asset Management (EAM) System.
- More efficient and effective Permits to Work, focused on increased safety staff and contractors.
- Better visualization of hazardous and non-hazardous work, enabling quicker and more comprehensive deconfliction of work.
- Complete control over the data collected, enabling better business decisions in the future.
- Ability to customize and configure Ultimo following continuous improvement initiatives.

Challenges

- Asset Management approach was not standardised across the Port.
- Over 50 databases and spreadsheets across the port needed to be migrated into Ultimo.
- Existing Permits to Work System (HSE) was time consuming to use and outdated.
- Urgent need to visualize work activities to provide better deconfliction, particularly for hazardous work.

More information

For more info, contact us via email (info@ultimo.com), the IFS Ultimo office near you or visit our website: ultimo.com



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