Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

Creating greater project cost transparency with Deltek Cobra and wInsight

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) is a 60 year-old award-winning United States national security laboratory developing unique nuclear science and engineering capabilities that are applied to a broad set of national challenges. LLNL’s mission is to strengthen the United States’ security by developing and applying world-class science, technology and engineering to enhance the nation’s defense, reduce the global threat from terrorism and responding with technical excellence. Their defining responsibility is ensuring the safety, security and reliability of the nation’s nuclear deterrent.
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Challenges

As a leading national security laboratory, LLNL is focused on meeting national security needs by advancing nuclear science and technology. The lab was facing a growing challenge caused by working with an outdated, inefficient cost processing system. It was becoming more and more difficult to share cost and resource data across the organization. An exorbitant amount of time was spent moving data from one system to another to better understand the project’s true performance.

Solution

LLNL began a trade study to look at a wide variety of cost processors. After the qualifying questions narrowed the list, LLNL quickly realized Deltek Cobra and Deltek wInsight provided the most robust, flexible solution.

Powerful and easy-to-use, Cobra helps organizations like LLNL manage project costs, actuals and forecasts, while complying with government reporting.

Deltek wInsight is the industry standard for analyzing, sharing and reporting earned value management data.

Benefits

The benefits of implementing Cobra and wInsight together were immediate and impressive. The time it took to calculate earned value was reduced by 90%, while increasing overall efficiency.

Eliminating manual import/export processes and spending less time on manual calculations, reporting and re-work led to accurate and consistent data across the project execution team.

Resource management was also simplified, enabling the lab to shift from resource-based budgeting to scope-based budgeting, leading to greater cost transparency.

“It’s rare to find a solution that offers so many day-to-day benefits. From resource planning to cost transparency, we are more efficient than ever. Not only did the products meet our immediate needs, it put us in a good position for growth as well.”

Anita Zenger, Project Controls Manager, LLNL