



NEW HORIZONS TAKES IT HIGHER WITH MAS 500

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New Horizons is one of Fortune magazine's 100 fastest growing companies, and named on Forbes' list of 200 best companies under \$500 million.

COMPANY NAME

New Horizons Computer Learning Centers, Inc.

TYPE OF BUSINESS

IT Training

NUMBER OF LOCATIONS

280

OPERATING SYSTEM

Microsoft Windows

FINANCIAL SOFTWARE

MAS 500



THIS IS A STRONG ENTERPRISE-WIDE FINANCIAL SOLUTION THAT MEETS THE NEEDS OF MID-SIZED COMPANIES

VERY NICELY

Leesa Dupree
Financial Analyst
New Horizons Computer Learning Centers, Inc.

Clouds on the Horizon

As the new millennium approached, New Horizons faced several problems. Each corporate-owned center used a different accounting package, and handled its own accounts payable separately. Manual consolidation of financial statements had become an impossible burden as New Horizons pursued its strategy of buying back selected franchises. Leesa Dupree, financial analyst, was named project manager to search for a new solution.

Dupree evaluated several mid-market and tier-one packages, looking for an intuitive, very scalable system, flexible enough to meet the tough demands of a fast growing technology firm. She found the solution in MAS 500 and *doc-link*[™] (Integrated Document Management) software.

Success on the Horizon

"We selected MAS 500 because it gave us more bang for our buck," explains Dupree. She also felt that MAS 500 was a good fit for New Horizons. "We were convinced that Sage Software would deliver real longevity in the marketplace."

New Horizons now uses MAS 500 for all standard accounting functions as well as complex reporting. "It allows me to do in-depth financial analysis such as pricing analysis on all of our corporate-owned centers," comments Dupree. "We can prepare reports against our SQL database, which covers all our companies, and receive clear answers concerning our product mix and cash collection efficiency. Management is very happy with the MAS 500 because it's easy for us to roll up the numbers quickly."

New Horizons has experienced the greatest benefits in the area of company consolidations. "We no longer have to do frantic faxing between offices whenever an account looks off," Dupree says. "Now the controller at corporate can drill down on her desk and investigate for herself. This means speedier resolution of issues, and better management overall."

Dupree saw additional opportunities for eliminating paper with *doc-link* from Altec, which integrates seamlessly with the MAS 500 Accounts Payable module. All invoices now coming to corporate A/P are scanned and forwarded electronically to the learning centers for review. The controller in each center can approve, annotate, and return the invoice in a totally paperless process. The approved invoice image is booked into MAS 500 and indexed into *doc-link* for permanent filing. Dupree also looked to their current printing solution provider, Altec, to provide their completely integrated MAS 500 AP MICR check printing solution, AP MICR.

New Horizon's reseller worked hard to make sure that implementation went smoothly and trained Dupree's team to be self-sufficient so they can handle their needs in-house. Now whenever the company acquires a new franchise, Dupree can perform MAS 500 implementations herself, including conversion of data from legacy systems and conducting end-user training.

Dupree says she appreciates the invaluable help of Sage Software customer support team. "With an intricate system like ours, it can be difficult to determine where glitches originate. During our implementation, our reseller worked closely with Sage Software's support group. Their professionalism was remarkable."

The decision to go with MAS 500 and *doc-link* was definitely the right one, according to Dupree. "We have paperless processing of financial transactions and documents on the desktop. This is a strong enterprise-wide financial solution that meets the needs of mid-sized companies very nicely."

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