

Forgen Closes Books 50% Faster – And With Greater Accuracy – Using FloQast Automated Accounting Workflows

Forgen, an environmental remediation and construction services company based in Centennial, Colo., needed to reduce monthly days to close, streamline workflows, and balance staff workload. FloQast Close[™] has enabled task and team member real-time status updates, improved transparency and productivity, and taken days to close from 20 down to 10 – with plans to do even better.

Lauren Rice knew there had to be a better way. As corporate accounting manager at Forgen, it was up to her and her department to perform a timely monthly Close covering dozens of accounts and reconciliations, and get it all to the parent company in 10 days or less.

But bottlenecks in the monthly Closing process were a problem, and it was hard to determine the root cause. Excel spreadsheets had become too tedious and time consuming, and significantly increased the risk of errors and omissions that threatened to hamper the process even further.



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LAUREN RICE, CORPORATE ACCOUNTING MANAGER, FORGEN

Document versioning issues were also another source of friction, plus the Close process was taking 20 to 25 days.

"We knew Excel wasn't the right tool for Close management in the long term, so we developed our requirements and did our research," Rice said. "At the top of our list were analytics, including dashboards with automatic checklists that put everything in one place, by account, by department, and by owner so we could know who was doing what and when."

Forgen

INDUSTRY

Environmental remediation and construction services

ERP Microsoft Dynamics Business Central

OBJECTIVE

Reduce Close time, increase task visibility and team productivity, and support faster C-suite decision making.

WHY FLOQAST

- Native integration with Microsoft Dynamics Business Central.
- Simple and intuitive user experience driven by checklists, dashboards and timelines.
- Accounting-focused design and workflows that match accountant needs and requirements.

RESULTS

- Month-end Close team communicates and collaborates more effectively with notes, reconciliation status updates, and task assignments.
- C-suite decision support now available with more speed and precision.
- Month-end Close times reduced by 50 percent, from 20 days to now just 10 days.

They also needed a solution that would work smoothly with Forgen's ERP, Microsoft Dynamics Business Central.

Rice and her colleagues chose FloQast.

"Our overall implementation experience with FloQast was top-notch. From the user interface, to the analytics, to the integration with our ERP, honestly, we couldn't have asked for anything more from FloQast," Rice said. "The FloQast implementation team had us up and running within a month."

Visibility Drives Productivity – And Confidence

Rice said she and her accounting colleagues have streamlined communications and collaboration by using FloQast daily to check the status of closing activities, add notes, and update progress.

"We have at least fifteen major projects running around the country at any time," Rice said. "And FloQast gives our entire team, including the CFO, the ability to see where we are on all of these at any given moment. Expenses, controls, and budgets are easily accessible for planning, forecasting and reporting."

Comprehensive checklists, status updates, and review notes reduce delays and allow team members to work when they want and how they want.

"I'm a type-A person, so I love the FloQast checklists," Rice said. "They allow me to see what I've done, what needs to get done, and how I can collaborate with others to keep things moving. The browser-based interface also makes it easy to update things on-the-go, in our home offices, or whenever schedules allow."

Rice said her team uses FloQast Ops for non-close workflows as well such as monthly payroll, tax, and cost-accounting activities.

"The flexibility of FloQast Ops makes it a natural fit for other workflow-driven activities, too, such as special projects, audits, and year-end tax returns," Rice said.

Critical Closing Goals Achieved, and C-Suite Gains Faster Insights

Overall accounting, task management, collaboration, and Closing activities have improved measurably since FloQast has been in place. "We've reduced our Close time by half – from 20 days down to 10 days – and that's real time put back in our days and months for more complex functions and strategic activities such as cost control and cash flow that can drive more dollars to the bottom line," Rice said.

Rice said monthly bottlenecks, and any confusion or wasted time caused by those bottlenecks, has also been eliminated. Team members get status updates immediately and accountability has become automatic with task ownership and to-dos that everyone can see.

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While the accounting department and CFO have been the most obvious beneficiaries so far, there are benefits that extend to the entire C-suite.

"The improved transparency with FloQast has been transformative from a speed and insights perspective, which affects much more than our department," Rice said. "Faster and better financial information supports quicker and more precise decision making around everything else including people, opportunities, projects, and clients."



FloQast

About FloQast

FloQast delivers workflow automation software enabling organizations to operationalize accounting excellence. Trusted by more than 1,900 accounting teams – including Twilio, Los Angeles Lakers, Zoom, and Snowflake – FloQast was built by accountants, for accountants to enhance the way accounting teams work. FloQast enables customers to streamline processes such as automated reconciliations, documentation requests, and other workflows that impact the month-end close, financial reporting, and payroll, and is consistently rated #1 across all user review sites. Learn more at FloQast.com.



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