

"SAP has the right solution and the right architecture for small, midsize, and large social housing companies."

Arjan Van Dijk, Information Manager, Ymere

QUICK FACTS

Company

- Name: Ymere
- Headquarters: Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- Industry: Professional services
- Products and services: Housing
- Revenue: €623 million
- Employees: 1,100
- Web site: www.ymere.nl
- Implementation partners: Ctac ('s-Hertogenbosch) and the SAP® Consulting organization

Challenges and Opportunities

- Gain information and flexibility to adapt quickly in regulated market
- Improve ability to meet current and future legal requirements

Objectives

- Rapidly install and activate new business function for Dutch Rental Law
- Unify seven divisions and newly merged company for single version of the truth

SAP Solutions and Services

- SAP ERP application
- SAP Real Estate Management application
- SAP enhancement package for SAP ERP
- SAP NetWeaver* Business Warehouse component
- SAP NetWeaver Process Integration technology

Implementation Highlights

- Involvement of users and process and data owners
- Focus on standard business processes
- Integration with non-SAP legacy applications

Why SAP

- Users' overwhelming choice
- Service-oriented architecture
- Solution openness
- Scalability

Benefits

- Increased efficiency
- Moved from multiple data sources to single version of truth
- Enabled anticipated reduction in total cost of ownership
- Gained flexibility

Existing Environment

100 separate legacy applications

Third-Party Integration

- Database: Microsoft SQL Server
- Hardware: HP
- Operating system: Microsoft





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Ymere is one of the Netherlands's largest social housing corporations. Social housing is a regulated sector, with mandates governing domicile allocation, income eligibility, family composition, and allowable rent. Ymere implemented the SAP® ERP application, along with the SAP Real Estate Management application and the SAP NetWeaver® Business Warehouse component, to get the information and flexibility it needed to thrive in this rules-based marketplace.

"The most important issues to us are consistent management and standardized processes," says Arjan van Dijk, Ymere's information manager. "We have seven divisions; each had its own process to describe the same rental object. Now we have one process flow and one way of reporting on key metrics like rental income, occupancy rates, and housing repairs."

That's brought results. "The SAP software has helped us lower costs and increase efficiency," van Dijk says.

Ymere is also installing the SAP enhancement package for SAP ERP to activate the Dutch Rental Law business function – a point system for calculating maximum allowable rents. SAP enhancement packages allow clients to deploy an

enterprise services bundle with new versions of existing SAP software components and activate only what they need, precluding the need for a major upgrade.

Key User Feedback

That's the kind of dynamic adaptability that originally steered Ymere toward SAP software. "We wanted to implement a solution with service-oriented architecture," van Dijk says. "We reviewed proposals from eight vendors and selected two. Fifty key users picked the SAP software."

size and the way its consultants work," says van Dijk. "As a result, we got the feeling that we were a very important customer."

The Right Solution and Architecture

Part of Ctac's task was interfacing the SAP software with 25 non-SAP applications and applications at a newly merged company. "For now we will still use these solutions," says van Dijk. "But over the next two years, we will move to a 'best of brand' approach,

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"It was easier to use than the other solution, it offered a wide range of functionality, and it's scalable and flexible," says van Dijk. "It's also future proof."

Standard Processes

Ymere rolled out the software with partner Ctac – an information and communication services provider. "Ctac matched up well with our company because of its

where SAP solutions will dominate the architecture."

Putting SAP software at the core of Ymere's IT strategy is how the company plans to stay flexible. "It makes us more adaptable, allowing us to meet government regulations," says van Dijk.

Implementation PartnerCtac is an SAP gold partner.



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