Amedia, Oslo, Norway

A USER-FRIENDLY STANDARDIZED SOLUTION THAT PROVIDES INCREASED CONTROL

" I'm really satisfied with SAP® BPC. The solution is easy to learn and is MS Excel-based, which all accountants already know how to use. [...] The shared system has really simplified our monthly and yearly budgeting processes.

Karen Langballe, ERP Director, Amedia

Challenges

- Changing people's habits takes time. A new IT solution is a change project
- Solution needed to cover 116 subsidiaries and a fl exible company hierarchy. It was challenging to implement and a challenge to maintain.
- Amedia is a highly decentralized organization, which is challenging in itself. To ensure common processes, the solution has to be managed centrally.

Solutions

- SAP BPC (Business Planning and Consolidation)
- Agresso accounting system
- Template-based Excel files

Benefits

- Puts the group's management in control
- MS Excel-based, which everyone knows how to use
- Flexible hierarchy structure
- Acceptance of different consolidation hierarchies
- Consolidation possible for subsidiaries and different business areas

Why NTT DATA Business Solutions?

- Knowledgeable consultants
- Focus on providing good service
- Tender process proficiency
- Many good references

Company: Amedia
Industry: Media
Products: Norway's largest publisher of local media titles and one of the country's leading media companies. The Group publishes 65 newspapers, with a total of approximately 1.9 million readers.
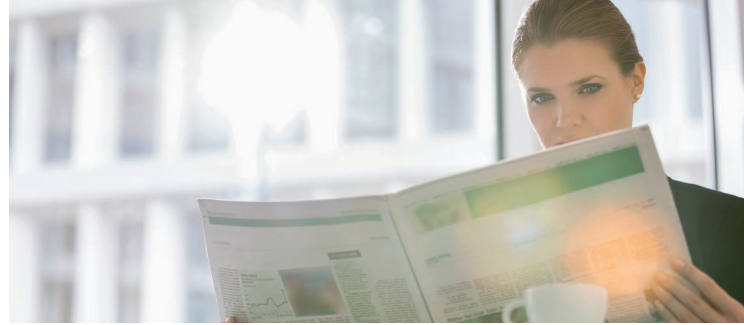**Number of Employees** 2,400
Turnover: NDK 4. 151 billion (2015)
Headquarters: Oslo, Norway

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116 Accounts Consolidated – Quickly and Accurately
Amedia is part of a competitive sector where demands on precision are high and new competitors such as Google and Facebook are making their mark, competing for advertising revenue all the time. This makes the need for relevant and accurate accounting processes that are readily available – across different business areas and subsidiaries – more critical than ever.

Amedia was the result of a merger between A-pressen and Edda Media in 2012. The new group decided to keep using Agresso as their accounting system, which was already being used by one of the parties. SAP BPC (Business Planning and Consolidation), meanwhile, was chosen as the group's new solution for budgeting and consolidation. NTT DATA Business Solutions's consultants ensured good data integration between Agresso and SAP BPC, which meant there was no need to convert any data.

This new solution is securing Amedia's access to all financial budgets and forecasts compiled for their subsidiaries, and also ensures it meets all operational requirements prescribed by law. After the merger, it was important that there was one collective system so that managers could get the necessary overview of and proximity to the new joint accounting system used across the group. The roll-out of SAP BPC has made their monthly and annual budgeting processes much more straightforward.

Complex Legal and Geographical Structure
Amedia is Norway's largest publisher of local media titles and one of the country's leading media companies. The organization's size is reflected in its complex legal structure, which currently encompasses 116 subsidiary countries. Many of these subsidiaries have their own subsidiaries, who in turn have their own subsidiaries, and so on. In some cases, the company hierarchy is seven-deep. One major

advantage of the SAP BPC solution is that this demanding hierarchy can be monitored and maintained. The solution has paved the way for various different consolidation hierarchies, which is important for maintaining the quality and keeping an overview of the accounting system.

It's not just Amedia's legal structure that is complex – the group is also spread far and wide geographically, with offices as far north as Vadsø and as far south as Halden in Norway. SAP BPC is configured and maintained centrally and used by all accounting personnel across all the regions. With 65 newspapers in their portfolio, it goes without saying that collective templates and pooling of account numbers have been important to the group. All master data now work off the same basis, meaning for example that ‚subscription' accounting processes now use the same account numbers. One solution for all, with everyone using the same standardized reports for their business.

> The entire solution is based on templates. That's why SAP BPC works. We have created a collection of standardized Excel files that all accounting personnel use. The Excel files integrated seamlessly into SAP BPC.
>
> Karen Langballe, ERP Director, Amedia

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08/2016