

## Case Study:

# Financial Accounting Hub

Big Data Meets Financial Accounting - a Simple, Yet Agile and Scalable Solution

### Overview

This Precisely customer offers a full range of communications services to more than 26 million customers in the retail mobile, fixed voice services and fixed broadband markets.

Communication services providers (CSPs) have undergone transformative change in recent years to evolve legacy infrastructures built for fixed line phone services to accommodate an expanding array of mobile and data services. This change also generates a growing list of compliance requirements as the volume, velocity and variety of data to manage continues to expand.

This customer approached Precisely with an urgent need for a scalable, performant solution to deliver the monitoring and reporting required for compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

Precisely simplified and streamlined this leading Telco's accounting solution with an enterprise-level hub to process big data in real time. Within and among applications and systems as expected, the company can ensure the information is complete, accurate, consistent and reliable.

### Business challenge

With the deadline to adopt the new accounting standards fast approaching, this company needed an accurate, agile and dependable solution to quickly handle large volumes of data without compromising applications – several disparate solutions, serving more than 350 entities, processing more than \$25 billion in annual revenue. These legacy applications were exceptionally expensive to maintain, extremely difficult to modify, and could not themselves meet the IFRS requirements.

The client searched for a cost-effective solution to handle large data volumes without compromising on data integrity or performance. Following a "cloud First" policy, they sought a cloud-hosted solution with the flexibility to run a variety of workloads, such as batch processing and advanced analytics, while meeting enterprise requirements for system integration, data security, protection and management.

### Client

Leading telecommunications company

### Industry

Media and telecommunications

### Challenges

- Mandate to restate revenue under new global accounting standards
- Multiple silos of brittle legacy billing and accounting applications
- Clear need for a scalable, big data solution

### Solution

Precisely Data360

### Results

- Compliance with new global accounting standards and efficient revenue restatement
- New, centralized accounting hub to insulate legacy applications from complex accounting rule changes
- Simplified and accelerated data collection and analytics capabilities
- Integrated data intelligence across the solution
- Real-time big data processing

Precisely Data360 eliminated the inefficiencies of disparate systems and allowed for real-time data processing and reporting at scale.

This company also needed a powerful on-cloud data management infrastructure to increase operational efficiency and reduce costs, while delivering speed and agility in handling complex accounting and reporting tasks— including automated processes to ensure data accuracy, completeness, consistency, as well as timeliness checks and reconciliations across multiple data sources. The company was exposed to significant financial and reputational risk.

## Solution

To meet the many data management, compliance and statutory reporting demands, the customer chose Precisely Data360, deployed as an off-the-shelf, single window application. The platform harnessed big data technology and transformed a patchwork of siloed accounting solutions into an effective and streamlined solution. Not only did the newly created accounting hub solve the customer's compliance challenges, the solution also provided an agile, intuitive visual interface that enables users to acquire, prep, design and analyze data in a transparent, reusable and collaborative way.

Critical capabilities of Precisely Data360 include:

- **Data Acquisition:** High-velocity, real-time data ingestion (into HDFS) engine that enables timely capture and enrichment for hundreds of millions raw data records daily, across varied formats. This high performance architecture accommodates diverse, disparate and unstructured datasets to ensure seamless fulfillment of downstream processes and business functions.
- **Data Preparation:** Allows parallel computation for lightning-fast execution of complex Extract, Transform and Load (ETL) processes and conversion into common data model where tailored data prep algorithms and business rules are executed to ensure quality.
- **Data Analysis:** Fault-tolerant and high-performance parallel processing of continuous streams of data support both reporting and disclosure functions—in particular, incoming data quality is validated to ensure “fitness for use.” This validation includes sophisticated, transparent, re-usable controls for ad hoc analysis, as well as persistent, automated monitoring for:
  - Process assurance
    - Data integrity checks
    - Reasonability checks
    - Data Transformation
    - Balancing/reconciliations
  - Financial assurance
    - Start-point financial integrity
    - Historical trending
    - Financial reconciliations
    - Journal completeness

- **Collaboration:** Seamless integration with external systems (e.g., SAP and billing systems) was quickly achieved using Precisely Data360's out-of-the-box capabilities. These included easily configurable dashboards and workflows to streamline issue resolution and encourage collaboration. Comprehensive automated exception management allows easy referral of potential problems for investigation, clear audit trails and the ability to quickly remediate errors.

## Results

Precisely Data360 helped this giant operationalize an enterprise-level accounting hub that allows for realtime data processing and reporting at scale while insulating the company from the inefficiencies of disparate legacy applications. The Precisely Data360 solution enabled the company to prove compliance with new IFRS global accounting standards. Furthermore, the solution provides a platform for ongoing compliance through extensive controls and monitoring.