

COMPANY	Mediterranean Wholesalers
LOCATION	Australia
INDUSTRY	Import, Wholesale and Distributions
PRODUCT	EXO Employer Services
PARTNER	BusinessHub

European food brand importer makes the easy switch from PowerPay to MYOB Payroll, and cuts payroll processing time in half.

INTRODUCTION

Mediterranean Wholesalers import some of Europe's finest and best known food brands. You may not even know it, in fact, but there's a good chance you have one of their products somewhere in your pantry right now.

Annalisa Tomatoes, Bio Nature, Mazzetti, Loacker, Carbonell, Saponi, Melegatti, Rocchetta and Strega are all brands Mediterranean Wholesalers' has brought to Australia.

The company has warehouses around the country, and a retail store up in Brunswick – on the northern edge of Melbourne's CBD. With lots of staff and different legal entities, processing pay has always been a manual and time-consuming process for owner-manager Charlie Madafferi.

A couple of years ago, he decided it was time to do something about that.

KEEPING IT LOCAL

For many years, Mediterranean Wholesalers had been using the standalone payroll package PowerPay. It was a fairly robust system, but not ideal for multiple entities.

There was no way of integrating it with time clocks either, which is something Mr Madafferi wanted in his store to capture staff hours more easily.

Already familiar with MYOB, he turned to MYOB's website for a list of approved EXO Payroll implementation partners.

“I wanted to work with a local business, says the manager, so I approached BusinessHub, who aren't far away down on Melbourne's Southbank. They took it from there.”

A NATURAL MOVE

Asked whether he thought there was a good time to start an implementation like this, Mr Madafferi says,

“ Personally, I would do it at the end of a financial year so there was a clean break in reporting.

“ But, ” he adds, “ the data migration from PowerPay to EXO was pretty seamless, so there’s no reason why you couldn’t do it at any time of year ”.

David Taylor, Managing Director at BusinessHub agrees.

From our point of view, it was a fairly straightforward implementation. Drawing on the expertise of our specialist time and attendance implementer Sarbag, we were able to get the whole system ready to go in under a month – which meant Charlie could process payment summaries live in June.

Mr Taylor says he thinks a lot of people on PowerPay are hesitant about making a switch like this because they worry it will take months and months.

“ The truth is that EXO Payroll, with its time clocks and time and attendance is a natural move. It’s an easy way of getting a bit of sophistication into your time capture and payroll, and it’s not complicated to implement. ”

IT’S AUTOMATIC

Two years down the line, the results are clear to see. According to Mr Madafferi, the biggest time saving with EXO Payroll is no longer having to manually key in amounts for each member of staff on pay day. Time clocks automatically capture time, and that’s fed straight into the system. Come pay day, it’s just a case of hitting a button. Another advantage is the ability to interrogate data from previous periods.

“ Previously, the only way you could look back at historical data was if you’d exported it and saved it externally, ” says Mr Madafferi, “ but with EXO, you can look back indefinitely ”.

Moving to a new financial year is now a much smoother process too.

“ In PowerPay, there were all sorts of hoops to jump through before you could close off a year. EXO just keeps rolling – which is great. ”

MUCH MORE STREAMLINED

Looking to the future, Mr Madafferi says they’re now thinking about bringing EXO for Business on board in conjunction with Symphony to help automate the order picking process in their various warehouses.

When we do, it’s good to know that we’ll be able to integrate both systems.

Until then, he’s just happy to have a streamlined time capture system.



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