

Farm First Dairy Cooperative Madison, Wisconsin Client Since 2009 Solution: Sage Intacct





#### About Farm First Dairy Cooperative

Farm First Dairy Cooperative (FFDC) was established with members in mind. Based in Madison, Wisconsin, FFDC is a grassroots cooperative dedicated to serving our dairy farmer members through policy advocacy, test verification, leader development, milk loss benefits, and other member services. We are a diverse cooperative that not only provides member services but also provides milk marketing through our Family Dairies division and milk and water testing services through our Fox Valley Quality Control Lab division.

The mission of FFDC is to provide all members with a unified voice in dairy policy, strong marketing opportunities, and valued member services through trusted first-hand industry involvement and leadership, to help members achieve their goals.





# Goals and Key Outcomes

It was easy for Vrakas/Blum Computer Consulting (VBCC) to work with FFDC because we were all motivated by the same end goal – let's make your accounting software work for you, rather than you working for your accounting software. Together, we leveraged Sage Intacct & its cloud-native, user-friendly interface to work for FFDC.

#### Key Outcomes:

- Month-end close cut by 30%
- Real-time insight into financials has improved decision-making abilities
- Quick and easy reporting which can be customized and displayed on dashboards
- Bank and credit card integration increased efficiency by 10 hours
- System-generated invoices
- Reduced IT costs on hardware and data backups





#### Better and Faster Insights to Financial Data

Heather has been the Staff Accountant at FFDC for over four years and has always hoped to be able to see the data in a more streamlined way. Now, with just a few clicks – Heather can run a Profit and Loss statement by department, she can get a list of all invoices by order type, and not only that – she can export anything to Excel in a userfriendly format.

"This is by far the best and easiest accounting system I've used in my 14 years as an accountant!"

With Sage Intacct, FFDC now also budgets by the department. All financial reports, which can be run by department or consolidated, include budget versus actual data that are provided to the Board of Directors for a quick and easy snapshot of how the company is performing.

With over ten company credit cards and multiple different bank accounts, there were a lot of manual cross-references of statements, spreadsheets, and emails at each month's end. Now, with seamless integration between Sage Intacct and their credit card company, Heather can perform reconciliation in one place – Sage Intacct! By leveraging matching rules within the software, all Heather needs to do now is look for the outliers, those pesty one-off transactions, and simply map to the correct GL account.

"The ease of reconciling with Intacct has saved me hours every month!"



## Real-Time Everything

Not having to wait for Heather to "post the batch" of AP bills or AR invoices allows the Controller and General Manager to rely on the data within Sage Intacct at any point in time. Removing the batch posting processes ensures that no one is sitting around waiting for a financial surprise – good, bad, or otherwise. All reports and dashboards display real-time data and are accessible anywhere, anytime!

Upon review of the data, most reports and dashboards have drill-down capabilities right to the source transaction. If the transaction needs to be reclassified, all it takes is a few clicks. This saves Heather and the controller so much time – from not having to manually locate the transaction to reclassifying to the correct GL account within seconds and then refreshing the report to see the data updated immediately. There isn't even time to put it on your "to-do" list, because it's so quick and easy to complete at the exact moment!

#### "Unbelievably easy to make changes or corrections without running into control errors, we just love it!"

Since Sage Intacct is a true cloud-native accounting software, quarterly updates are pushed out automatically and require no downtime. FFDC will never have to experience a true software upgrade again, nor will they need to worry about incurring additional hosting fees or maintaining a physical server onsite. Sage Intacct backs up its data automatically and is safe & secure with multi-factor authentication (MFA) in place.



## About Vrakas/Blum Computer Consulting

Vrakas/Blum Computer Consulting has been selling and implementing Sage software for over 30 years. With a team of experts who have an average of 20+ years of experience, VBCC has employees and alliance partners located across the country. As an experienced implementation partner with extensive expertise in a wide variety of industries, VBCC can assist its clients with evaluating, selecting, and implementing accounting and ERP software to increase their competitive advantage.

As a firm with Sage Platinum Partner status, reaching this achievement rewards and recognizes the outstanding performance of Sage's top business partners that serve customers and make business and community impact.

Soge Business Partner

As an implementation partner, VBCC knows the value they bring to their clients through implementation experiences, depth of industry knowledge, and a vast array of alliance partners within the network. Ensuring client satisfaction with practical software solutions and consulting services is their mission then and now.

VBCC is affiliated with Vrakas S.C., a full-service CPA and Advisory firm founded in 1971. Since its founding, they have grown and flourished. Today the firm is made up of nearly 100 professionals serving clients nationally. VBCC, combined with Vrakas, is the 13th largest Milwaukeearea management consulting firm, according to The Business Journal's April 2023 rankings.

