

Asset Management at Work for the Federal Government

Case study: German Marshall Fund

The Client:

The German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMFUS) is a nonpartisan American public policy and grant-making institution dedicated to promoting greater cooperation and understanding between the United States and Europe. The German Marshall Fund of the United States was founded in 1972 and currently has two sites in Washington, D.C, and sites in Berlin, Bratislava, Paris, Brussels, Belgrade, Ankara and Bucharest.

The Situation:

The German Marshall fund has been operating since 1972 and since then has accrued a significant number of assets. GMFUS needed to be culpable for its assets in order to increase loss prevention, more effectively track asset relocation, as well as IT asset maintenance. The primary need of the company was to be able to account for its assets for audit purposes. The German Marshall fund thus needed to be able to account for and track the following assets:

- Furniture and other fixed assets
- IT assets (including their upkeep and any software connected to them)
- Track any asset over 250 dollars
- The GMFUS has approximately 1100 assets they plan to track.

Overall the German Marshall Fund needed an asset management system that would allow it to track and maintain its assets for inventorying and audit purposes.

The Solution:

The German Marshall Fund approached E-ISG needing an asset management system. The German Marshall Fund was drawn to E-ISG and its product, Visual Asset Manager (VAM), because of the unique visual layout that VAM allowed for. As well, when comparing other asset management systems in the marketplace, Visual Asset Manager allowed for a great deal of customization for an affordable price given the budget of GMFUS. As noted, the primary concern of the GMFUS was related to being able to conduct an efficient and effective complete audit. In order to accomplish this goal, GMFUS purchased bar code scanners to be used in conjunction with VAM. By utilizing the bar code scanners, the GMFUS were able to track asset movement throughout its numerous branches and locations. After the training provided by E-ISG, the German Marshall Fund has been able to successfully tracks its assets, regardless of their type, location, or continent.

Results:

Since its implementation in early 2008, the German Marshall Fund has been able to effectively utilize Visual Asset Manager as a key component of its inventorying and auditing process. VAM is still actively used and has become an integral component in the German Marshall Fund's business operations. In the words of their information technology director Michael O'Brien "Alex and Eric could start a new consulting business on how to provide stellar customer service. With the patience of Job, they were partners with me every step of the way. I wish E-ISG did more than just VAM as they are the kind of implementation partner that just makes life easier."

About E-ISG:

E-ISG combines technology and services to address the unique challenges of Asset Management, Continuity of Operations, and Data Quality. Our experience in crafting low-impact and low-cost solutions for the Windows Mobile environment for data gathering, synchronization and correlation have been integrated seamlessly into our world-class asset management software, Visual Asset Manager (VAM). VAM enables E-ISG to have Full Accountability Mandates and to accurately reflect the true cost of business enterprise.

We focus on four key industries that have special needs related to Asset Management, Continuity of Operations and Data Quality. E-ISG has designed special features into its products to provide a truly optimized process that can be replicated across the enterprise.