LifeArc® is a medical research charity advancing science and transforming medical research into treatments for patients. They focus on improving human health by adding value to early-stage scientific research.

They have a 25 year legacy of helping scientists and organisations advance their research for patient care, including cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis and Crohn’s disease.

The challenges

**Cumbersome access to documents**
Access to documents in the source system was cumbersome due to restrictions around browser plugins and employees lacked the motivation to engage with the interface that was available.

**Inadequate file systems and processes**
A significant restructuring of the file systems and processes was required to align with how records need to be stored and accessed in SharePoint Online.

**Strict mitigation timeline**
Adherence to a strict migration timeline was mandatory to prevent additional costs due to renewal costs of Documentum license and support.

**Proprietary label requirements**
There were issues with proprietary formats and labels from the original locations as LifeArc’s Intellectual Property Management Systems was tightly integrated with assets stored in Documentum. The business process relied on external systems that has a tight integration with documents stored within Documentum.

“Working closely with Proventeq as our specialist technical partner, we were able to migrate from our legacy content management platform into Office 365 with confidence.”

Adam Lythgoe
IT Manager, Business Services, LifeArc

Company name: LifeArc
Location: UK
Industry: Medical Research
Project: Documentum to SharePoint

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Best practice strategy

As part of a holistic Office 365 adoption strategy, proper project management plans were created, agreed upon and executed from both sides. Necessary governance was set up within Office 365 as well as a clear and effective communications and training plan was put in place to guarantee successful adoption.

Customised migration
All enterprise content was migrated from cabinets in the Documentum system to specially provisioned department sites on SharePoint Online, while all user content was migrated to their individual OneDrive allocations.

Secure content migration
Content was made secure by translating security policies (in adherence with strict regulatory requirements for the Finance and HR depts) from Documentum to SharePoint.

Creating user friendly interfaces
A user-friendly interface was provided for all users to work with which included the ability to co-author documents and leverage integrated solutions to auto-tag content, especially for the Legal department.

Deploying Microsoft Teams for project work
A dedicated area for the Projects team to work on active and closed projects was created along with custom SPFx components to facilitate better working with projects. Deploying Microsoft Teams for these projects provided users the platform for better project collaboration.

Ensuring data integrity
To ensure data integrity, data corruption in the source was resolved using Proventeq Migration Accelerator and third-party systems integrating to Documentum (such as the Intellectual Property management platform) were updated.

The results

Significant reduction in annual costs
Improved collaboration and compliance of the document management system because SharePoint and Teams, in conjunction with the Office 365 suite, creates a virtual workplace where teams can meet, collaborate, complete tasks and work on documents from a centrally based repository. SharePoint enables employees to access business content from anywhere and from multiple starting points (e.g. O365 apps, iOS apps, browsers, etc.).

By transitioning to SharePoint Online, LifeArc has been able to make significant (up to 80%) cost savings by reducing licensing, infrastructure, and support costs.

Easier but more powerful administration and management coupled with provisions for Data Loss Prevention to protect LifeArc’s academic research.

80% COST REDUCTION

7.3M ITEMS to Microsoft Office

“Moving to Office 365 was a key component of our on-going plan to centralise and improve accessibility and gain more meaningful insights from our business and scientific data.”

Adam Lythgoe
IT Manager, Business Services, LifeArc

Make your content work smarter with Proventeq

Proventeq specialises in migration from non-Microsoft and legacy Microsoft systems to SharePoint. Our AI-powered migration and productivity solutions turn your SharePoint adoption challenges into opportunities.

Find out more at www.proventeq.com

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