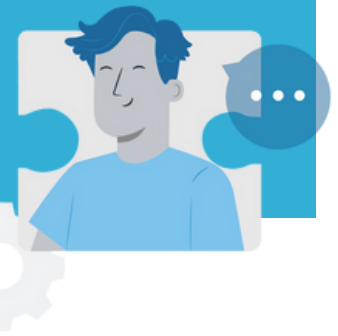# EMPOWERED FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

INTEGRATED, CLOUD-BASED BUDGETING, FORECASTING & REPORTING

AUTOMATION

Budgeting using spreadsheets can be complex, time-consuming, and error-ridden. Save time and improve accuracy by automating the budgeting process with IDU. Empower business managers, automate data collection, manage budget versions, and improve data integrity to save time.

FINANCE AT THE HELM

IDU is Finance administered and maintained, with little or no reliance on your IT resources. Departments have the ability to plan and forecast simultaneously and in real-time and CFOs can be confident their decisions are based on accurate and up-to-date figures.

COLLABORATION

IDU goes beyond traditional planning by connecting strategic, financial, departmental, and operational plans in real-time, breaking down silos and greatly improving collaboration and accountability.

SEAMLESS INTEGRATION

Seamlessly integrate financial management into your existing IT landscape. The system integrates harmoniously with most ERP systems including Sage, Acumatica, and Dynamics 365, interfacing directly with the underlying financial accounts to seamlessly provide a view of actual financial information related to approved budgets.

ON PREMISE OR CLOUD-BASED

You can choose to deploy IDU-Concept on-premise, in a private cloud of your choice or in our Microsoft Azure-based cloud —all the platforms offer exactly the same functionality. IDU Cloud is powered by Microsoft Azure, providing world- class security, reliability, scalability, and performance. IDU Cloud is a SaaS solution that is extremely cost-effective and quick to deploy.

ENHANCED DECISION MAKING

IDU enables deeper insight into your operating costs, allowing for better expense management and increased efficiencies. Having instant access to up-to-date, accurate financial information drives agility and enhanced decision-making.

MODULAR AND SCALABLE

Organisation's wishing to access greater functionality and additional modules to meet growing or changing requirements can do so with ease.

ALWAYS-ON SUPPORT

User support and training is available both in-person and via the IDU Training Academy, offering a comprehensive video library with training for both Administrators and Users on all aspects of the system.

TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR BUDGETING PROCESS WITH IDU-CONCEPT

Simple, fast, agile, award-winning Corporate Performance Management tools

IDU streamlines the budgeting and forecasting process, frees up financial managers to be more strategic and business to be more agile and responsive, which is essential in a disrupting market.

Financial budgeting is an essential part of every successful business. By providing reliable access to defined and disclosed budgets, IDU-Concept allows financial and non-financial managers to be in control of their accounts at all times.

Now, non-financial managers can easily give you the figures you need, in a standardised format that can be rolled-up into a single version of the truth. You bypass the ineffective, timeconsuming, and soul-destroying spreadsheet go-round, shaving weeks and months off the budget cycle in the process.

And, importantly, by providing increased visibility and transparency, especially of business strategy, you foster buy-in to, and ownership of, the budget.

IDU makes budget capture simple and fast and reduces budget cycles from months to weeks. Our clients typically realise a return on their investment within the first year of implementation.

A typical enterprise resource planning solution will budget a value for an account for a year and provide an additional facility to split this over the financial periods within the year.

With IDU-Concept you can capture a total and spread it across periods, build a budget item by item for certain accounts, or even build budgets based on units with linked components computing budgets for multiple accounts, based on a single unit driver.

You can budget manpower costs by grade or by person. You can create seamless CAPEX budgets and automatically compute depreciation, acquisition costs, and disposal costs.

IDU-Concept allows you to automatically compute budgets for accounts based on present allocation percentages and rules.

Or automatically calculate allocation percentages from other data sets.

Activity budgeting with its facility to build complex calculations delivers multiple inputs and versatility to the budget process.

Project budgeting creates facilities to add and maintain multi-year project budget items.

The real power of the system lies in the web-based, realtime aggregation of values to provide instant summaries of total budget values by region, division, company, or using any other administrator-defined summary.

REAL TIME

The application allows users to access and update the system in real-time. Users are able to capture their budgets and view the results immediately. There are also indicators built into the system so that the current status can be visually flagged, signalling the stage and progress of the budget at any point in time.

COMMENTS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

IDU offers as standard functionality the facility to capture comments on each account as the budget is created. Users are also able to attach and link supporting documentation if required.

CAPTURE BUDGETS AGAINST NON-FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

Budgets and forecasts can be captured against non-financial accounts such as headcount and square meters. The financial budget can then be driven as a result.

EXCEL INTEGRATION

Excel integration, allows users to upload and download account information with ease.

DRILL DOWN

Drill-down from the highest level, normally company and aggregate account (e.g. total income), down to individual department/account and even to underlying budget elements.

MULTIPLE STRUCTURES AND VIEWS

The system accommodates multiple structures enabling data to be aggregated in real-time providing many different summary views.

NUMEROUS BUDGET TYPES

IDU is available in **Light (L)**, **Standard (S)** and **Enterprise (E)** Editions, with varying levels of functionality and complexity to meet your company's specific requirements.

IDU-Concept accommodates numerous budget types, depending on the edition of the software in use, these include:

• Standard budgeting (L, S, E)
• Fixed budgeting (L, S, E)
• Itemised budgeting (S, E)
• Grade based employee budgeting (S, E)
• Unit based budgeting (S, E)
• Depreciation budgeting (E)
• Individual employee budgeting (E)
• Activity based budgeting (E)
• Project based budgeting (E)
• Percentage and dynamic reallocations (E)
• Departmental transfer budgets (E).

COMPLEMENTARY MODULES

There are also a number of complementary modules available to further enhance your budgeting and reporting experience, these include: Revenue Budgeting & Reporting, Report Scheduler, Financial Modelling, Adjustments, Tenant Budgeting and Complex Consolidations.

"The thing I like most about IDU is the ease with which I can see the high level results but then also have the ability to drill down to a GL level. Users are able to drill down to their actual expenses to keep track of spending. IDU-Concept reduces the turnaround time for the budget as well as assists with the ongoing monitoring of the budget. Users are also able to keep tabs on their own departments in detail without having to use up the finance departments time in responding to queries."

CLINTON MARTIN
Financial Manager, *Coronation Fund Managers*

MODEL, PLAN AND
PREPARE FOR THE

GET INSIGHTS INTO THE FUTURE OF YOUR BUSINESS FOR UP TO 5 YEARS WITH IDU.

Over the last 20 years, we have experienced an unprecedented amount of upheaval and disruption, leaving us to feel like our most fundamental assumptions can fail us overnight. As accountants we're especially vulnerable—what is the value of all our budgets and forecasts and planning in such an unpredictable world?

Help your business prepare for the future with "what-if" scenario planning from IDU. The IDU-Concept Financial Modelling Module allows you to prepare for the future with innovative top down budgeting and 'what-if' scenario planning.

TOP DOWN BUDGETING

IDU complements its powerful bottom up budgeting capability with innovative real time top down budgeting functionality.

This functionality can be used in conjunction with the bottom up budgeting modules to provide an interactive target budget for the core bottom up budgeting process. Capture high level target data and allow the system to push those figures and scenarios out across the organisation using IDU's unique multi-structural environment.

Create detailed budgets by account and department, in order to realise the impact at a posting level based on the high-level input.

Target data is pushed down using an existing data set, budgeted or actuals, as the source for posting level percentage allocation.

Adjustments can be made at a lower level, even posting level, within the selected structure and the results viewed in multiple structures. The top down budget can be used as such or as the target set of data in a bottom up budgeting process.

ASSUMPTION BASED FORECASTS:

Get insight into the future of your business for up to 5 years using multiple scenarios.

Assumptions can be manually defined or predicted using historic data and Artificial Intelligence. The assumption based forecast features allow you to prepare for the future with innovative 'what-if' scenario planning with on demand recalculation to accommodate changing assumptions.

Multiple assumptions can be set up and adjusted to calculate specific increases or decreases per year, per period, using percentages. You can then link these assumptions to your accounts and departments, enabling real-time extrapolation up to five years into the future for multiple scenarios, such as optimistic, neutral and pessimistic.

The resultant budget fiscal set, complete with all the appropriate security and settings, can be shared with end users for their input and commentary.

The module offers online and paper-based reporting on budgeted or forecasted projections, with overriding ability to revert back to the original assumptions.

The Financial Modelling module can be used in conjunction with Power BI or PowerPivot to slice and dice the underlying data, you also have the option to re-input the resulting output back into IDU. Prepare for your business's financial future with Financial Modelling from IDU- Concept.

ACCELERATED AND SIMPLIFIED REPORTING

Real-time access to critical business data for empowered decision making.

The IDU Reporting Module gives you high level, real-time access to critical business data so that your teams can make decisions based on accurate information and evidence.

Our intuitive toolset is a two-way interface between the budget and the general ledger system, providing a 360-degree view of the data and putting the most important metrics in one place.

With the option of daily, weekly and monthly financial reporting, managers are able to be truly accountable for their own financial information.

The Financial Reporting Module will complement the general ledger and streamline the management reporting process, creating transparency and business manager ownership.

"IDU-Concept allows real-time, up to date analysis against budget enabling all divisional managers to track their progress and thus reduces month-end reporting processes as managers are able to review their results at any time in the month. The monthly board reporting now can involve all areas of the business simultaneously and has reduced the amount of time required to complete the review of the financials."

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VARIANCE ANALYSIS

The Reporting Module allows users to keep track of their actuals as they occur, while also providing tools to analyse this data against the existing budget as well as against comparative years and forecasts. An administrator is able to set tolerances to highlight adverse variances that exceed predetermined tolerance levels, in both percentage or value terms.

To assist in understanding the variances, the system supports drill down from the highest level to individual department or account, the underlying nominal journal entry, and even an image of the invoice and purchase order. This gives managers the ability to identify the business areas responsible for major variances.

Variance Analysis functionality allows the user the ability to add explanations to the actuals, budgets, and forecast variances on an account level (summary or posting).

RECODES AND ACCRUALS

Recodes functionality not only allows users to indicate items in their detail ledgers that they feel may be wrong but also empowers them to suggest how the "errors" could be corrected. Integration with the general ledger allows for seamless adjustment of approved changes.

The Accruals functionality allows the user to have the ability to create accrual entries at a cost centre level for items that they feel have not been accounted for.

ALERTS

The Alerts functionality allows you to push key data such as transactions, balance, and variance thresholds directly to a user via an email or SMS. An administrator can select a method of communication for the alert, determine when an alert is triggered and the timing of the notification. This ensures key people are kept aware of critical business information.

ANALYTICS

In addition to the standard IDU reports, customised SQL Reporting Services reports can be written to meet your specific reporting requirements.

The Reporting Module also has built-in analytics capabilities. These are powered by Microsoft Power Pivot, PowerView, and PowerBI and deliver true slice-and- dice facilities around the financial information held within the IDU database. Information can be viewed graphically and is easily customised to meet the specific needs of individual clients.

This intuitive toolset of dashboards provides a 360-degree view of the data within the IDU database, putting the most important metrics in one place, in real-time, and across devices.

DASHBOARDS AND RATIOS

IDU Dashboards can be used to monitor critical information at a glance. Whether it is an overview of tasks requiring attention such as ratios, budget completion, fiscal set status, budget types requiring recalculations or unread conversations.

LAYOUT PROFILES AND REPORT PROFILES

The system administrator has the ability to create multiple accounts and department hierarchies. These can be viewed online and reported against, eliminating the need to develop or hard code relationships for various reporting requirements.

They are also able to customise multiple user-specific screen layouts that can include variations such as what data is displayed, or which calculations are performed. In so doing, different users will experience the software in a way that is relevant to their requirements.

User reporting profiles can be created to enable numerous different users to each be able to have their own unique report profile to suit their individual requirements, this governs what reports or grouping of reports will be available to each user.