

# MicrOpay Meridian boosts strategic focus, data visibility & efficiency for ASX-listed company

Cuts time spent on payroll operation by half



*Too often, the payroll function is viewed as a cumbersome, albeit important, monthly, fortnightly or even weekly chore that interferes with the more strategic activities of the accounting department. Subsequently, it can be out on a limb, with only a vague link to budget planning and forecasting.*

*As an ASX listed organisation, Working Systems Solutions Ltd. (WSS), could not afford for its payroll function to be disconnected from its main accounting activities.*

## *working systems*



### **MicrOpay Meridian, specifically designed for current Australian conditions**

Simon Alden, WSS's Payroll Manager, said, "As a publicly listed organisation, we are audited every six months, so we need our payroll data to be as visible as all other accounts-related data. And, as a fast-growing company, we needed payroll to be an integral part of our budgeting and business planning."

Until contacting Sage MicrOpay, WSS was using a small business 'off-the-shelf' payroll package to handle all of its accounting activities. But, with 53 staff today, the organisation had simply outgrown the small business solution. Leave accruals were particularly difficult to track, and balances per employee had to be re-checked monthly. As a result, Alden estimates that the payroll function used to account for nearly 50 percent of his workload.

He said, "As we grew, it became increasingly difficult to extract – let alone analyse - the data we needed from the previous system. We could get a historical report on what we had paid people, but not why, which undermined future business planning. And there was no chance of integrating this information with data in our other financial systems. "Worse, because I didn't trust the data I did get, I triple checked everything, which severely hampered turnaround times."

WSS searched for an alternative mid-market payroll management solution that would support its rapid growth, make the payroll function more efficient and enable a more integrated and strategic approach to payroll management. It also wanted a payroll solution that would integrate into WSS's own Harmony time and attendance and commercially-sold financial packages.

It selected MicrOpay Meridian, designed for medium-sized Australian organisations that are well established or are growing quickly. It has been specifically designed for current Australian conditions, legislation, awards and customs, and offers rich functionality and flexibility at a competitive price. Alden said, "As soon as we saw the MicrOpay Meridian payroll management solution demonstration, we knew we would buy it."

**"It is extremely easy to use, and offers vastly superior querying and reporting capabilities."**

**Simon Alden - Payroll Manager**

MicrOpay Meridian delivers simple-to-use but very powerful online search and query facilities. Plus it uses highly versatile 'Grid' displays that enable fast exporting of data in a number of formats including Microsoft® Excel, Text, HTML and PDF.

This provides an easy-to-use interface which integrates with commonly used applications. Alden said, "It's so intuitive to use that even ad-hoc queries are easy. Now, I can pull down a report in five to ten minutes, which used to take me a good hour or two."

Further, while the superannuation management capability of the previous system was satisfactory for WSS, MicrOpay Meridian provides the company with the added benefit of compliance with SGC and choice of fund legislation.

### **The benefits of using MicrOpay Meridian have been twofold for WSS**

Firstly, Alden's payroll related activities have been reduced to just 20 percent of his workload, which has freed him up to focus on more strategic business activities such as business analysis and forecasting. He said, "I simply trust the accuracy of the data I'm now getting from my payroll system, so I just process it without all the checks I used to make."

Secondly, the payroll data itself is now used in a more strategic way, to help diagnose trends and plot future investment. Because MicrOpay Meridian integrated seamlessly into WSS's time and attendance, HR and financial packages, Alden said, "now we can take a holistic view of planning."

"We're delighted with MicrOpay Meridian; it hasn't just improved our payroll process, it has changed the way we can view the payroll function – as something that contributes to the effective management and planning of our business," said Alden.

**Ph: 1300 729 229**  
**enquiries@micropay.com.au**  
**www.sagemicropay.com.au**

**sage MicrOpay**