

# Custom Application to Efficiently Collect Data from Business Users and Sources

*Integrate Data from Multiple Sources into a Single Database Resulting in a Single Source of Truth*

## Overview

Proper data collection is an essential exercise that often gets overlooked. Architecting a sound data collection practice reduces data transformation efforts which leads to more effective quality assurance and reporting capabilities. PowerApps is a platform that provides rapid application development that is fully customizable for client needs. By developing and implementing PowerApps, it is possible to regain control over data quality. Employees can worry less about rogue data and shift their focus to increasing reporting capabilities thus driving higher business value. PowerApps offers great features for data security and authentication can be managed through Microsoft Azure active directory. PowerApps can also be accessed via cloud and is fully mobile. Gone are the days where field employee had to log-on to a connected computer in order to input data.



**Industry:** Energy  
**Location:** Calgary, AB  
**Size:** 1,500+

## The Challenge

Our client's Project Engineering department manages a budget of \$100million+ and works with 50+ project managers who provide project Forecast and Actuals. Info Path forms were used previously for each project, but the complexity amplified with each project having multiple work order numbers. In order to submit a summary, project managers had to manually punch in the Actual and Forecasted numbers along with metadata coming from multiple sources. This process would have to be repeated for every single work order number. This process was highly vulnerable to mistakes, labour intensive and often resulted in duplicated data. Our challenge was in implementing a simpler system by utilizing the latest Microsoft tools available (i.e., PowerApps). The team was to accomplish two main goals by the end of the project:

- Auto sum and populate project actuals and additional relevant data coming from multiple data sources
- Allow project managers to submit their project related information in a standard format to be analyzed and viewed by managers in near real time

## Company Bio

Client is a North American energy infrastructure company based in Calgary, Alberta. The company operates in three business segments: gas, power generation, and utilities.

**100%** Standardized Data

**1000+** Man Hours Saved Per Year



Optimized Utilization of Microsoft PowerApps

## The Solution

Raven Bay harnessed the power of Microsoft PowerApps to accomplish this challenge:

- A custom PowerApp was developed for collection of data from project managers and provision of available data from different sources
- The custom application was connected to numerous data sources to automatically populate mass amounts of data in a standard format
- Microsoft Dataverse (cloud-based data storage service) was used as the backend to collect data in one place and enable availability for further analysis

## The Results

Raven Bay's innovative approach provided a PowerApps solution that performs the following tasks:

- Collects data from multiple sources and users and submits it to centralized database (Dataverse)
- Provides a cleaner and more efficient data collection process that can be accessed by any device, anywhere
- Gives a quick overview/comparison of annual and monthly data without any risk of mistakes or duplicates
- Centralized data storage for new data submissions and allows editing of existing data reducing labour intensive work

*"This tool has streamlined our data collection process, which has increased our data quality and speed, and transformed very tedious process into a simple and reliable process"*

*- Business User*