



## Breast Cancer Now maximises finance efficiency with Advanced – and looks to a future in the Cloud

Breast Cancer Now is a research and care charity, determined to make sure anyone affected by breast cancer gets the best possible treatment and care. We work side-by-side with hospitals and patients to improve breast cancer services. We currently fund almost 340 of the brightest minds and 80 cutting-edge projects in breast cancer research.

### Software that supports our Finance Team

We have used OpenAccounts from Advanced for over eight years and it has served us well through a number of challenges – including two mergers in the last six years. During a merger the whole dynamic of the finance system can change in the way cost centres and projects are designed, and the objectives we have in place. However, each time when we reviewed our options with the board and OpenAccounts went up for tenure against the other company's finance systems it won hands down. This is because it is a robust, customisable and cost-effective system that provides us with all the functionality we need.

Over the years as an Advanced customer we have leveraged more than just finance from this software. We also have expenses embedded within our solution, as well as document management, which has been invaluable. We save so much time compared to when we used to have paper documents everywhere, and we love that it is all fully integrated. It reduces the amount of admin time our Finance Team have to spend on transactions and processes, and means we are freed up to focus on more

strategic accounting tasks.

Our Finance Manager, Simon Pascal, comments: "The functionality of Advanced's solution has been excellent over the years, and it has continued to develop and improve alongside us as a Finance Team. I have had experience with lots of big finance systems in previous roles, and OpenAccounts is the best I have come across. You get the quality and depth of product functionality, but without a hefty price tag. As a charity, controlling spend is really important and the team at Advanced have been able to help with that."

OpenAccounts makes reporting a whole lot easier for us, and the interfaces and integration with other systems are powerful. It has an excellent, flexible design and we can easily drill down to the data we need. It also supports our delegation of duties which improves productivity – juniors enter information, supervisors audit and managers update.

# BREAST CANCER NOW

### Client >

Breast Cancer Now

### Sector >

Not-for-Profit

### Project >

Improving finance efficiency with OpenAccounts

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Simon Pascal > Finance Manager > Breast Cancer Now

# Breast Cancer Now Case Study

## What makes working with Advanced different?

The team at Advanced, and the service we receive from them, is exceptional. The Support, Development and Product Teams are always available to take any questions and to help us when we need them. They are highly knowledgeable and extremely professional. We know that with Advanced we are never on our own - we have a trusted partner that is committed to our success and ensures we get the absolute best from the system.

Simon adds: "The support is second to none. If I have an issue I simply go to Advanced to get it resolved - everyone in my team is then really impressed that I was able to sort it! I count my contacts at Advanced as friends - if they visit my office I even know how they take their coffee! We have a wonderful working relationship."

A key benefit of being an Advanced customer is the extensive network of organisations they work with and bring together. When we were originally looking at selecting our finance software they put us in touch with a UK university who was using the solution. The information and recommendation we received from them quickly helped us make up our minds. We also attend Advanced World, the annual customer event, every year and enjoy meeting other users and learning about what's coming next in the product. It is an opportunity to find out more about the other solutions Advanced has to offer as well.

## The Cloud is the future

OpenAccounts works really well for us, but we recognise that moving to a true Cloud solution is the way forward. Our IT Team has implemented a Cloud-first strategy across the organisation, and Advanced has been able to support us with this as we take our first steps.

The team at Advanced has demoed their Cloud-based solution, Cloud Financials, which really impressed both finance and IT colleagues. The unprecedented challenges of this year have clearly shown how important Cloud software is, as we moved to full remote working. Moving forward we want to be able to leverage the benefits of the Cloud - such as included updates, a Software-as-a-Service pricing model, data storage backups, saving space on servers and more.

Simon sums up: "We are a service department, so we have to keep looking for ways to improve what we provide. The Cloud is the future of finance. Working with Advanced, we are confident that they will support us every step of the way on this journey. We're looking forward to continuing that partnership over time and migrating to Cloud Financials is part of that."

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Simon Pascal >  
Finance Manager >  
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## More information

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