

# EDGEWATER BEACH RESORT



## The organization

Edgewater Beach Resort is a premier full-service Panama City golf and beach resort located in beautiful Panama City Beach, Florida. Within Edgewater Beach Resort's 110 acres on North Florida's Gulf Coast, guests will enjoy the most extensive list of amenities and activities available in Panama City Beach. Edgewater Beach Resort has so much to offer, it's the perfect location for an intimate weekend for two, week-long business retreats or a month long beach family vacation.

## Edgewater Beach Resort property amenities & services include:

- Secured, gated property
- Hair and nail salon
- 11,500 sq. foot Lagoon pool with rock formation islands and water falls
- 11 property swimming pools
- Four property Jacuzzis
- Three private property restaurants: Palapa, Bimini Beach Bar and Pizza Hut®
- Live music on Lagoon Pool deck during season

Edgewater Beach Resort is just one of the Edgewater group of resorts:

- Majestic Beach Towers
- Long Beach Resort
- En Soleil
- Hombre Golf Club, PGA course

## Edgewater Beach Resort

Located in Panama City Beach, along a coastline recently returned to its original splendor through a \$21 million restoration project, Edgewater Beach Resort brings together the best of the land and the sea to create an oasis for guests of all ages. Wrapped in the comfort of being a true gated community, Edgewater's 110-acre expanse incorporates an array of activities and amenities sure to make any vacation a success.

## The challenge

Edgewater Beach Resort was using outdated financial and front office systems. As the business continued to expand, the existing system became unable to grow with them. Edgewater Beach Resort is responsible for seven properties as well as multiple condominium associations. With a brand new property about to open, Emerald Beach Resort was informed that its existing system was limited in the number of companies that can be created and there was no additional room for the new resort. Financial reporting was very limited and the resort was fairly locked down in the way the financials looked. Changes were difficult to make and budget to actual reporting had to be done manually.

A very important consideration was ease of integration with other systems. As a multi property resort, Edgewater required ease of integration of the Front Office and POS systems and the ability to report statistic's for these systems in the financials. This was a critical requirement as Edgewater did not want to create a custom integration. It needed something it could use to support easily itself with its existing staff.

## Why Microsoft Dynamics GP

BDO was selected to implement the new system based on its extensive experience in the hospitality industry and specifically with integrating to the chosen front office system, IQWare. BDO also provided experienced project management and skills with operational change along with expertise with finance and operational systems.

## SECTOR

Hospitality

## ABOUT BDO

BDO International is a world wide network of public accounting firms, called BDO Member Firms. Each BDO Member Firm is an independent legal entity in its own country. The combined fee income of all the BDO Member Firms, including the members of their exclusive alliances, was \$5.03 billion in 2009. The global network has 1,138 offices in 110 countries and more than 46,000 people provide advisory services throughout the world. BDO is the brand name for the BDO International network and for each of the BDO Member Firms.

[www.bdointernational.com](http://www.bdointernational.com)

## ABOUT BDO IN CANADA

BDO is the sixth largest accounting and advisory firm in Canada with 95 offices nationwide. Our professionals have the expertise to serve owner-managed, large and mid-market companies, communities and non-profits in a broad range of industries.



We suggested Microsoft Dynamics GP to address Edgewater's requirements for the following reasons:

**Product strength for financial requirements and integrate to operational systems**

- Microsoft Dynamics GP provided the financial reporting flexibility that Edgewater needed to report the monthly financials with budget to actual and statistical reporting
- Monthly financials needed to be created direct from the system with no re-entry to Excel
- Using the standard Dynamics Integration tools, data from the Front Office system can be easily important to Dynamics GP, these easy to use tools could be managed by the existing finance and IT staff without hiring developers or staff with unique skills

**Ease of use**

- The Edgewater Beach Resort staff is already very familiar with Microsoft products, specifically Excel, Word and Outlook. With a standard Windows interface, Dynamics GP is an easy financial system to learn. Users are able to easily leverage their existing skills with Microsoft products because Dynamics GP uses similar navigation
- As the staff at Edgewater changes, new users are able to learn the system easily; this will minimize the learning curve and increase new hire productivity

**Vendor stability**

- Edgewater Beach Resort is a 24 hour operation with seven properties and it is critical that it operates technology that is widely recognized and supported. This increases its ability to obtain remote support from skilled professionals
- Microsoft Dynamics GP runs on the proven industry standard database, Microsoft SQL and is currently in Release 10.0; this is a mature product with a proven track record for stability in the market
- By using proven technology Edgewater Beach Resort will be able to maximize the return on its investment and continue to build on its existing Microsoft technology

**The solution and the technology**

The new system designed and implemented by BDO, consists of the following Dynamics GP Modules for Release 10.0 delivered on Microsoft Windows Server, Microsoft SQL Server, Microsoft Windows and Terminal Server Technology.

<b>Financials</b>	<b>Reporting &amp; tools</b>
General Ledger	FRx
Bank Reconciliation	Integration Manager
Payables Management	Business Portal
Receivables Management	System Manager
Refund Cheques	Smartlist

**The results**

- Edgewater Beach Resort now operates all its businesses in Dynamics GP and has unlimited room to add new companies as required
- All financials statements are produced directly from GP, budgets are tracked and actual to budget reporting is available easily at any time in the month
- The elimination of shadow systems and manual data capture has improved data integrity, accuracy and timelines
- Front office and POS system transactions are integrated to Dynamics GP, the integration is operated and maintained by the existing Edgewater staff and new hires were not required to manage the new systems

BDO Solutions helps small, medium and large size organizations align technology to their overall business strategies using Microsoft technology. We specialize in implementing Microsoft Dynamics GP and NAV and Microsoft Dynamics CRM enabling our clients to streamline their business processes and improve overall operational efficiency. For additional information please contact:

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