Centerra Gold implements operational consistency and best practices in mining in less than 100 days with ABB Ability™ Ellipse® EAM
The client

The Öksüt Gold Project, located in the Kayseri province of south-central Turkey, was originally an exploration joint venture between Centerra and Stratex International formed in 2009. By 2013, Centerra Gold, the largest Western-based gold producer in Central Asia, became the sole owner of the Öksüt Gold Project.

The challenge

The change to independent operations became a catalyst for Centerra Gold to standardize its business processes across several diverse mines and office locations – so began its evaluation of enterprise asset management (EAM) and enterprise resource planning (ERP) solutions to find the one that would best fit its needs.

“We needed a solution that would help us build process consistency across the organization.”

Adil Mehmood
Director of IT and Communications
Centerra Gold

Centerra evaluated several EAM and ERP solutions. Ultimately, Centerra identified that it was not just consistency that they needed, but rather to consistently apply mining operation best practices across locations. For this reason, they chose ABB Ability™ Ellipse® EAM.

The solution

For many years, ABB’s flagship EAM solution, Ellipse, has successfully supported some of the world’s largest mining operations with highly customizable and powerful functionality. As a leader in EAM, ABB understands the challenges that time- and cost-constrained companies face when implementing such a robust solution. So when ABB introduced the ability to implement Ellipse EAM with pre-configured industry best practices learned over time, Centerra knew that it would have minimal project risk.

Ellipse EAM’s preconfigured functionality meant that Centerra could take advantage of time-tested processes in mining operations at the onset. Additionally, less customization would require a shorter implementation window as well as fewer resources for implementation and ongoing administration.

According to Adil Mehmood, Centerra’s director of IT and communications, “Ellipse EAM’s standardized business processes offered a strong foundation for building consistency. And, because it’s based on years of best practices in mining operations, we expect it to elevate the quality of our processes as well.”

Ellipse EAM offers Centerra the best of asset management functionality for mining, developed over 39+ years. The solution’s role-based business process focus includes easy-to-use online process diagrams, forms and training tools that gave Centerra a shorter training and solution adoption time, and a faster time to value.

Additionally, it is a valuable resource for the future, since the online training resources and tools will be available to new staff as the company grows.
The results

Prepared for growth
Ellipse EAM is designed to grow with a business by allowing functionality to be adopted over time. This means that customers can implement only the functionality needed to support the current stage in the business’s lifecycle. Ellipse EAM supports operations from planning and construction through all operational stages.

Ease of implementation
The flexibility of Ellipse EAM gives Centerra the ability to expand in functionality and capability as its needs grow. This staged approach not only created a compelling budgeting benefit, with its low entry cost compared to the expense and complexity of a full EAM/ERP system, it also expedited the implementation, reducing the time needed to be fully productive. Centerra went live on Ellipse EAM in under 100 days.

“The clearly-defined business structures and models built into the software enabled us to accelerate our deployment, as we only needed to implement the functionality we need now,” said Adil, “which also saved personnel resources and time.”

Best practice consistency
“We know that Ellipse EAM will provide increased efficiency in our day-to-day operations,” said Adil. “We also expect to see an additional return on our investment through enhancements to our business and operational practices.”

The standardization of business processes that Centerra found so desirable in the initial implementation will be applied more widely when Ellipse EAM is implemented at other locations. At Centerra, each company maintains a complete, local set of books – what’s referred to in their system as a district. Ellipse EAM gives Centerra’s management visibility into timely data and regular reports across districts. The ability to support centralized data access and analytics was one of the key differentiators cited by Adil in selecting Ellipse EAM.

As more districts implement Ellipse EAM, they will be able to:
- Better manage materials usage and equipment
- Look across multiple companies
- Consolidate requirements
- Leverage purchasing power

By having the big-picture view of assets, Centerra will be able to more effectively allocate and use equipment and get to a new level of business efficiency. As Centerra expands their Ellipse EAM use, they will continue to introduce mature business processes across the districts and capture bottom-line operational savings.

Why choose ABB Ability Ellipse EAM?
- Pre-defined, standardized business processes simplify implementation and uptake
- Low entry costs
- Add functionality as needed
- Time to productivity: less than 100 days