The customer
The organization is a large global asset and wealth management firm with offices in several countries across the globe. The firm offers a broad range of strategic investment capabilities for its diverse client base, which includes institutions, intermediaries and individuals.

The challenge
At the firm, one of the most challenging issues was the complexity and siloed nature of their market data infrastructure. Because the firm was spread across several geographies, their market data organization had to deal with a variety of products and data sets from various vendors. That meant managing inconsistent data, high cost and restricted internal usage of data. The firm worked with several vendors, with one vendor dominating others, and wanted to rebalance their vendor portfolio. The leadership team initiated a review of their market data infrastructure, recognizing that reshaping their infrastructure had the potential not only to help them do business, but also improve the way that they do it.

The asset manager embarked on a process to hire specialists in testing data for investment noise. They also decided to rethink their data management strategy, and implement a platform for their investment managers to connect the information, people and technology needed to manage money in real time. The platform, delivered by a third party, combined sophisticated risk analytics with comprehensive portfolio management, trading and operations tools. This third-party front-to-back office platform is powered by pricing and reference data from Refinitiv. The firm had a need to distribute this data to other functions, so it was crucial that the data being used across functions was consistent across the whole organization.

The firm also had a large quant research operation actively consuming data from Refinitiv. The data requirements of the quant team were rapidly evolving as they experimented with various data sets. Quant analysts were looking for data that could help them more efficiently identify genuine alpha opportunities and get differentiated strategies to market ahead of their competitors. The data scientists and quants wanted the flexibility to have trial access to all of Refinitiv data in order to test whether it offered potential quant research value before making commercial commitments to purchase data sets.
The solution

Refinitiv worked with the firm to evaluate their data requirements at the enterprise level. As a result, both parties developed a mutually beneficial partnership in which Refinitiv provided data services across the firm. The agreement included Eikon financial desktop access for all relevant users in the firm globally, limitless access to pricing and reference data outside of their third-party platform, increased access to quant data through Refinitiv data feeds, vast data access in Refinitiv quantitative data management platform – QA Direct® and all of their existing Refinitiv services upgraded to the latest versions.

The firm was particularly attracted to the trial environment “Content Sandbox” concept whereby Refinitiv granted the flexibility to assess additional services in order to test commercial viability, content and technology value. Refinitiv also provided extensive implementation support and on-site user training to ensure successful implementation.

Customer benefits

By partnering with Refinitiv, this asset management firm was able to find a pathway to a longer-term market data strategy inclusive of technology, trading, content and desktop solutions – all while providing cost savings and budget transparency.

The firm enjoyed the benefits of unlimited access to the same source of pricing and reference data across front, middle and back office for all internal systems and services, enabling consistency of data across functions. This partnership simplified the suite of services by upgrading to strategic products, with unrestricted internal content usage and Eikon desktops for all relevant users rather than shared accesses. Plus, because it’s a solution that is delivery-channel agnostic, it creates a simpler, more efficient architecture.

And one thing the firm really felt was valuable was having full access to quant content and capabilities, with quick access to trials of additional services and technology to determine whether they are suitable for alpha generation.

ABOUT REFINITIV

Refinitiv financial and risk solutions deliver critical news, information and analytics to the global financial community – enabling transactions and connecting communities for trading, investing, financial and corporate professionals.