

GlobalSearch® Furnishes Efficiency

Founded in 1968, Newington, Connecticut-based OFI is a growing office furniture dealership representing the Herman Miller line. The company's customer base ranges from small businesses to the Fortune 100, including companies such as Disney, ESPN, The Hartford Insurance Group and Webster Bank.

OFI partners with construction companies and top-rated architectural and design firms to provide value-engineered solutions for the workplace. "OFI helps our customers to reduce costs while creating beautiful and functional work environments that allow them to attract and retain the best and brightest employees," said Matthew D. Danyliw, CPA, Chief Financial Officer for OFI. "The quality and depth of the relationships we establish with our customers and partners sets OFI apart from competitors."

In a competitive field that includes a number of major furniture lines, the Herman Miller furniture brand provides OFI with a competitive edge. "Herman Miller has a well-deserved reputation for being ahead of the curve in their product research and development, and is a leader in design functionality and green initiatives," said Deborah Laviero, OFI's Vice President of Marketing and Business Development.

GlobalSearch is OFI's central repository for all documents associated with customer orders such as purchase orders, invoices for labor and products and delivery receipts, including documents generated by subcontractors. OFI uses GlobalSearch to manage its Accounts Payable processes and employs the solution's advanced workflow tools to automate and streamline many business processes that had been performed manually. The company achieves greater efficiencies through GlobalSearch's customized integration with Khameleon, OFI's Oracle-based project accounting software.

"In only 10 months since its implementation, GlobalSearch has already helped OFI to realize average overall efficiency gains of 50 percent or more in our operations and sales

processes," Danyliw said. "These dramatic efficiency gains are contributing directly to enhanced bottom-line performance and are producing quantifiable improvements in customer service. GlobalSearch also

Snapshot

Industry:

Retail (Office Furniture Dealership)

Departments Impacted:

Accounting, Operations, Sales and Subcontracting

Featured Products:

GlobalSearch and GlobalAction

Objectives:

Reduce dependence on paper to achieve greater efficiency; automate workflow processes for greater document access and control

helps streamline routine audits." According to Danyliw, following OFI's acquisition of a division of a competitor, **GlobalSearch is helping OFI to manage 50-percent higher business volumes with a minimal investment in labor.**

On behalf of a diverse customer base, OFI executes projects ranging in value from many millions of dollars to less than two hundred dollars. Because OFI subcontracts all of its installation work the company must rely on subcontractors to provide original documents from customers. Regardless of an order's value, as many as eight or more individuals routinely require access to various project documents during the lifecycle of an order, including subcontractors; accounting, design and sales staff; and others.

"Having so many people touching multiple paper documents was extremely inefficient and sometimes resulted in important documents getting misplaced or lost," Danyliw explained. "We began searching for a way to centralize key business information so people across the organization could easily and quickly access documents and archive them securely. We then quickly realized that we also needed a workflow management system to automate our business processes."

OFI evaluated seven different solutions before choosing GlobalSearch, some costing upwards of six figures. "GlobalSearch is an excellent value," said



50%
More
Efficient

Danyliw. "It has proven to be a very cost-effective way for us to implement a feature-rich Content Management system and to develop sophisticated workflow processes; it has a nice, clean design and is easy to learn and use."

"Under our old paper-based system, one of our biggest challenges had been working efficiently with subcontractors," Danyliw explained. "Because they are our primary point of contact with customers, these subcontractors must coordinate very closely with us on scheduling, quotations, purchase orders and proof-of-delivery receipts. Managing these processes and documents with GlobalSearch has dramatically reduced the lifecycle of our orders, and we were able to cut the length of our billing cycle by 12 full days. That's a huge efficiency gain, especially with large orders."



**Billing
Cycle Cut
12 Days**



**90%
Labor
Decrease**

"We maintain a special status report for a large customer," Danyliw continued. "By converting from an Excel spreadsheet to a GlobalSearch-based report, we cut the time our staff required to update the report by over 90 percent, favorably impressing this important customer in the process."

GlobalSearch provides OFI's executives, managers and their staffs with instantaneous access to vital order information across the company's seven office locations. "Before we installed GlobalSearch, if I had a question about an order, I had to wait for someone to provide that information," Danyliw explained. "Now, thanks to GlobalSearch, all the information I need is literally at my fingertips. I simply enter the order number into our system and every document related to that order pops up on my computer screen."

GlobalSearch has proven to be such a valuable asset that OFI is planning to expand its use of the solution to manage order status reports and schedule installations more efficiently. OFI is also exploring ways to refine its document capture processes and utilize GlobalSearch's advanced automation and workflow capabilities even more fully.

"I have already recommended GlobalSearch to other businesses and will continue to do so," Danyliw concluded. "I am always pleased to recommend

companies with integrity and companies that are easy to work with, like Square 9 Softworks. I also love to recommend software solutions that help people to operate businesses more efficiently and profitably, and I will always recommend GlobalSearch because I have had such a great experience with it."