

# Agile software development delivers flexible management overview

*How Lend Lease communicated upstream to improve market leverage*

## Problem

### Outdated data management and no collaboration across business units

Lend Lease's newly formed Global Application Development Team maintained a legacy Lotus Notes application to manage property information and acquisition opportunities for its investment management business. This approach failed to capture all relevant property opportunities sourced internally and through external market sources, property agents and property research.

Lend Lease faced the following business challenges:

- Outdated database from changes in the business and business processes
- Lack of visibility on Investment submission deadlines
- Lack of transparency and collaboration across business units

## Approach

### Latest technologies chosen to support strategic growth objectives

Oakton collaborated with the client to design and deploy a new system to improve business purchasing and investment decisions. After migrating existing data to the new environment, the improved functionality provided:

- a streamlined data entry user interface with AJAX, Telerik Controls and mapping technologies
- support for new requirements and evolving business processes
- improved visibility, auditability and analysis via notifications and reports

## Recommendations

### Agile approach improved software development

Once the technical requirements were approved and areas for improvement highlighted, Oakton recommended a more agile approach using:

- daily scrum meetings to identify issues, provide updates and burn-down charts to the GADT
- three-week scrum sprints, defining achievements at three week intervals at a finely grained task level
- Atlassian task management product, JIRA, to track tasks to comply with Lend Lease's audit and evidence-based requirements

## Results

### A stronger enterprise with improved market leverage

The Property Pipeline system has given Lend Lease a new collaborative platform to leverage both internal and market generated asset acquisition opportunities. It provides a single point for maintaining asset and opportunity information, as well as improving stakeholder access and the communication and storage of property details.

The real time access allows Lend Lease to better position for growth in a highly competitive market. Lend Lease now has a process which is more robust, transparent and consistent allowing more agile decision making capabilities based on the most relevant business intelligence.

In addition, the elimination of much of the manual processes has resulted in a reduced error rate for users.

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*Lend Lease is an international property group with broad skills across the property value chain. Key operations include project management and construction, property investment management and property development. Capitalised at A\$2.5 billion, and with key markets in Asia Pacific, Americas, UK, Europe and the Middle East, Lend Lease is structured along five key lines of business globally: Retail, Communities, Public Private Partnerships, Investment Management, and Project Management and Construction.*

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