

Latrobe City Council acquires Open Windows solutions on the Microsoft Windows Azure Contracts Clouds.

Latrobe City Council currently manages in excess of 110 contracts, ranging from service, capital and consultancy contracts to Quotes and Expression of Interests via a simple database.

Latrobe City Council went out to tender in July 2011, looking for a solution that would assist in streamlining their processes, as well as providing a clear audit trail of all contract and tender activities.

The solution would provide a central repository of data and documents, visible audit trail, and contractor financial information as well as detailed reporting and process management capability.

After a thorough evaluation process, Latrobe City Council selected Open Windows to provide an end-to-end Contract Lifecycle Management solution on the Microsoft Windows Azure cloud to replace their manual contract and tender processes.

Open Windows was chosen because of their proven track record within Government organisations, with similar legislations in relation to purchasing and contract management.

Benefits of Open Windows Contract Lifecycle Management include: reduced exposure to litigation; proactive management on financials and reporting; process compliance with policies and regulations; holistic view of contract and tender information; the ability to capture and review contractor performance, as well as manage relationships; and streamline contract and tendering processes with a clear audit trail.

Latrobe City Council plans to roll the solution out in stages initially managing tender and contract management, with subsequent phases employing grant management and capital works in late 2012.

“We have been working with all levels of government for over 17 years, and understand that legislation is constantly changing. That is why our solutions are built so that they are flexible enough to adapt quickly to these changes”

Adam McInnes
Open Windows CEO

About Latrobe City Council

Latrobe City is made up of four major urban centres: Churchill, Moe/Newborough, Morwell and Traralgon, with smaller townships of Boolarra, Glengarry, Toongabbie, Tyers, Traralgon South, Yallourn North, and Yinnar.

Latrobe Valley is located only 70 minutes from the outskirts of Melbourne with a population of over 75,000 residents. Latrobe City boasts all of the recreational and cultural facilities of a large diverse regional centre with the added benefit of being nestled amongst some of the best tourist attractions in the state.



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Innovation
Partner of the Year

Open Windows won the Microsoft Australia Innovation Partner of the Year Award for its innovation on the Azure platform.



ISV/Software
Partner of the Year

Open Windows was a finalist for the 2011 Microsoft Australia ISV/Software Partner of the Year Award.



Microsoft Partner

Gold Independent Software Vendor (ISV)

A Microsoft Partner for 11 years, Open Windows was the first Microsoft Independent Software Vendor (ISV) to recertify Gold under the New Partner Program. Open Windows works closely with Microsoft and is a consistent early adopter of new Microsoft platforms.

About Open Windows

Open Windows is a privately held company formed in 1994 by brothers Shane and Adam McInnes using their commercial contract and project management experience to solve what they saw as a *Contract Management Problem*; that contracts, once signed, sat in filing cabinets, and only came out when something went wrong.

By providing system support to contract managers in tier 1 corporations and government departments, Open Windows has been able to reduce the risk of non-compliance in these organisations and facilitate real costs savings year upon year.

Open Windows Contract Lifecycle Management solutions does not replace people, it turns administrators back into managers, freeing them of manual administration tasks and allowing them to return to the real business of contracting; people and relationships.

Open Windows is still managed by Executive Director and CEO Adam McInnes and founder & Executive Director Shane McInnes. Since 2005, the ex-Premier of the State of Victoria Jeffrey Kennett has been non-executive Director and Chairman of the Board of Open Windows.

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