



KnowledgeTreeTM
Document Management Made Simple



**Translational
Medicine
Research
Collaboration**

CASE STUDY - Translational Medicine Research Collaboration

Real-Time Access to Mission Critical Documents: TMRC Leverages KnowledgeTree SaaS Edition for Instant Access to Information

Background

The Translational Medicine Research Collaboration (TMRC) is a collaborative venture in clinical and basic research across four universities, four national health centers, a large pharmaceutical drug company and a Scottish government agency. With 500 employees, TMRC conducts clinical and basic research with these stakeholders. The aim is to help develop novel drugs for different indications where there is clear unmet clinical need and to develop new diagnostics that aid clinicians in deciding correct and appropriate treatments.

Given the number of disparate organizations and individuals TMRC must work closely with, it faced the challenge of exchanging and viewing varied document types and data

sets among specific sets of collaborators. Ad hoc solutions for sharing documentation, especially iterations of project proposals, led to version control mishaps. Emailing documents and trying to gather feedback from multiple sources often required one person to take the helm in tracking all changes and compiling them into one updated document. This proved to be extremely inefficient and time consuming.

TMRC required a readily deployable solution where authorized personnel could gain access to any document (paper, electronic, new, historic) and retrieve it immediately via the web; anytime, anywhere. TMRC understood that a document management system based on a centralized repository would best meet that need.

While first seeking to maximize the amount of time spent on its research work to benefit drug and diagnostic discovery, TMRC also needed to minimize operational costs to ensure the maximum available budget for translational medicine research and ultimately improved healthcare solutions. Since it did not have the time or resources to deploy and maintain a large IT infrastructure, it focused its search for a solution on those providers with hosted offerings.

Partnering with KnowledgeTree

KnowledgeTree's software as a service (SaaS) document management solution, met all TMRC's needs. Being web-based with easy, rapid deployment and minimal training requirements provided TMRC with a faster time to value and instantly facilitated collaboration among geographically dispersed employees and partners.

A central repository for all TMRC's documents - from project proposals down to final legal agreements - gave all involved parties immediate access to view and store the information. KnowledgeTree also enabled TMRC to easily share project data across many collaborators globally, both in the United States and the United Kingdom.

Since many TMRC projects involve clinical material, KnowledgeTree also ensured compliance with regulatory requirements pertaining to the deposition of all associated legal documents including patient consent forms, local R&D approvals and ethical consent documentation.

KnowledgeTree gave TMRC the version control capabilities it required, with previous versions of documents available in a version history. This enables users to visually compare versions of document contents and properties, using TMRC's own custom document numbering





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schemes. Customized users, groups and roles ensure that only authorized personnel have access to certain documents and information, further ensuring security and meeting industry compliance standards.

Specifically, KnowledgeTree provides:

- Enterprise-class document management functionality without the cost, maintenance, administration, and infrastructure requirements of traditional on-site solutions
- Secure access to documents from anywhere, at any time via a web browser
- Effortless collaboration among geographically dispersed employees
- Faster time-to-value with rapid deployment and minimal training requirements
- A familiar interface through close integration with Microsoft® Office that reduces users' learning curves and makes them productive more quickly
- Integration with the Zoho Office Suite that provides a complete online work environment for mobile and remote workers without the need for desktop applications
- Cloud-based hosting on Amazon Elastic Compute Cloud™ means the application instance and database are self-contained and secure
- Rich and open APIs that let users easily integrate KnowledgeTree with third-party applications

Redefining ROI: Return on Investment is a Return on Information

Deploying KnowledgeTree has enabled TMRC to complete important research projects more quickly, thereby benefiting the drug and diagnostic industry. Gathering feedback for a project proposal from multiple authors previously took four to eight weeks, depending on how many authors were involved. With KnowledgeTree, final versions are completed within a few days.

To date, TMRC has started nearly 70 projects and completed over 40 with KnowledgeTree. The return on investment has really been a

return on information; turning documents into a strategic advantage.

Moving forward, TMRC plans to keep expanding its relationship with KnowledgeTree. The capabilities afforded by the efficiencies of real-time access to mission critical documents, document compliance and the capability to unify disparate systems have all led to valuable, direct, bottom-line contributions.

About KnowledgeTree

KnowledgeTree makes sharing content and controlling document processes simple with secure, affordable online document management solutions for growing SMBs and departments at larger companies. Designed for business professionals, KnowledgeTree is easy to use, does not require extensive training and enables content to be accessed and managed anytime, anywhere via cloud computing. Rich and open APIs allow for seamless integration of popular third party business applications.

KnowledgeTree accelerates return on investment by streamlining document-centric business processes and increasing collaboration with workflow, document alerts, version control and full transaction histories. KnowledgeTree is headquartered in Raleigh, North Carolina. For more information, visit www.knowledgetree.com. Follow us on Twitter @knowledgetreesw.