Global mobility case study
Implementing technology to achieve visibility and streamline workflows for all mobility process stakeholders
When a leading global food and beverage manufacturer realized it needed to streamline its global mobility program and ensure visibility for all stakeholders involved, it turned to Mercer, its trusted provider of global mobility data solutions.

At a glance

Client

Multinational company with more than 100 years of legacy — a leading manufacturer in the food and beverage industry

Global mobility program snapshot

150 permanent moves
85 expats on assignment

Policies under management:
• Long-term
• Short-term
• Early career development
• Company- and employee-initiated permanent transfers
The challenge

Running a large mobility program with multiple moving pieces, the client felt it lacked transparency and automation, which affected employee experience and efficiency. It sought a technology solution to provide greater process visibility and streamline tasks for all global mobility stakeholders.

The client specifically wanted to solve a number of business issues negatively impacting its mobility program:

• Lack of transparency and engagement for mobile employees and their families
• Lack of tools to enable line managers and business partners to easily create and monitor new mobility requests; insufficient process visibility and documentation
• Information managed in multiple systems and Excel spreadsheets, with numerous manual entries and task duplication contributing to inefficiency and increased risks
• Lack of a central system of record, with difficulties to aggregate data for program reporting and analytics
The solution

The client envisaged a system that would provide one central database for all relevant documents and ensure visibility over mobility processes for assignees and the business alike.

The client selected Mercer's Mobility Management Platform (MMP), built in collaboration with ServiceNow®, as its technology solution of choice based on several differentiating factors:

- The client had a preexisting relationship with Mercer for its mobility information requirements, which provided the option of pulling data directly from the platform’s built-in calculators, including additional calculation tools not previously used by the client also available within MMP.
- Built on the ServiceNow® platform, Mercer shares the ServiceNow® vision of “making the world of work, work better for people.” The client’s previous experience with the solution, which delivers digital workflows to create great experiences and unlock productivity, was positive.
- MMP has powerful reporting capabilities and user-friendly dashboards.
- This solution offered the possibility of future integration with the client’s HRIS and external vendor platforms for full centralization of the mobility ecosystem.

Mobility Management Platform (MMP) delivers the functionalities the client needs and offers direct benefits:

- Consumer-grade user experience for all mobility process stakeholders
- Streamlined processes to accelerate time-to-market for the client’s people
- Reduced number of manual data entries for various stakeholders
- One central, cloud-based database to store and process documents
- Powerful reporting capabilities to define, monitor and measure client-specific KPIs
- Easy access to analytics on the performance of the client’s program, with reports and dashboards
- Integrations with HRIS and external vendor platforms
The importance of partnership

The client and Mercer teams partnered closely together at every stage of the process.

Initially, the teams held a series of discovery meetings to document the client's current-state mobility program and design a new vision for a technology-enabled future state.

Before proceeding to MMP implementation, it was necessary to accommodate the client's extremely rigorous security protocol for new technology adoption. By working with ServiceNow® as well as Mercer's internal data security team, the implementation team was able to get the green light to proceed by meeting all the client’s criteria.

Having a dedicated technology-focused practice — Mercer Digital — has enabled Mercer to offer time-tested and proven implementation methodologies as well as business-process expertise. The client's team greatly appreciated the resulting project management efficiency and agility.

A great partnership is always a two-way street. Part of Mercer's innovation strategy is an early adopter program, where discovery-based implementations deliver key learnings leveraged by Mercer and our clients for future success. As a member of the program, our client provided invaluable feedback, helping us shape the roadmap and contributing to continuous improvement.
Results and achievements
Since the implementation of Mobility Management Platform, the technology has fulfilled the client's expectations, providing a highly improved experience for all mobility process stakeholders.

Business partner and line manager platform access
Managers can now initiate international assignments and relocation processes following a clear, simple path. They have full visibility into their international talent pool and initiated moves and can avoid process bottlenecks, all thanks to the intuitive, automated notifications from the platform that indicate when an approval action is necessary.

Reduced volume of work and transactional processes associated with employee moves frees up time for more strategic, higher-value business activities.

Mobile employee engagement
Employees getting ready for their assignments will receive a link to their employee portal.

Mercer-curated country information for 140+ assignment locations is included in the license fee (MercerPassport®), providing extensive resources on the host locations to help prepare mobile employees for their moves and increasing the probability of assignment success.

MMP also allows the client to assess its mobility program diversity, mobile employee engagement and satisfaction.

Business provided a very positive feedback related to the platform, post go-live. Initiators can receive notifications from the platform when they need to take action, approve costs or agreements, etc. Parties involved have visibility over the relocation process and know who owns the step in the process. From administration standpoint we have better visibility over workload and excellent reporting capabilities.

— Senior Global Mobility Manager
Managing with ease
Administering the program has become easier for the client’s Mobility Group, with automation saving the group significant time and providing greater workload visibility.

Audit trail is much simpler, with a central database for storing, reviewing and approving the financials and letters of assignment.

Eliminating manual data entry also improves compliance and minimizes risks, decreasing the chances of human error at every stage of the mobility process.

The power of reporting
As the centralized database for the company’s mobility program, MMP gathers and provides data across all activities, enabling the client to create and share dashboards throughout the organization. The platform’s robust reporting capabilities offer easy and personalized access to analytics for business partners, line managers, mobility analysts and executives.

Defining and tracking client-specific mobility KPIs helps develop an understanding of where the program is aligned to the business strategy — and where it’s not — to reveal areas for improvement and drive performance.

What’s next?
The partnership doesn’t end with the Mobility Management Platform implementation. Mercer will support an HRIS integration between the client’s SuccessFactors instance and MMP — an investment bound to add significant value for the business.

Conclusion
The client sought an efficient and user-friendly platform to deliver great experiences, unlock productivity, and easily manage and oversee its mobile population. In addition, the company needed to streamline its global mobility workflows and provide visibility to all stakeholders. Through Mercer, the organization was able to leverage the cutting-edge technology from ServiceNow®. As a result of the partnership, the client is now reaping the rewards of clear and consolidated global mobility processes while continuing to realize the benefits of a fully integrated technology ecosystem.
Contact us

Request a demo today to see Mobility Management Platform in action or visit our website to read more: mobilityexchange.mercer.com/mmp.

To learn more about how Mercer can help your global mobility team, please email us at mobility@mercer.com.