

Meet Anadarko

In a sentence, Anadarko provides the energy to fuel modern life all over the world. The public company (NYSE: APC) is one of the world’s largest independent oil and natural gas exploration and production companies. It was founded in 1959 in Texas – where it still maintains its headquarters today – but has since expanded across North America, South America, Europe, Africa, and Asia Pacific.



Anadarko’s mission – to deliver a competitive and sustainable rate of return to shareholders by developing, acquiring and exploring for oil and natural gas resources vital to the world’s health and welfare – is realized by a passionate workforce numbering nearly 5,000 employees around the world.

THE PROBLEM

Like many commodity-driven industries, the oil and gas business is cyclical by nature. This has become particularly pronounced in recent years, as oil prices have become increasingly volatile. To successfully manage through this level of volatility, Anadarko relies on an agile supply chain managed by a high-performing sourcing team.

“For Anadarko, sourcing is really front and center when it comes to effectively executing in rapidly evolving market conditions,” notes Aaron Rubinstein, Manager of Shared Services & Technology, Global Supply Chain at Anadarko. “The supply chain must work hand-in-hand with engineering, finance, and operations to achieve the budget and planning targets that the organization has set forth for the year. We use the sourcing process as the mechanism to execute on that, but it requires close coordination and collaboration across the enterprise.”

Close coordination and collaboration was proving difficult with the sourcing tools Anadarko had in place. The team, which is spread across offices all over the world, was primarily running a manual process using emails, spreadsheets, and Word documents. Aside from being decidedly non-agile, these tools didn’t provide the transparency and seamless collaboration that the company needed. While they had been on the lookout for a better solution for some time, Anadarko’s sourcing team hadn’t found anything — that is, until Scout came along.

ENTER SCOUT

As Rubinstein notes, “We were looking for a tool that gave us that flexibility and adaptability to be able to quickly carry out sourcing initiatives in response to changes in the market. We also needed something that would bridge the gap between sourcing and other departments across the organization.” Anadarko had heard that Scout checked these boxes, so they launched a pilot to put it to the test.

They found that not only did Scout provide flexibility and adaptability, but also a host of other benefits. Unlike the legacy tools that Anadarko had traditionally relied on, it was lightweight, intuitive, easy to use, and had low overhead. Convinced, Anadarko’s team moved from pilot to full implementation.

THE RESULTS

"We saw immediate benefits after implementing Scout's strategic sourcing platform," says Rubinstein. When Anadarko first rolled out Scout, they started small, with just four users. They were so pleased with the results that they quickly expanded it to encompass dozens of users across the company.

Anadarko's sourcing team, its stakeholders, and its suppliers have adopted Scout enthusiastically. Rubinstein notes, "I've seen so many projects where applications were implemented

and then it was a continuous uphill battle to get adoption among users. This is not the case with Scout. It's lightweight and intuitive, yet powerful – a rare combination – and delivers a best-in-breed solution that everyone can get on board with."

Within the first two months of implementing the solution, Anadarko's sourcing team was able to launch 90 RFPs, setting new records for efficiency. Scout streamlines formerly process-intensive tasks through features like templates, event duplication, milestones, and team chat.

Using Scout, Anadarko has been able to improve three key sourcing categories:



Process Efficiencies

Scout makes it possible for buyers to handle a higher workload, without getting mired in disorganization. By removing error-prone inefficiencies, teams can streamline sourcing processes across the organization.



Visibility

Scout streamlines the reporting process and facilitates transparency between supervisors, managers, and stakeholders. It also reduces the number of status updates and reports, ensuring that everyone has immediate and up-to-date visibility.



Collaboration

Scout facilitates seamless collaboration between its decentralized sourcing team, a host of stakeholders, and suppliers. By providing a single source of sourcing truth, Scout keeps everyone in the loop.



Strategic Insights

Scout provides robust insights on sourcing performance, from basic metrics (like how many RFPs they have completed in a year) to more advanced data. By mining this information, sourcing is to better investigate markets and see competitive dynamics across suppliers.

So, in a sentence, how has Scout helped Anadarko? As Rubinstein puts it, **"At Anadarko, we're moving at 100 miles per hour. Scout doesn't just help keep us up to speed — it helps us get ahead of the curve."**

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Scout provides a new breed of cloud-based strategic sourcing solutions that help organizations achieve better outcomes and make a bigger impact. Leading global brands trust Scout's automated sourcing and auction platform to deliver greater value through collaborative business engagement. Scout is headquartered in San Francisco, and funded by Menlo Ventures, New Enterprise Associates, and GV (formerly Google Ventures).