Leading university in Brazil secures B2B efficiency

Universidade Anhembi Morumbi achieves safer, faster transmission of banking files with OpenText B2B solutions

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Henrique Lucena
Universidade Anhembi Morumbi Security Office
When faced with a high-risk compliance issue, Universidade Anhembi Morumbi turned to trusted technology provider, OpenText, for immediate and future remedy.

The Universidade Anhembi Morumbi, a member of the Laureate International Universities, offers undergraduate and post-graduate degrees to more than 44,000 students across six campuses.

Anhembi Morumbi joins 80 other institutions within Laureate International Universities, a network serving close to one million students across 28 countries. While every university in the network operates under its own brand, they may share curricula, faculty, degree programs and student exchange opportunities.

Compliance gap, fraud risk

Anhembi Morumbi aligns career-focused training with national and international trends to prepare students with an entrepreneurial and global vision. Services—especially those related to accreditation and financial management—must protect students and the university while meeting industry regulations so all participants can focus on core objectives.

One operation didn’t make the grade: Anhembi Morumbi’s outdated method of transmission for banking transaction files between the financial ERP system and banks. “Manual transmission posed a high risk,” explained Henrique Lucena of the Anhembi Morumbi Security Office, responsible for Information Security. In the old process, a university analyst obtained .txt files from the system and accessed bank web sites for delivery. Banks would then return the files.

Since the process was manual, it was susceptible to non-compliance: If the university or its personnel were found non-compliant with Sarbanes-Oxley Act (SOX) regulations for transparent and auditable accounting practices, they could face fines or criminal charges. Opportunity for manipulation of accounts—such as moving university funds to personal accounts—posed a fraud risk. “We wanted a solution that could guarantee the integrity of our banking transaction files,” Lucena said. “We had to close the detailed audit issue.”

Secure, automated B2B

Anhembi Morumbi initially automated transmission of banking transaction files with a B2B solution from OpenText for sending and receiving files over the internet with business partners. “We closed that compliance gap and removed the risk of manual manipulation,” Lucena noted. “Then, we had a demand to increase the flow of data … we started a new way to do some business and we needed to expand it.”

Anhembi Morumbi turned again to OpenText for its B2B communications gateway, installing OpenText™ BizConnect™, a Java-based B2B solution designed for small- and medium-sized organizations that need secure connectivity internally and with up to 25 business partners.

BizConnect is part of the OpenText™ BizManager™ family of products built to leverage the internet while incorporating industry standards for messaging, mapping, transformation, tracking and auditing of B2B transactions. Organizations of all sizes use OpenText BizManager solutions to ensure secure, uninterrupted transmission of all types of files.

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“From the prior OpenText B2B solution to BizConnect there was no adaptation needed. We just expanded to fit our needs,” Lucena said. “The solution now has an interface with the financial PeopleSoft ERP system which is responsible for carrying all traffic payment files, extracts and other recurring payments between universities and banks.”

Lucena further described the BizConnect implementation as a smooth transition: “BizConnect is easy to use and the whole process took three weeks, from configuration to production,” he noted. The project remained on time and on budget, handled by two Anhembi Morumbi specialists and a project manager from OpenText.

**Safer, faster transmission**

As an EDI solution that integrates with Anhembi Morumbi’s ERP system and traffics banking information without the intervention of a user, BizConnect helped the university achieve SOX compliance and eliminate fraud risk. “We closed a compliance issue and can ensure file integrity from its creation in ERP and deliverance to the banks,” Lucena said. “Thus, we reduce the risk of fraud within the company.”

Since using OpenText B2B solutions, Anhembi Morumbi’s communication with financial partners is secure and timely, leading to other productivity gains, according to Lucena. “The work done manually by an analyst is now automated through the use of OpenText BizConnect,” he noted. “This saves our analyst an hour a day and we can assign new functions for her to work on.”

**Partnership expansion**

Based on Anhembi Morumbi’s success with OpenText B2B solutions, administrators are planning to expand the partnership to all Laureate International Universities in Brazil.

Anhembi Morumbi is also building on its trust in OpenText, implementing OpenText™ B2B Managed Services, a robust platform to combine technology, people and processes for further streamlining e-commerce transactions.

The university started with an effective solution, remodeled to fit expanding needs and is now looking to the future. “OpenText is one of the companies which we are pleased to have as a partner,” said Lucena. “Our contacts there are always proposing improvements, are effective when a new demand arises and are consistent in supporting the systems that we use.”

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