

## **Case Study Summary**

Civic Financial Services (CFS) is a private lender, specializing in the financing of non-owner-occupied residential investment properties. CFS provides Mortgage Brokers and Real Estate Investors with a fast and cost-effective funding source for their real estate investment needs. CFS was acquired by Pacific Western Bank, as part of the bank's strategy to expand its lending portfolio and diversify its revenue streams. The new parent company intends to leverage and expand on the solution detailed in this case study as part of its adoption of Microsoft 365.

With documents in several on-premises repositories, including critical loan documents residing on File Shares, CFS engaged ShareSquared to migrate its content to Microsoft 365. ShareSquared's taxonomy package, with over 70 prebuilt Content Types, was used to jump-start the design and deployment of the enterprise taxonomy. The Modern Team, Communication, and Hub sites, Branding, Taxonomy, Web parts and Add-ins were deployed using ShareSquared's Portal Deployment Utility. The project scope includes the customization of CFS's Taxonomy to support Records Management, Classification of the content, and the automation of business processes using Power Automate.

"Moving to the Microsoft 365 platform has helped us to streamline our business and reduce the inherent risks associated with the lending industry. The integration between SharePoint Online, Microsoft Teams, and Dynamics is a total game-changer"

Cameron King Chief Information Officer, Civic Financial Services

## share

Transform the way you store, find, govern, and use enterprise content

## Challenges

#### **Understanding Existing Content**

CFS's content spanned several repositories including File Shares and SharePoint on-prem. Migrating these disparate repositories to Microsoft 365 required careful analysis of the content to identify Redundant, Obsolete, and Trivial (ROT) content, and to determine the appropriate target sites/libraries.

#### Taxonomy

The content repositories had little to no taxonomic structures or metadata. The challenge was to design and deploy an enterprise taxonomy in Microsoft 365 to meet CFS's search and document/records management requirements. Content classification using SharePoint Syntex will further enhance these capabilities.

#### Migration

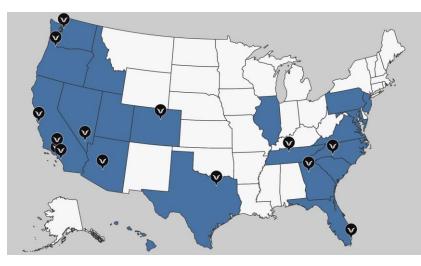
Documents in legacy repositories were unmanaged leading to issues with search, increasing storage requirements, and making it impossible to manage the lifecycle of documents in a consistent manner. Once in Microsoft 365, documents can be identified against CFS's Retention Schedule and managed using ADG and policies.

#### Content Lifecycle/Records Management

As a lender, CFS is required to retain and dispose of loan documents in accordance with regulatory and organizational policies. To manage the lifecycle of documents, the solution employs a rigorous taxonomy and will use Syntex auto-classification. Once classified, records management policies can be applied automatically.

#### Project and Change Management

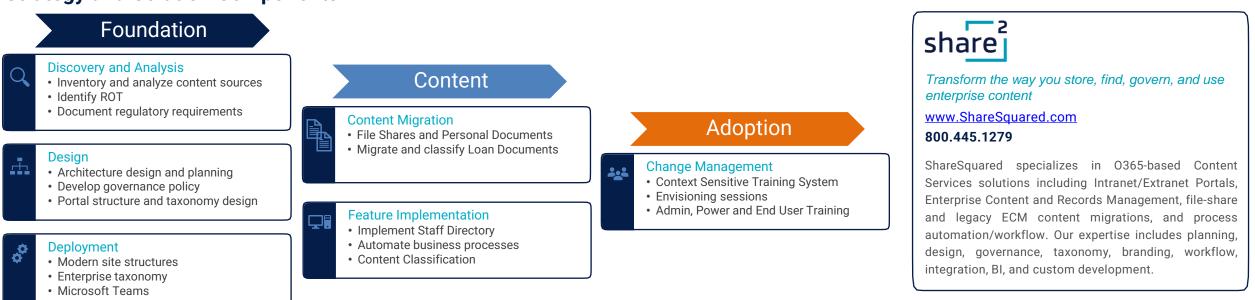
The 100% remotely-delivered project was managed using an M365-based project portal to house all project artifacts including the Project Online project plan and recorded Microsoft Teams meetings. As users were new to M365, virtual training and knowledge transfer were provided via Microsoft Teams.



## **Strategy and Solution Components**

## **Results and Outcomes**

- Content resides solely in M365 vs. in unmanaged, siloed repositories
- The new enterprise taxonomy includes Content Types and metadata for loan origination documents
- Content is managed against the records retention schedule and deleted when no longer needed
- Records are destroyed in accordance with legal, regulatory, and organizational policies
- Content findability greatly improved with the implementation of an enterprise taxonomy and content classification
- Internal team collaboration and sharing has significantly increased
- Remote workers have 24/7 access to the M365 solution
- M365's adaptive and responsive design yielded a solution that is mobile friendly
- Efficiency and productivity enhanced by automating processes using Power Automate

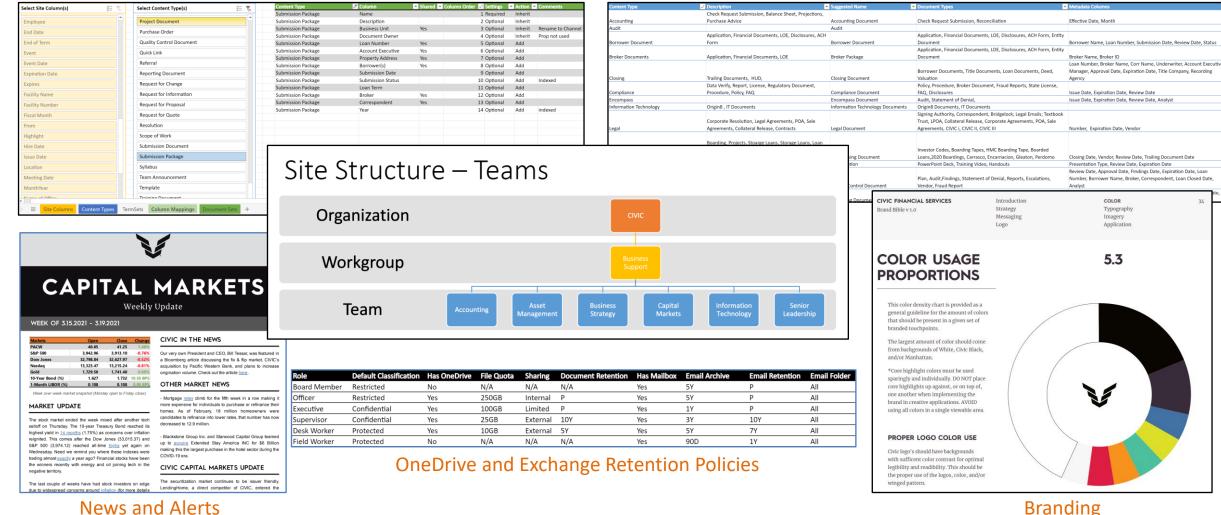


# **Civic Financial Services Project Visuals**



Taxonomy

### Information Architecture



## News and Alerts