



Chemence gets immediate ROI with Sensei IQ on the Microsoft Power Platform

As a global leader in the manufacturing of industrial adhesives and sealants, Chemence understands the need to give their teams meaningful insights into projects, programs and resources across portfolios, and Sensei IQ has done just that. Sensei deployed IQ within weeks, and Chemence says that within three months the automated reporting already provided a much cleaner, streamlined view of project data, and delivered a more complete overview to leadership.

Founded in 1983, Chemence's recent growth had presented challenges, and they found themselves working in silos with limited oversight and no standard process flows, which impacted their ability to bring products to market in a timely manner.

Sensei IQ is a Microsoft Preferred Managed Solution that is fully integrated into Microsoft 365, enabling Chemence to have a single source of truth, provide confidence to stakeholders, and bring products to market on time.



AT A GLANCE

CLIENT NAME

Chemence

LOCATION

United States

COMPANY SIZE

200+ Employees

INDUSTRY

Chemicals/Manufacturing



Client Challenges

Chemence is a pioneer in creating solutions through specialty chemicals for their customers. Through their sales offices and manufacturing locations around the world, they are a leading creator and producer of all kinds of adhesives. They pride themselves on being thought leaders who help fulfill their customers' brand promise through market-defining innovations and products.

Though they had three decades of success in their field, a few years ago they recognized the need to develop and release new products more quickly. In addition, they recognized their need to effectively follow up new products with a vision of what came next. In 2019 they created a Project Management Office (PMO) to accomplish these goals across multiple divisions.

They brought in a highly skilled team that began to formalize the project management discipline in the organization, from project prioritization, tracking and metrics as well as resource management. They were using a large spreadsheet to see the big picture, and they were tracking several projects across multiple portfolios. But creating charts for every monthly portfolio meeting took lots of time. They had to create charts and copy them into PowerPoint presentations, and then whenever any additional data was needed during the meeting, they would dig back into the Excel file.

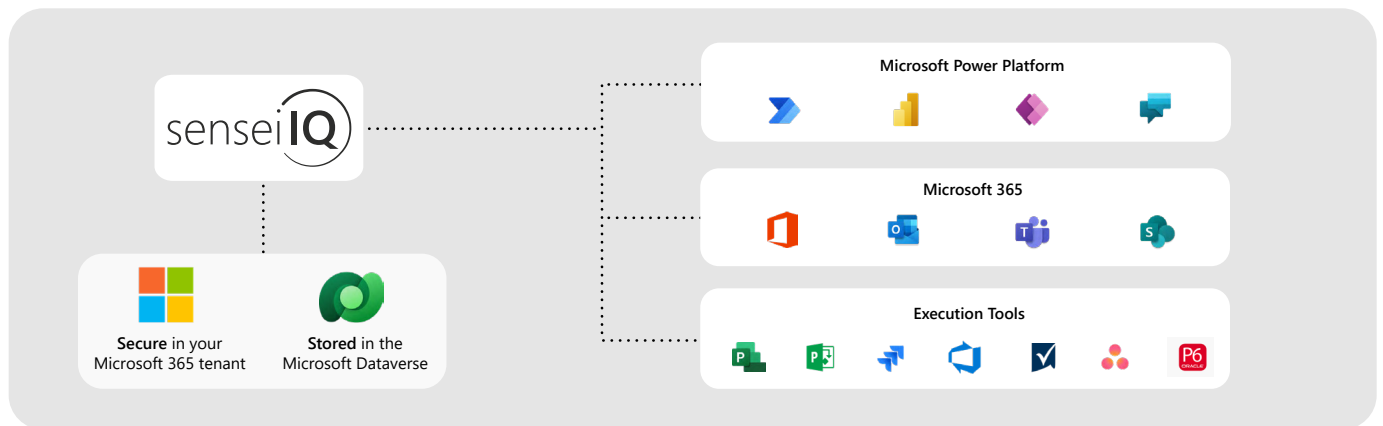
Before long it became clear: managing the portfolio with Excel spreadsheets and manually created reports was simply not going to scale in the way that fit the company's strategic goals. They needed a tool. Upon doing their research, it became clear to them that the right tool was Sensei IQ

"Managing the portfolio with Excel spreadsheets and manually created reports was simply not going to scale in the way that fit our strategic goals."

- Deanna Kathumbi-Jackson, Chief Portfolio & Project Officer

Partner Solution

Sensei IQ is an adaptive project and strategic portfolio management solution that aligns, optimizes and tracks work in an organization. Deployed securely in the client's Microsoft 365 tenant, Sensei IQ utilizes Model-Driven Power Apps, Power BI and the Microsoft Power Platform to give teams meaningful insights into projects, programs and resources across portfolios.



Chemence did their research, and narrowed their selections down to CA Clarity, Planisware, and Sensei IQ on the Microsoft Power Platform. In their estimation, CA Clarity was not adequately scalable; it wouldn't start where they were at and grow with them. Planisware was "nice," but according to Wendy Takken, PMO Director at Chemence, "What it really came down to in our selection of Sensei IQ was the ease of use and comfort we felt with getting started and getting what we needed. Sensei was a better fit for what we needed in the tool, and IQ being a Microsoft tool was a big plus."

Indeed, as a Microsoft shop, Chemence preferred a Microsoft tool that would meet their needs. "One of our drivers for selecting Sensei is that IQ is integrated in Microsoft 365 and all the data lives in a single location," says Takken. "And our IT team is very happy that it lives in the same world and we're not bringing a separate software interface."

"Sensei IQ is exactly what we need at this time when we're trying to grow. It is the right tool and right partner for right now."

- Deanna Kathumbi-Jackson,
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Client Benefits

"Less than three months after we signed the paperwork, we began to see meaningful benefits from our use of Sensei IQ," says Takken.

Chemence is taking a phased approach to their rollout, initially entering work into the system and using the automated reporting to give their team meaningful insights into projects, programs and resources across portfolios. They hold monthly portfolio meetings, and having Sensei IQ for these meetings was a game-changer, says Takken.

"I was able to use Sensei IQ as the dashboard interface for my presentation, not Excel or PowerPoint," says Takken. I could show each set of projects, and then drill down and show good data for each project. I love that Sensei IQ creates the dashboard with key indicators that are very visual, showing things like status updates and milestones. Previously I knew what I wanted to show the team, but it took a LONG TIME to create it each month, and it wasn't as visually effective. Using Sensei IQ provided a much cleaner, streamlined view of our data, and as we fill it out more for each project it should provide for a richer discussion during our meetings."

Deanna Kathumbi-Jackson, Chemence's Chief Portfolio & Project Officer, particularly appreciates the ability to allow leadership to see everything they need in one place. The data is very easy to see and understand. "I like being able to have that visual," she says. "We can 'see the forest,' then easily drill down to understand 'what tree is the problem.'"

While they are already seeing benefits in this early phase, they have big plans for scaling Sensei IQ more broadly across the organization and more deeply into their core process. Says Kathumbi-Jackson, "When I see what Sensei can do, it's just exciting."

"Our product funnel is now clearly defined. We have great custom flows, and a funnel visual across divisions, and with a click of a button we can show the health of the entire portfolio."

- Wendy Takken, PMO Director