Royal Bank of Scotland aims to be the top bank in customer service by 2020

More than 20 million customers around the world rely on Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) to provide them with financial products and services they trust. With a focus on transforming customer experiences by 2020, RBS hopes to become the top bank in the United Kingdom for customer service, trust, and advocacy. Technology will play a leading role in RBS’ journey by giving employees the tools they need to do business with colleagues, customers, and regulators as efficiently as possible.

First step is to reduce IT service management complexity to keep pace with growth

As a result of growth through acquisition, the bank’s 14,000 users utilized 13 different IT service management (ITSM) tools and multiple configuration management databases (CMDBs). This resulted in RBS spending too much administrative time on change management. Raising a change took an employee an average of seven hours using five or more different tools. The manual approval processes then caused further delays. Regulatory compliance was a challenge as well—with 56 controls monitored by regulators, the risk of service failures can be high for financial institutions like RBS.

“We needed the flexibility and speed to deliver incremental changes with contained risk and improve the way we deliver technology services to our businesses, enabling them to deliver the best service to our customers,” says Simon Corcoran, Head of Colleague Platforms at Royal Bank of Scotland.
The ServiceNow team listened well, gave us good direction, and helped drive quality and efficiency throughout the process.

Simon Corcoran, Head of Colleague Platforms, Royal Bank of Scotland

To achieve this, RBS needed to recreate its IT environment, which had become increasingly complex and difficult to manage following the bank's rapid growth through acquisitions. Specifically, simplifying IT service management would help RBS deliver great customer experiences while reducing costs and meeting compliance requirements.

**ServiceNow helps RBS lead the change to simpler IT and better customer service**

“We needed a single integrated toolset to automate the delivery and control of incident, problem, change, and configuration management,” says Simon. RBS chose the ServiceNow IT Service Management solution to unify IT planning, delivery, and operations. RBS partnered with ServiceNow Professional Services to assist with the implementation.

“ServiceNow appealed to us because it is cloud-based and easy to use,” says Simon. “ServiceNow gave us a sandbox environment to experiment with for six months before we actually signed the deal, so we were confident that the solution would meet our needs.”

**With ServiceNow, RBS saves time and money, responds to customer demands faster, and improves employee morale**

Success came quickly: within 10 months, RBS integrated ServiceNow with 15 data sources and delivered the solution to all 14,000 users. The average time to raise a change and incident improved by 76% and 60% respectively. By automating more than 50% of the controls associated with critical IT processes, RBS saved the equivalent of 46,000 employee hours, as well as realizing savings by decommissioning 10 legacy systems. Most importantly, more than 75% of users say ServiceNow has improved their work day.

“The ServiceNow team listened well, gave us good direction, and helped drive quality and efficiency throughout the process,” says Simon. “The result was a successful and collaborative implementation.”