

# Chesapeake Utilities Corporation

Enhances Strategic Value and Ensures SOX Compliance with UltiPro



## Company Profile:

Chesapeake Utilities Corporation's core business is the regulated distribution and transmission of natural gas in central and southern Delaware, on Maryland's Eastern Shore, and parts of Florida.

The diversified utility company also conducts operations in propane distribution and wholesale marketing, advanced information services, and other related services in the U.S. and internationally.

## The Challenges:

Chesapeake's IT department needed to add more strategic value to the organization. However, the company didn't want to invest resources in the IT controls necessary for an HCM solution in order to stay in compliance with Sarbanes-Oxley (SOX).

The utility decided to outsource maintenance of its internal systems and IT functions so that its staff would have more focus on core competency projects while staying compliant.

## The Solution:

After much evaluation, the company selected UltiPro with SaaS delivery. UltiPro provides Chesapeake Utilities with a flexible, robust functionality for HCM-related processes, and Ultimate Software fully handles the IT responsibilities for the solution, including updates, upgrades, and maintenance as well as security and backup responsibilities.

Because Ultimate Software has obtained Type II certification through the Statement on Standards for Attestation Engagements No. 16 (SSAE16), Chesapeake Utilities was confident that it had the right controls and safeguards in place for storing and processing its employee information.

"When our auditors informed our company of the resources it would take to adhere to SOX requirements for in-house IT administration of our HRMS, we investigated the costs and then found it made financial sense to use UltiPro with SaaS rather than take on the responsibilities and expense ourselves," said Janice Thompson, payroll specialist for Chesapeake Utilities.

### The Customer

Chesapeake Utilities Corporation

### Industry

Services

### Number of Employees

800

### Key Benefits

- Alleviated the IT department's responsibility for system upgrades, maintenance, and backups
- Simplified the company's adherence to SOX controls
- Experienced financial value leading to a quick payback

“With SaaS delivery, Ultimate Software oversees the tape backups, necessary testing, and other crucial IT elements that Sarbanes-Oxley expects companies to have in place.”

With SaaS, Chesapeake Utilities’ IT department has become less infrastructure-focused. The team has become organizational leaders, driving change and adding strategic business value to the organization.

Rather than supporting an HR/payroll system, the IT team now spends its time evaluating companywide system needs and managing core business applications, such as Chesapeake’s billing system, which is at the heart of the organization.

Financial benefits with SaaS have provided an additional advantage by delivering a fast return on the company’s initial investment. Chesapeake Utilities expects payback with UltiPro in a little more than 12 months.

“SaaS has been great for our business from a functional, strategic, and financial perspective. I wish all the solutions we work with were as easy to use,” said Thompson.



“SaaS delivery has been great for our business from a functional, strategic, and financial perspective. I wish all the solutions we work with were as easy to use as UltiPro.”

Janice Thompson  
Payroll Specialist  
Chesapeake Utilities Corporation

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