

## Fonterra Common Operating Environment



### Aligning diverse business functions with a common operating environment



When Fonterra formed in 2001, it became New Zealand's largest company, and one of the world's top ten dairy companies. The merger brought together a mix of corporate cultures, operating systems and applications. Simpl's team helped to orchestrate a Common Operating System Migration Programme, aligning a diverse range of functions and teams for Fonterra.

### A common environment is crucial to business continuity

The migration programme was an extraordinary project, covering 32 Fonterra sites, rolling out 6000 desktops across New Zealand. What was also vital for Fonterra, was having all the systems operational across the business in a short time frame.

Simpl audited the desktops and applications and instigated an application cull across all the sites. Aligning the systems produced the potential for Fonterra to extend to an additional 20,000 users in Fonterra's international interests.

Further, Simpl was accountable for the programme management, control and delivery. Simpl was responsible for managing the project budgets, third party vendors, project coordination and liaison, all the while complying with Fonterra's report requirements was forefront in the Simpl team's minds.

Also left in Simpl's capable hands, was developing the policies for controlling and standardising the environment and supporting the infrastructure.

### Experience and knowledge are essential in melding corporate diversity into strength

Simpl has solid experience and an excellent reputation in the food processing industry. They have also worked with people the dairy industry prior to the Fonterra merger. The team's experience in planning and executing a number of large-scale project management assignments and the ability to access a range of project management methodologies and tools, were key factors in ensuring the success of the project.

Simpl grasped the challenge of aligning diverse corporate histories and cultures and took equal responsibility for the success of the migration programme with Fonterra. Simpl's integrity and independence in representing Fonterra's interests resulted in the timely completion of the programme, successfully melding diversity into strength.



# CASE STUDY