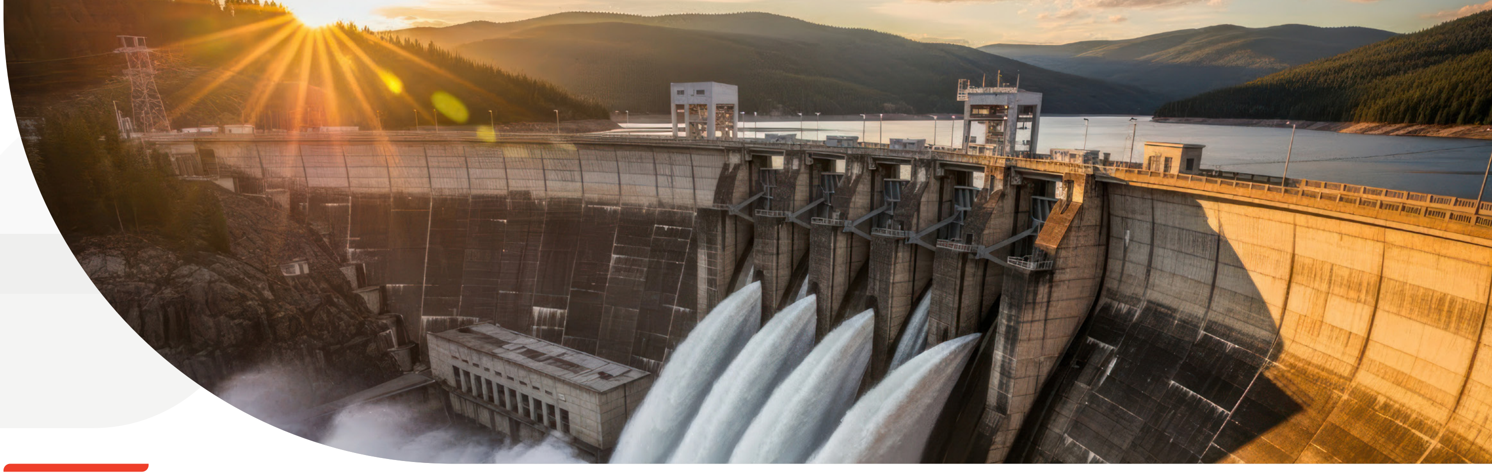

Success Story

Building a Scalable Foundation for Pumped Hydro Delivery

Renewable energy is a huge focus in Australia, intended to both reduce electricity costs for its growing population and reach its net-zero carbon emissions goal by 2050. A major part of that effort includes pumped hydro programs. One such program is supported by a government-owned organization responsible for planning, designing and delivering multi-decade, intergenerational pumped hydro energy storage infrastructure meant to help store excess energy and return it to the grid as needed.

The organization was moving from early-stage planning and investigations into more structured delivery readiness. Project teams were managing complex budgets, contracts, control accounts, approvals, reporting requirements and stakeholder expectations. At the same time, they were preparing for ongoing technical investigations, project planning, design, early works and community engagement.

With the execution phase approaching, the organization needed a more robust capital project controls platform, cost governance, contract administration and workflow discipline.

The Challenges

As the project got further along in its maturity and its complexity grew, pain points showed up in a few concrete ways:

- Confusing budgets and financial reporting forced revisiting projects, control accounts and reporting structures.

At a Glance

How a renewable energy organization built the project controls foundation for a major pumped hydro program.

Industry: Power & Energy

Location: Australia

Results:

- More structured cost and contract management
- Stronger governance across cost, contracts and approvals
- Improved reporting through contracts register

> "The organization has established a more structured project controls environment and is continuing to expand and optimize its use of Contruent across cost, contracts, workflow and reporting."

Iulia Amariei
Senior Sales Director
Contruent

Contruent

- Manual data exports from its cost management system into its Snowflake data warehouse were inefficient, with no cloud-to-cloud or API-based alternative in place.
- Approval workflows and commitments needed more accuracy.
- The contracts team needed better report generation and was reviewing an Excel Reporting Generator (ERG) scope focused on the contracts register.
- The firewall quarantined important commercial and technical emails, causing delays in commercial documents and IT actions.
- Project controls staff turnover in key roles made it harder to preserve configuration knowledge transfer and continuity.

This combination of issues had business consequences. Decision-making slowed. Extra manual effort was required.

> "The organization has improved its ability to govern cost, contracts and approvals across a complex capital program, while laying the foundation for more efficient reporting and analytics as the program scales."
>
> **Iulia Amariei**
> Senior Sales Director
> Contruent

Avoidable friction emerged across commercial, project controls and contracts processes. More time was devoted to extracting, reconciling and interpreting information without consistent reporting and reliable data flow.

The Solution

In order to pivot away from legacy cost and contract management practices toward a robust capital project controls solution, the renewable energy organization had to pinpoint exactly what that solution needed to do. It had to:

- Support cost and contract governance.
- Provide structured control account and project cost management capability.
- Improve visibility for PMO, package controls, contracts and procurement stakeholders.
- Support workflow-based approvals and contract variation (change order) processes.
- Reduce manual reporting effort and improve the path toward more efficient data extraction and analytics.
- Scale as the program moved from planning and investigation into more mature delivery phases.

Generic options would not work; it had to be purpose-built for managing cost, contracts, workflows and reporting across a large program within a complex

infrastructure environment. The organization found an ideal fit with Contruent Enterprise.

What made this solution stand out was its strong project controls depth, cost and contracts capability, and the ability to support and evolve with the organization's workflow-based governance model.

Plus, Contruent's team gave the organization's team confidence that they wouldn't just implement the platform and leave. They were willing to work closely with the organization through configuration, reporting, licensing, workflow and integration discussions.

It was that side-by-side guidance that signaled something distinct from the product differentiators: Contruent's emphasis on having a strong mutual working relationship that extends beyond day-to-day users. This was evidenced through consistent championing of Contruent by the package controls lead within the organization. Executive alignment through the PMO demonstrated visibility and

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support at the leadership level. And procurement/contracts leadership engagement became more involved.

The Results

This isn't really a before-and-after story. Implementation and adoption of Contruent Enterprise's project controls is best described as a collaborative, phased journey. This multi-year approach has allowed the organization to progressively mature its use and adoption of Contruent. As the program has evolved, both teams have worked together to refine the solution through licensing, workflows, reporting needs, control account structures and integration/data extraction options.

The most well-supported operational gains fall into a few categories:

- Costs and contracts now managed in a more structured environment
- Stronger governance across cost, contracts and approvals
- Ongoing improvement in reporting through the contracts register ERG and future data extraction/API options
- Better workflow governance for contract variations and approvals
- Improved forecasting accuracy and reduced reporting time

Beyond these, a few other indicators point to ongoing success:

- High account health
- Continued expansion/ licensing discussions
- Active services discussions
- Use of contract administration capability

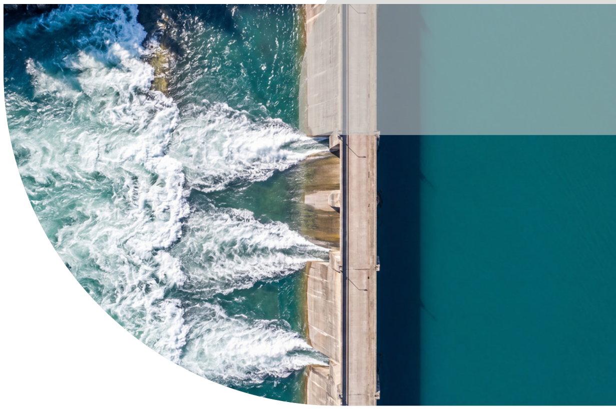
What's behind the ongoing success of the implementation? It comes down to three main drivers: Strong sponsorship and organization engagement, Contruent's support and close collaboration, and an iterative approach.

Now, instead of relying only on fragmented manual processes, the organization has a platform giving PMO, package controls, contracts and procurement teams visibility across functions. Ongoing discussions on reporting, APIs, data extraction and control accounts show Contruent is helping the organization scale and prepare for greater governance and delivery complexity.

That scalability matters most on the way to delivering pumped hydro energy storage infrastructure and helping the country reach net zero by 2050.

ARES PRISM Becomes Contruent

In 2023, ARES PRISM was reborn as Contruent, launching a new name with an industry-



leading new product, Contruent Enterprise. Contruent Enterprise is a culmination of our award-winning project controls software, full of industry best practices built in, with the innovation and world-class capabilities of a capital project management software.

Building on its 25-year history, Contruent is the premier capital project management software that is faster to deliver across the entire project lifecycle for complex, mega-construction projects.

Contruent

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