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Connecting Portfolio and Asset

Level Planning for a leading venture capital firm with Anaplan



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PROBLEM STATEMENT

Long-term asset operations needed more consistent financial planning

Our client , a leading venture capitalist firm, acquires, owns and operates assets over extended periods, with performance depending on how effectively capital, operating costs and returns are managed throughout ownership. As its portfolio expanded, Excel-based reports, inconsistent financial definitions and manual reconciliation made it harder to maintain a reliable view across investments. Planning at fund and asset level also depended on fragmented models and team inputs. They required a consistent portfolio position, dependable financial calculations and more flexible asset-level forecasts, supported by structured collaboration across teams.

Polestar Analytics was engaged to establish a more controlled reporting and planning environment in Anaplan.



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CHALLENGES

Four bottlenecks limited portfolio-wide financial visibility

The existing process broke down at different points between data collection, consolidation and the decisions based on those numbers.

Fragmented reporting

Separate Excel reports and inconsistent sector or strategy definitions created multiple portfolio versions and repeated consolidation.

Reconciliation and calculation differences

Varying spreadsheet formulas and financial inputs made reconciliation difficult, including between balance sheet and cash flow information.

Unstructured team contributions

Portfolio Analytics, FP&A, Capital Markets, Asset Management, Loan Ops and Equity needed a clearer submission and approval process.

Limited planning flexibility

Spreadsheet limitations complicated scalable reporting, multi-period forecasting and what-if analysis at fund and asset levels.

A reliable planning process required the portfolio view, existing models and asset financial plans to be addressed together.

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SOLUTION OVERVIEW

Three Anaplan workstreams addressed different planning needs

Polestar AnalyticsxAnaplan combined a new reporting foundation with improvements to the existing Anaplan environment and deeper asset-level modeling.

01. Establish the portfolio position

PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW MODEL

Centralized reports, standardized financial logic, automated data loading and cross-team submissions.

02. Maintain a dependable planning environment

IBOR OPTIMIZATION + DATA HUB

Architecture, performance, dashboard and versioning improvements, alongside data-management refinements.

03. Evaluate asset economics over time

SOLAR MODEL, PHASE 1

Anaplan modeling for investment, operations, debt and returns, with fund-to-asset analysis and scenarios.

The reporting workstream established the governed portfolio model; supporting refinements improved Anaplan usability and reliability.

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SOLUTION APPROACH | REPORTING FOUNDATION

Polestar Analytics established a governed portfolio reporting process in Anaplan

Portfolio reporting moved from separate Excel calculations into a controlled Anaplan model, supported by changes to the existing reporting environment.

Built a centralized Portfolio Overview Model

Standardized calculations, validated inputs and enabled controlled adjustments at sub-investment, investment and program levels.

Automated data movement and portfolio reportsiation and calculation differences

Implemented extraction, transformation and loading processes, migrating Excel-based portfolio reports into Anaplan.

Structured cross-functional submissions

Anaplan workflows brought Portfolio Analytics, FP&A, Capital Markets, Asset Management, Loan Ops and Equity into submission and approval cycles.

Optimized IBOR, dashboards and Data Hub

Reviewed IBOR architecture, performance and versioning; improved UX and naming conventions; refined Data Hub processes and model hygiene.

Tested, deployed and supported go-live

Completed SIT and UAT, incorporated user feedback and supported early monthly and quarterly reporting cycles after migration.

The portfolio foundation addressed recurring reporting; the Solar Model added the detail required to evaluate individual assets.

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SOLUTION APPROACH | ASSET ECONOMICS

Anaplan extended planning into the financial lifecycle of solar assets

For Phase 1 of the Solar Model, Polestar developed and validated the core financial components needed for asset-level analysis and fund reporting.

Model capital investment and construction

CAPEX, construction activities and capital contributions provided the investment-side assumptions.

Calculate operating performance

Revenue, OPEX and depreciation were developed with standardized calculations and flexible overrides.

Assess financing and returns

Permanent debt and TE LPT / Returns formed part of the documented financial model scope.

Bring analysis into fund and asset planning

Consolidated fund reporting, asset drill-downs, revenue/OPEX/CAPEX dashboards, multi-period forecasts, scenario versions and reporting exports.

The Portfolio Overview, IBOR/Data Hub refinements and Solar Model provided different parts of the Anaplan planning capability.

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SOLUTION ARCHITECTURE

How the documented Anaplan components fit together

FINANCIAL AND PORTFOLIO INPUTS

Excel reports · Investment-level financial data · Planning assumptions

DATA HANDLING AND MODEL SUPPORT

Extraction, transformation, loading and validation · Data Hub refinements

ANAPLAN MODEL ENVIRONMENT

Portfolio Overview

Consolidated reporting
Validated calculations
Team submissions

IBOR

Existing financial model
Performance and versioning
Dashboard enhancements

Solar Model

CAPEX, revenue, OPEX
Debt, returns and forecasts
Scenario analysis

REPORTING AND PLANNING OUTPUTS

Portfolio dashboards · Fund-to-asset views · Forecasts · Scenarios · Approvals

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HOW TEAMS USED THE SOLUTION

Anaplan made recurring reporting and planning handoffs more structured

The delivered functionality supported the activities that connect portfolio information, business reviews and asset financial analysis.

TEAM ACTIVITY	ENABLED IN ANAPLAN
Teams submit portfolio information	Structured submissions and approvals guide contributions from finance, investments and asset-related functions.
Portfolio teams reconcile figures	Standardized calculations, input validation and investment-level overrides support review and correction.
Management reviews portfolio and fund results	Consolidated reporting, fund-to-asset drill-downs and dashboards show revenue, CAPEX and OPEX.
Planning teams revise asset assumptions	Solar Model what-if scenarios and custom versions support forecasts without changing native versions.
Model owners maintain planning processes	IBOR performance and UX improvements, Data Hub refinements and versioning support continued use.

These changes supported more reliable reporting cycles and more flexible fund and asset planning.

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BUSINESS IMPACT

The Anaplan implementation strengthened reporting control and planning flexibility

The delivery overview documents improvements in reporting consistency, team collaboration and financial modeling, without quantified cost or time savings.

Centralized portfolio reporting
Excel-based portfolio reports were migrated to one Anaplan Portfolio Overview Model.

More consistent financial calculations
Standardized logic, discrepancy identification and controlled adjustments improved reporting consistency.

Accountable team contributions
Anaplan submissions and approvals provided greater visibility and control across contributor groups.

Deeper asset-level financial analysis
Fund-to-asset views, revenue/OPEX/CAPEX KPIs, multi-period forecasts and scenario versions extended planning capability.

More sustainable Anaplan models
IBOR tuning, UX changes, Data Hub refinements and model hygiene supported ongoing reliability.

The result: a more dependable Anaplan foundation for managing financial performance across a longer asset ownership lifecycle.

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About

Polestar Analytics

Polestar Analytics is a leader in Data, Analytics, AI, and Enterprise Planning helping organizations to unlock intelligent outcomes through our proprietary products like 1Platform, accelerators, and services. Our expertise spans data engineering, data science, agentic and generative AI, and advanced planning for CPG/Retail, Pharmaceuticals, Manufacturing, IT/ITeS, and Financial Services.

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