

# Transforming your sales force

How to use your compensation solution to gain the trust of your end users

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# **Summary**

- 1. Goals of the transformation
- 2. Solution evaluation
- 3. Results & Benefits
- 4. What we've learned

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**Goals of the transformation** 

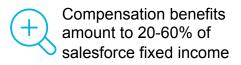
# **About Solocal Group**



## **About the salesforce**











# What were the challenges

The Business model revolution from paper to digital needed to be supported through a salesforce transformation

- Salesforce transformation began in 2013, driven by compensation
- New sales organization by business line
- Revamping of sales rep contract & incentive policy: from commission-only to salary plus performance-based incentives
- Sales comp now to be managed by HR, not Finance:
  - Sales comp part of income & contract, therefore under responsibility of HR
  - HR team discovered whole new issues to calculate compensation (almost a new job!)

### The goals of the transformation on compensation were:

- Usability: visibility & automation
- Flexibility: multiple objectives / KPIs
- Adaptability: quick & easy modification









## What we focused on to choose a solution

### Ease of use, user-friendly

## **Customization and configuration capacity**

- Ability to adapt the solution look & feel to PagesJaunes
- Business users can edit rules & calculations within the GUI
- Different application profiles

Tailored reports to ensure transparency on calculations

Simulation module of compensation amounts in the hands of the end users

Evaluation of complexity and man/days in the answers to the RFP aligned with our own perception



## **Final selection**





to make your people happy

"I want every sales rep being able to verify by themselves in the ICM solution the benefits of the new comp plan with direct access via the CRM (Sales Force)"

Solocal Group CEO



# Why we chose



### Ease of change: so we can adapt quickly to the market

- Modifications of rules and existing calculations is supported by the business users (not I.T)
- Ability to develop custom reports on any calculation

## Ability to support complexity: to support Sales Strategies without compromise

- Complex compensation mechanisms, carry-forward process
- Many different objectives, rules
- Manage performance curves for bonus/commission

Salesforce.com integration: to drive engagement

Simulations capability: to empower sales reps to see how to achieve their targets

Expertise: begom understood our requirements, and provided an experienced integrator









## **Benefits & Results of the solution**

#### Ease of use, rich content and simulation:

- acceptance & engagement from the end users
- users understand / trust their compensation with full transparency
- users can focus on performance/goals
- deeper engagement of the managers through steering tools and real-time performance

### From the business owners' perspective

- increased productivity (fewer manual processes)
- adaptable to change without the need of I.T.
- better control: audit trail, approval workflow
- success of the transformation plan Digital2015: the compensation solution contributed to its achievement







# A virtuous circle: trust in the compensation solution helps carry out the transformation plan

When confronted with something as critical as the compensation plan renewal in a transformation plan, the key is to make the compensation a side issue for sales people, for them:

- To focus on business
- To involve in the digital transformation of their jobs and especially of the products they're selling

To overtake objectives by knowing immediate benefits (no blur: users can simulate additional performance and immediately see extra compensation if reached)

To make compensation a side issue, you need to gain the TRUST of your end-users. TRUST is earned by giving users full visibility into:

- How calculations are made
- Their performance and how it relates to compensation

#### TRUST is measured:

- directly: decrease in nb of support tickets & disputes
- indirectly: improvement of results in employee survey, very low staff turnover







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## **Session Description**

Beginning in 2013, PagesJaunes (the French Yellow Pages) launched a major transformation of their sales organisation. This transformation included moving to an objectives-based compensation plan, with some complex calculations, that could be changed quickly as needed to adapt to the market.

They knew that for such a transformation to be successful, especially when it impacts compensation, the company would need the buy-in and confidence of their end users.

They searched for and implemented a solution, begom, that gives their users tools to monitor and follow their compensation, is fully transparent, and makes users confident on the solution and the calculation of their compensation, thus contributing to the success of the transformation plan.

This session will explore the business challenge they faced, the solution they implemented, and lessons learned.



