



” We greatly value INTERJECT as a reliable partner. Users keep the Excel freedom they love, single sign-on to keep it simple, and the Excel reporting just works, even at our scale.

- John Weber, Product Manager, NISC

MODERN, CLOUD-READY FINANCIAL REPORTING AT SCALE

The Challenge

National Information Solutions Cooperative (NISC) is a member-owned technology cooperative that provides advanced IT solutions to energy and communications organizations across the United States, Canada, American Samoa and Palau. With a focus on innovation and service, NISC supports over 900 Member organizations with enterprise software solutions, including accounting, billing, operations, and customer engagement tools.

NISC faced a challenge in their product portfolio. Financial reporting relied on four separate tools that needed to be retired.

- A legacy text-based financial designer.
- An aging, internally built Excel plug-in.
- Static in-application reports.
- Consultant-built ad-hoc layouts.

None of these tools were cloud-ready, and each imposed trade-offs on flexibility, performance, or polish. Templates were rigid, requiring manual workarounds and controllers spent extra hours manipulating exports to produce “board-quality” packets. Product leaders worried about the long-term cost of supporting multiple, on-premise components. Ultimately, the lack of a unified, cloud-ready solution posed long-term scalability concerns that needed a better solution.

Searching for a Better Solution

During a formal evaluation, NISC compared three paths:

- **Build new:** Provided total control, but required significant in-house resources and time.
- **Refactor existing platforms:** Maintained familiar tools, yet retro-fitting may add more complexity.
- **Adopt a partner solution:** Quickest route, provided the partner could meet strict security and scalability requirements.

In their comprehensive evaluation, INTERJECT stood out for its Excel-based interface, cloud compatibility, and ability to deliver highly customizable, board-quality financial statements.

A pilot of INTERJECT’s Excel-first platform demonstrated

that live general-ledger data could flow through secure web-service calls and without special on-premise or cloud servers. This eliminated a persistent dependency for integration to a reporting database while maintaining a fast reporting experience for end users.

The combination of fast time-to-value plus cloud scalability matched NISC’s product strategy and INTERJECT was selected.

Implementation Journey

The implementation followed three key stages that ensured a smooth and efficient transition.

1. **Security & SSO first:** INTERJECT and NISC engineers mapped identity workflows to the cooperative’s iVUE® web services, ensuring seamless authentication from day one.

2. **Financial Templates:** Financial statements tailored to their industry were provided as templates. Accountants could modify and brand them in minutes.
3. **Two-Part Enablement** - Users installed the add-in from a central website, then attended a two-part virtual workshop.

Once the INTERJECT reporting templates were in the hands of NISC Members, John Weber, Product Manager of NISC, said, "They praised the intuitive Excel interface and the flexibility to tailor reports to their needs."

In addition, the identity integration was configured to avoid user maintenance from the NISC support team. After signing in for the first time, users are automatically provisioned within INTERJECT.

Key Capabilities

INTERJECT delivered a unique combination of capabilities not typically found in a single solution. These included:

- **Familiar Excel Interface:** Accountants continue working in a tool they already have mastered.
- **Real-Time GL Integration:** Users pull directly from cloud iVUE services; no ODBC tunnels or on-premise agents are required.
- **Data-in-Place Philosophy:** All reads and potential writes route through existing web services; none of their data lands on third-party servers, local or cloud.
- **Template Governance:** The central INTERJECT report library allows NISC to publish locked-down reports while still allowing each NISC Member to make personalized modifications.
- **Fast, Enterprise Features:** Data loads quickly, with built-in features for drilling across reports and collecting inputs to support tailored budgeting and operational workflows in the future.

Successful Results

NISC evaluated the results and gathered feedback from both users and support teams, uncovering four key findings:

- **Efficiency Improved:** Reporting tasks went from days to hours, and hours to minutes. John Weber stated "Several NISC Members reported being able to deliver polished, "board-ready" financials within hours of month-end close, something that previously took days."
- **Better Accuracy:** The centralized approach to reporting management across on-premise spreadsheets was a significant gain in sustainability and consistency, which greatly improved accuracy.
- **Fewer Support Tickets:** Retiring four legacy tools and implementing INTERJECT gave end users control over

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reporting they needed and reduced support requests.

- **Custom Services Avoided:** Eliminated custom financial programming requests which allowed the use of these highly technical resources elsewhere in the organization.

Looking Ahead

Both NISC's product team and INTERJECT are working to pilot AI-enabled commentary inside the same INTERJECT templates. This would initially provide an "explain this variance" feature directly in Excel among other ideas. They are also evaluating the potential for PowerPoint integration to auto-assemble board decks with annotated slides, further reducing reporting overhead.

Insights for Software Providers

Many SaaS providers hesitate to embed spreadsheet connectivity and create full reporting workflows because they fear security gaps, performance limits and template sprawl. Although users love working with their data in spreadsheets, software companies consider it an unsustainable road.

NISC's experience as shown that INTERJECT has answered those concerns:

- A web-service-only pathway kept all their data inside NISC's tenancy, serving as the single source of truth for all spreadsheet reports.
- A staged rollout reached a 1,000 user benchmark with no loss in performance, maintaining fast reporting.
- Central template libraries coupled with role-based permissions preserved governance while still empowering end users.

For product managers weighing a build-versus-buy decision, INTERJECT provided a short, low-risk path to modern reporting—letting NISC further invest in their core product while trusting INTERJECT to simplify reporting management and strengthen data governance.

John Weber mentioned that from their experience, "If you're looking for a modern, cloud-ready financial reporting solution that your accounting team will enjoy using, INTERJECT is the answer. It combines the power of automation with the familiarity of Excel, making it easy to adapt and scale."