BUSINESS CHALLENGE

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is the federal executive department responsible for developing and executing federal government policy on food, agriculture, natural resources, rural development, nutrition and related issues. The USDA comprises 29 agencies and has over 130,000 geographically dispersed employees.

Keeping professionals across the agency trained and informed is both a priority and a challenge. The USDA had multiple legacy learning management systems (LMS) with different training modalities and capabilities and it needed a centralized, consolidated approach to administering and delivering courses, books and content to meet a diverse range of learners, topics and styles.

HOW SKILLSOFT® HELPED

First the USDA introduced AgLearn, its consolidated LMS, as part of an eGovernment strategic initiative. Then the USDA implemented Skillsoft training content, including SkillChoice® Complete courses and book collections for business, desktop computing and IT; IT and Desktop Performance Support videos and 50 other selected compliance courseware titles.

Most training resources are accessible from a desktop computer or a mobile device to support the dispersed workforce. The USDA is using social media and gamification to deliver a program that breaks down barriers between learning and business.

ABOUT USDA

The USDA provides leadership on food, agriculture, natural resources, rural development, nutrition and related issues based on public policy, the best available science and effective management. It has a vision to provide economic opportunity through innovation, helping rural America to thrive; to promote agriculture production that better nourishes Americans while also helping feed others throughout the world; and to preserve their Nation's natural resources through conservation, restored forests, improved watersheds and healthy private working lands. The USDA's strategic plan serves as a roadmap for the Department to help ensure it achieves the mission and implements the vision.

"Since its implementation, AgLearn has helped the USDA improve its business processes, increase utilization of training resources and transform the culture into a learning-centric organization."

Jerome Davin, Director of IT Workforce Development, USDA

KEY METRICS

| 130K | Over 130,000 users in the United States in about 2,000 U.S. counties and more than 100 countries |
| 5M   | Over 5 million online courses have been completed in AgLearn |
| 74M  | AgLearn experienced a cost avoidance of $74 million in a three year period |