Case Study: Tantalus Labs

Hear how we saved Tantalus Labs $1.3m, by removing the need for it to develop an in-house system

Highlights

$1.3m saved by not developing an in-house system	Minimum of **18 hours saved** per employee, per week
Real-time access to batch records for successful inspections	**Batch release 40x faster**

Profile

LOCATION: BRITISH COLUMBIA

FACILITY SIZE: 75,000 SQ. FT

LICENSED DATE: 2017

LICENSE TYPE: CULTIVATION & PROCESSING

> "If you are an aspiring producer that is looking to reduce its QA labour load, I cannot say enough about Elevated Signals. They automate compliance with flexible process reporting 5 years ahead of the curve"

\- Dan Sutton, CEO, Tantalus Labs

The Situation

Tantalus Labs is a licensed cannabis producer based in British Columbia. The SunLab, its 75,000 sq.ft greenhouse in Maple Ridge, is dedicated to reducing the environmental impact of cultivating cannabis.

Recognizing the inefficiencies of paper-based systems, the Tantalus team were using a combination of digital tools to manage their production processes, including a seed-to-sale software, project management applications, and Google Sheets. The lack of integration between these tools kept production data siloed, so Tantalus developed its own batch reporting kit to reconcile tasks. However, the in-house system was expensive. The project required continuous maintenance and investments in development, which Tantalus estimated would cost over $270,000. In five years, this in-house system was projected to cost over $1,300,000.

With a facility that was rapidly expanding, Tantalus needed a record-keeping solution that could scale with them and reduce the administrative burden of managing an inefficient system. This included automating the process of linking cultivation, production management, and quality compliance records to its inventory, simplifying data input tasks while minimizing the risk of errors, and reducing the time it took to gather batch records for any Health Canada visits. It was also important for all current and new team members to be able to access and share knowledge of the company's internal production processes.

THE CHALLENGE

After realizing its in-house system would cost hundreds of thousands of dollars to maintain and develop, Tantalus needed to find a record-keeping solution that could scale as it grew, and reduce the administrative burden of managing an inefficient system.

The Solution

To develop a solution that met its requirements, Tantalus Labs collaborated with Elevated Signals to implement an electronic batch records (EBR) system. With EBR forms that controlled data input for quality compliance, data collection accuracy was improved. Records could also be completed quickly with digital signatures enabling remote sign-offs.

Now that all production data was fully digitized and organized into one secure source, batch records could also be updated in real time. This gave the Tantalus team visibility across all of its production records and allowed them to pull inventory logs, quality compliance tasks, and any other necessary data quickly for Health Canada audits. This transparency also helped improve Tantalus' QA program. By enabling continuous and transparent insight into its operations, the EBR system allowed all staff across the organization to access the same knowledge of internal QA protocols.

With Elevated Signals, all cultivation and processing data can now be integrated through an OAuth 2.0 API with other environmental control systems, non-cannabis inventory, and human resource planning software. This valuable information has helped Tantalus to scale their operations quickly and efficiently, while remaining focused on product quality and regulatory compliance.

The Success

$1.3m Saved By Not Developing an In-House System

By not building its own in-house system, Tantalus Labs was able to save at least $1,300,000 in developmental costs in its first five years of operation.

A Minimum of 18 Hours Saved Per Employee, Per Week

With Elevated Signals, the time spent manually correlating production data with batch and room data was significantly reduced, saving each staff member at least 18 hours a week.

Batch Release is 40x Faster

Increased operational efficiency means batches can be released in approximately 1-2 hours. This would take around 2-3 days if the team had to compile documents from different sources.

Real-time Access to Batch Records for Successful Inspections

Tantalus has passed several Health Canada batch inspections thanks to its central database of searchable production records.

> "If you're not with Elevated Signals your enterprise is at a material disadvantage"

\- Dan Sutton, CEO, Tantalus Labs