
KENNO STREAMLINES PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT WITH **SILCUBE**

CASE STUDY



Silcube helps Kenno improve transparency, accuracy, and productivity and make confident portfolio investment decisions.

Company: Kenno

Industry: Investment Management

Headquarters: Singapore and Vietnam

Company Size: 8–10 employees

Founded: 2014

Website: <https://kennogroup.com/>

Top Silcube Features Used: Fund Factsheet, Portfolio Overview, Analytics

Results: Maximum transparency, improved accuracy, higher productivity

Kenno is an independent, regulated asset management firm focused on long-term investments and active ownership. It combines its Finnish family-business heritage with a contemporary investment approach to growing clients' capital, ensuring its open-ended fund provides long-term value to clients and society in emerging and frontier markets.

Challenges

As it uses a third-party AIFM (Alternative Investment Fund Managers), Kenno needed better portfolio visibility to access the necessary data quickly and track fund performance.

“When everything is outsourced, it’s difficult to stay on top of what’s happening,” says Mikael Nastamo, Chief Executive Officer at Kenno. **“As a portfolio manager, having an up-to-date view is crucial.”**

Besides working with disparate data, Kenno’s CEO had to do heavy manual work. One challenge was calculating total monthly returns in Excel, which wasn’t a walk in the park.

“At the end of every month, we had to export all the trades done on a specific date, reorganise the data and all the dividends separately from the corporate actions or the events page, and then calculate the total return manually,” recalls Nastamo.

Besides facing inefficiencies and human error, these manual tasks cost Mikael’s team precious time. His team spent so many hours updating all the factsheets manually that focusing on clients and growth took a backseat.

“I want to spend most of my day solving critical problems, like figuring out how to deploy our client’s capital,” says Mikael.

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I want to talk to my clients, not spend two hours each month moving around data trying to create a report.

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Nastamo knew he had to do something to “cut through that complexity” and get the transparency he needed to make confident portfolio investment decisions. However, he worried about adding another point of contact to the ecosystem.

Solution

Kenno had already worked with a client of Silcube, which provided Kenno AIFM services and came with Cube (now Silcube) as a package because the company developed it as its in-house software.

After learning more about Silcube, the Kenno team decided to go with it and use it as a front-office system. The software already had all the data from Kenno's trades in its database, so implementing it was seamless.

Nastamo liked that Silcube's functionalities were **"easy to grasp"** because it specialised in one thing.

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*Silcube is that one central point where I can access quite a lot of the information I need and export data, **he says.***

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Factsheet Reporting became his favourite feature because he could use it directly when marketing his fund, which would be very time-consuming to do manually. He liked the feature's customisation options because the team could seamlessly analyse the fund's six share classes and factsheets in two languages.

"The other feature I like is the Portfolio Overview because I can see all my positions and cash balances with the current market value," says Mikael.

After finding a working model, he proposed a custom feature to make the most of the software.

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The Total Return Analysis, which Silcube created per my request for my fund, was awesome because the gross IRR of an investment can be very different from the total shareholder return,” says Mikael. “We use that as an internal tool to evaluate the investment team’s performance.

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Results

MAXIMUM TRANSPARENCY

Implementing Silcube helped Kenno overcome the challenges of working in the third-party model. As a Singapore-based manager, overseeing multiple service providers on the other side of the world is a challenge, and to ensure that clients get the best possible deal, it's crucial for Kenno to have an overview of all the transactions related to the Fund.

Having a cloud-based fund management platform, also makes Kenno service provider agnostic. In case of trouble, Kenno can change the fund's service providers without experiencing any loss of data, which is important from a risk management perspective. Especially after COVID-19, business continuity plans have become an integral part of fund management.

“The key problem it resolved for me was transparency and governance,” says Nastamo. “As an outside manager using a third-party AIFM, I feel much more confident when I have Silcube. I can audit everything and ensure all service providers do their job.”

Kenno's CEO and his team started enjoying peace of mind, knowing they could monitor the fund's performance and track movements in the investor base. As Nastamo put it, they had a “tool of transparency when monitoring the portfolio, transactions, cash flow, and other data and getting information about investors in one centralised, neatly-organised place.”

IMPROVED ACCURACY

Silcube also helped Kenno eliminate human error and base decisions on accurate data.

“Once I started using Silcube, I discovered we were missing a few data points in one of our internal spreadsheets. Typical human errors that can occur when you copy-paste data from multiple sources,” says Kenno's CEO. “That was, for example, why Silcube genuinely helped me. Without Silcube, I would have to get an internal portfolio management system to ensure an accurate fund overview.”

HIGHER PRODUCTIVITY

As the Kenno team continued using Silcube, everyone started doing more in less time. Reducing time-consuming manual work, eliminating the need to correct mistakes, and embracing the advice-order-trade workflow made a whole world of difference.

“Silcube increases my productivity, which makes me a better fund manager,” says Nastamo. “It saves me time, and the value of Silcube comes from there. Even if I weren’t working with an external AIFM, I would still probably keep Silcube to have all this data.”

Kenno keeps growing with Silcube

Today, Kenno is as strong as ever. It continues growing its investor base and creating value for clients with its commitment to responsible investment. Silcube is still a part of that progress, primarily since it considers Kenno’s recommendations, including change requests and new features in the product development roadmap.

“I like that Silcube listens to the customers,” says Kenno’s CEO. “I feel like I’m being heard as a client. The team at Silcube has a genuine interest in improving the product, and have proved that by developing multiple features that I explained are important for a fund manager. I think that’s very important.”

Mikael also encourages other fund managers to use software like Silcube. “The whole fund management industry is very old-fashioned,” he says. “There would be a lot of value for many companies to use systems like Silcube because it means that customers get better service and everything is easier.”

He says utilising such portfolio management software becomes even more crucial as a company grows. “The value of any system like Silcube grows as the investor base grows,” he explains.

“As the number of shareholders in the fund increases, investor-related data becomes even more important. It would be impossible to keep track of it in Excel, and it wouldn’t be safe to do so from a cyber security perspective.”

“Like with any software service product, I’m always trying to think about the value I get versus the price I pay,” continues Mikael. “The value of Silcube comes from the fact that it saves my time and I can get transparency and see everything happening in my fund. I know that all the data is there if I need it, and I have the peace of mind to focus on executing my strategy.”

About Silcube

Silcube is a cloud-based platform crafted for professionals in private debt and trade finance management. We make complex tasks simple, covering everything from loan origination to covenants, to reporting. Our easy-to-navigate interface and all-in-one features save you time and enhance accuracy.

What sets us apart is our no-hassle online trial. No strings attached - just dive in and explore our tool and features. It is a first in the world of investment management software, offering you a risk-free way to discover how Silcube can transform your operations.

We are all about efficiency, simplicity, and empowering you to achieve your best performance. With Silcube, you get a reliable partner equipped with the tools and features that make a real difference.



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