

How Amnet Enabled a Large University Press to Reduce Project Management Costs Through a Hybrid Model While Preserving Editorial Excellence

Background

The client, a large public university press specializing in the humanities and social sciences, is known for their rigorous editorial standards and author-centric publishing model. As the client's preferred vendor, Amnet has consistently met the established quality standards for monographs and other publications through onshore copyediting. Project management was also historically managed onshore.

Solution Approach

When the press came to Amnet looking for help reducing costs without compromising quality, timelines, or author experience, Amnet proposed a phased hybrid model retaining onshore copyediting while effectively integrating offshore project management through an established setup.

Key highlights of the transition involved multiple strategic and operational initiatives that enabled a seamless, scalable, and cost-efficient shift.

- A controlled pilot was launched with two projects using the offshore PM model under structured governance to demonstrate the offshore team's ownership, responsiveness, and process discipline.
- The offshore team proactively implemented detailed SOPs, governance frameworks, and defined escalation pathways to ensure transparency, accountability, and seamless collaboration with authors, the client's production editors, and internal teams.
- Close coordination between Amnet's onshore and offshore PM teams facilitated a disruption-free transition.
- Amnet also embedded a KPI-driven oversight through its certainty index score to ensure quality and schedule expectations were met.

Outcome

- Designed a reproducible, performance-driven transition from onshore to offshore project management on selected projects, enabling operational continuity and long-term scalability.
- Successfully scaled the offshore project management model for the client from two projects per year to about 60% of their full-service portfolio managed offshore annually, without compromising quality or schedule expectations.
- Reduced project management costs by over 65% at the project level, with a progressive increase in the proportion of offshore project management year over year to drive sustained cost efficiencies.

Appreciation

Amnet's offshore full-service project management team continues to receive positive feedback from our clients and authors for proactive communication, certainty in execution, and seamless stakeholder management.

About Amnet

With 25 years of experience, Amnet offers end-to-end traditional and digital publishing solutions including peer-review management, editorial, project management, production, accessibility, and technology for university presses and other publishers in all sectors and around the globe.

Get in touch

✉ hello@amnet-systems.com

🌐 www.amnet.com