Southwest Airlines

Creating a Great Candidate Experience

Southwest wanted to fuel their candidate experience with the same momentum as their employee experience – hyper-personalized and engaging. Their existing career site left a lot to be desired and did not provide the needed visibility into actionable data in order to optimize their recruitment spend.

Additionally, Southwest hires with three core values in mind: a Warrior Spirit, a Servant’s Heart, and a Fun-LUVing Attitude. Together, these values make up what Southwest refers to as “Living the Southwest Way.” The values are actually expectations and are tied to performance appraisals. This means Southwest employees are required to love their jobs!

Southwest needed to communicate these expectations to prospective employees. Although the company is fortunate to receive hundreds of thousands of applications a year, Southwest wanted to ensure they were attracting the right candidates living by these values. The challenge was showcasing these principles to a broad audience, before ever having the opportunity to talk about them in person with the candidate.

By adopting the Phenom TRM Platform, these challenges were resolved by giving the team the ability to:

- Attract the right talent by delivering personalized and interactive career site experiences to tell the Southwest story
- Run campaigns to capture passive candidates
- Provide actionable insights into the hiring funnel and the source of applicants to help measure ROI
- Retain talent and drive employee referrals with the Phenom People Internal Mobility and Referral Application

"Southwest has a strong history and employer brand. Phenom People helped showcase our story and brand in ways we couldn’t do before the TRM Platform."

GREG MUCCIO
Director of Talent Acquisition
Southwest Airlines
Taking off with a New Platform

Southwest participates in the Talent Board’s CandE Awards every year. The year they amplified their talent acquisition strategy with the Phenom TRM platform, their candidate experience ranked the highest in three key categories: overall experience, likeliness candidates would apply in the future, and likeliness a candidate would refer a connection to work for the company.

Long before they submitted for the CandE Awards, the team witnessed immediate results after implementation. In less than 90 days after going live, Southwest saw significant improvements in the candidate experience and gained valuable benefits and insights into their talent acquisition strategy including:

- Ability to mirror the consumer experience on an engaging career site and showcase its award-winning culture and employer brand
- Stronger candidate experience survey responses
- Robust talent analytics to make well-informed decisions on the channels to allocate recruiting spend
- Impactful implementation process created early adopter momentum of the platform across the talent acquisition team
- Increased career site conversion rates with 1,261 apply clicks

90 DAYS AFTER IMPLEMENTATION

- **12%↑** increase in overall candidate experience
- **1M** new career site visitors
- **26%↑** increase in job seekers saying they are likely to apply
- **17%↑** increase in people saying they would likely refer someone to Southwest

About Southwest Airlines

Southwest has been the nation’s largest domestic air carrier since 2003. During peak travel seasons, Southwest operates more than 4,000 weekday departures among a network of 99 destinations in the United States and 10 additional countries. Known for its amazing culture and employee experience, Southwest employs more than 58,000 employees to date.

Career Site
https://careers.southwestair.com/

Headquarters
Dallas, Texas

Employees
58,000

Industry
Airlines/Aviation

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