



# Roivant

A case study in  
unconventional innovation  
and unlocking new ways  
to collaborate



ReadCube is the  
best tool I've seen  
so far in my 20+ years  
in drug development.

Maximilien Murone  
VP Operations  
Affivant Sciences

# Roivant is a next-generation biopharmaceutical company dedicated to improving the delivery of healthcare to patients. Treating every inefficiency as an opportunity, Roivant develops transformative medicines and technologies faster by building agile, focused companies called Vants.

Since its launch in 2014, Roivant has formed more than 20 Vants. These companies are reinventing the discovery, development and commercialization of new medicines in areas as diverse as oncology, neurology, immunology and rare diseases. To date, they have advanced the development of more than 40 drug candidates.

## > The challenge

An industry pioneer, Roivant empowers a global team of innovators within and beyond the biopharmaceutical industry to tackle the most pressing challenges in healthcare today. Their work requires daily exploration and analysis of scientific literature to support strategic decisions and help them assess the market opportunity for new healthcare products.

For Shaughnessy Robinson, Executive Director of Applied Modeling for Covant Therapeutics, and Maximilien Murone, Vice President of Operations at Affivant, scouting for this information can be time and resource intensive. As Maximilien explains, without the right software it can feel like “taking a hook and fishing somewhere in the ocean”. The information is out there and can be found eventually, but quick and easy access is essential to Roivant’s people; not to mention the ease of collaboration, given the hybrid nature of their workforce.

With previous tools unable to scale or provide the support they needed, the Roivant team looked to find a better solution, which is where ReadCube came in.



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## > Saving time with an organized, accessible knowledge base

How easily scientists and researchers can get their work done matters. Roivant has a strong commitment to continuous innovation and its staff need access to the right tools that can support these efforts. Satisfaction and ease of use is paramount; especially when adopting new software.

The more intuitive and self-explanatory a tool is, the more likely a team will use it. For Maximilien, ReadCube was thoughtfully created with scientists in mind: “It’s incredibly well designed and because of that there’s a snowball effect in how often people use the platform. In my team, we are continually adding articles, and building a library around topics of interest. The best part is that with the Search tool, you can navigate back to a precise article, no matter how long ago you first found it. It’s simple to retrieve it with a keyword or name you remember.”

In the past, Maximilien and Shaughnessy struggled with generic shared file systems and storage devices, using these to create a makeshift directory of research. This kind of DIY library is incredibly limiting; it offers no sophistication and requires extra effort for files to remain organized, such as having set naming conventions for consistency. Keeping surrounding data linked to those files (like supplemental materials) is nearly impossible to maintain in a scalable way.

ReadCube has simplified how they read, manage and discover research literature. “The overall convenience is a real benefit,” says Shaughnessy. “Why would I spend time clicking elsewhere when I don’t need to?”

Streamlining how reference materials are discovered, curated, shared and cited, ReadCube frees up the Roivant community to focus on what’s important to them: namely, to solve the biggest problems in human health.

## > Empowering a culture of collaboration that drives innovation

Truly transformative thinking requires a culture of collaboration, teamwork and information sharing. Roivant's culture is rooted in these elements, bringing together scientists, development experts, investors, entrepreneurs and engineers to unite diverse perspectives and tackle the most pressing challenges in healthcare today.

ReadCube has helped facilitate this culture, with collaborative collections where teams can share insights, discuss and work together seamlessly. Maximilien explains: "When you have a multidisciplinary team working to address specific strategic questions which require an in-depth review of literature, and where really the sky's the limit depending on how you search, a centralized platform like ReadCube is incredibly useful. It's made our literature searches much more efficient; it gets us to the full-text access faster, and if someone doesn't have time to read a whole article, they can read the key sections highlighted by their colleagues."

The Affivant team have gone as far as creating a weekly journal club using the platform, during which they review interesting papers from the previous week and keep team members updated with new research and trends.

## > Delivering exceptional account support

For Angela Webb, Senior Procurement Operations Manager at Roivant, ReadCube offers "a welcome evolution in customer service and technical support". The procurement team is small and manages up to 30 subscriptions, each with tickets and renewal cycles to oversee. Any opportunity to create efficiency is invaluable. As an all-in-one solution that offers document delivery, reference management, and storage solutions, ReadCube eliminates the need for separate tools, which means Angela's team only has to deal with the technical side of one platform.

More than this, she feels comfortable asking for support and raising any questions she has about how people are using the tool: "From all of our subscriptions, ReadCube is a supplier we're always happy to call. The team provides me with any data I need, whether it's to ensure we have the resources and budgets allocated to continue using ReadCube, or to help manage the user base in general.

We have developed a strong relationship built on trust and product value, both of which continue to grow."

ReadCube has also worked with Roivant to offer monthly training sessions to staff, where common questions can be answered and any issues solved. Shaughnessy adds: "I appreciate that ReadCube' developers want to hear user feedback and keep improving. It's surprising how few do that!".

Inviting customers to be critical of the software only leads to further improvements and new features that benefit everyone. For Roivant, this deep collaboration with a view to making tangible change mirrors their own approach to business. With a combination of open-mindedness and expert knowledge, Roivant is reinventing how the biopharma industry operates; the same qualities that enable ReadCube to support this sustained innovation.



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## > Looking to the future

Roivant's business model demonstrates the need for nimble, entrepreneurial companies to speed up the development of life-saving medicine - a paradigm shift in the pharmaceutical industry. With six FDA-approved drugs already developed by its Vants and eight out of nine successful phase-three trials, Roivant has an unprecedented track record. So, what's their secret and how can they keep achieving this level of success?

Maximilien says: "In part, it's due to outstanding science and outstanding design of trials, as well as thinking outside of the box. But of course, you cannot do this without a solid scientific background, knowing what has been accomplished or attempted by others in the field. As long as we base our model on being faster and more efficient, ReadCube will be part of our arsenal and a must-have."



## About ReadCube

ReadCube is a leader in scalable literature management solutions enhancing research driven teams by transforming the way scholarly literature is accessed, organized, and shared.

Information overload and outdated workflows can impede progress and grind innovation to a halt. ReadCube's adaptive literature management solutions have helped thousands of organizations get back to the breakthrough work that matters most.

With a focus on efficiency, security, collaboration and interoperability, ReadCube is the literature management solution that scales from biotech startup to global pharmaceutical company – making it possible to stay focused on tomorrow's breakthroughs and world-changing discoveries.

Learn more at [readcube.com](https://readcube.com)

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