

Coram Complex Cross Group Information

- we achieved the impossible -

About Coram

The Coram group has a strong leading position in the European market for sanitary ware with four solid brands, Sealskin, Tiger, Geesa and Dinotec. Our products and concepts can be found all over the world at different branch of trade. The average widespread number of employees within the Coram group is 630.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Fast implementation
Flexibility
Internet Data transfer
Low budget

Project and Environment

The solution is based on a central Data Warehouse with decentralized Data Marts for each region. The server is a Win2003 machine with Microsoft SQL-server Database. Initially about 10 million rows were loaded. The build of the related Data Marts takes only several minutes. The incremental updates have a throughput up to 50k rows per second.

About BIReady

BIReady is the software vendor that automatically designs, generates and populates **Enterprise Data Warehouses** and **Data Marts**, solely based on organizations' **Business Model** and best practices.

BIReady replaces intensive manual labour. Besides 50% savings on IT, this also enables companies to be agile in Business Intelligence

Objective

The operational holding "Coram International" has a strong need for Cross Group Information.

The process to define this cross group information has been a very intense and time consuming job with all human factors included. And of course, IT had to be used to address the challenges. Rapidly Coram understood that a Data Warehouse environment with Business Intelligence software on top is the best way to realize this strategic objective.

Challenges

- From the start there were several challenging restrictions on the project.
- Cost should be minimized during the Data Warehouse lifecycle, especially for maintenance and changes.
- The implementation period had to be short.
- Future change requests must be easy to implement.
- Furthermore, as the subsidiaries are geographically spread across Europe and one in Japan, data transport (speed?) and data security were acknowledged as important issues.

Solution

- Coram reduced the risk by using Microsoft tools as the platform for the whole Data Warehouse solution and kept a modular architecture.
- Coram managed to use low budget internet lines instead of expensive hired lines and only transfers changes to the data warehouse.

Coram and BIReady, together with their mutual partner Nippur, ran a quick, but in depth Proof of Concept, in which the added value of BIReady was clearly demonstrated.

BIReady designs, creates and loads the Data Warehouse and Data Marts (even on the fly) solely based on a predefined business model.

A change to Coram's business model is automatically processed throughout the Data Warehouse. Defining elements and types (including the, sometimes complex, historical requirements) is done with just one click within the configuration workflow of the tool – The BIReadyManager.

It's even possible to build up history over history (so keeping track of changes with retroactive aspects); what in itself is very unique.

The BIReady process is optimized and only changed data is processed. These massive multi threaded processes ensure excellent performance.

Result

"Our objectives seemed to be impossible, especially with all the given restrictions, but with the use of BIReady and the right people we reached our goals." said Eric Boerboom, Project Leader at Coram International.

"I recommend BIReady for every company facing Business Intelligence challenges"



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