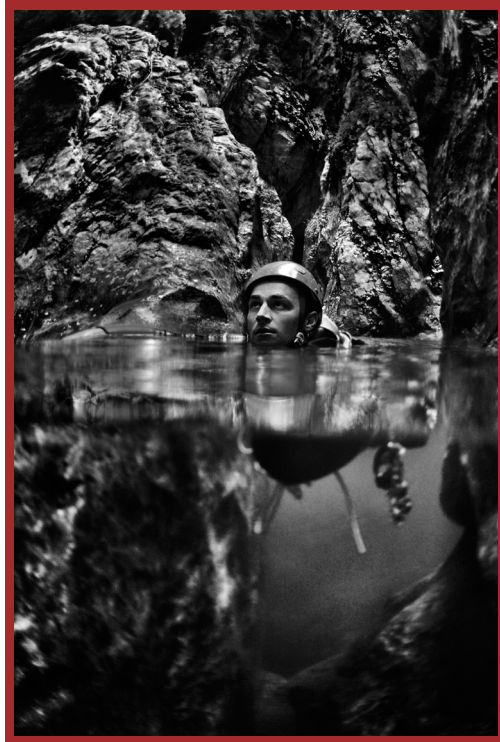




TITAN
CONSULTING

CASE STUDY – IMPLEMENTING A SAP BW PROOF OF CONCEPT



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THE CHALLENGE

Company ABC runs its operations on the SAP ECC 6.0 Enterprise Resources Planning platform using various modules. Management needed a way to get financial reports in a timely manner and also needed to make more informed decisions. After evaluating several options, the management team decided to implement BW on SAP Netweaver 7.3 to address these requirements.

Before venturing down the path of a full-blown BW/BI implementation, the decision was made to do a Proof of Concept (POC). Based on their highest priority needs, the team decided that the Proof of Concept would be to develop cubes from the Finance Module – which consists of

FI/CO, General Ledger, Accounts Receivables and Account Payables. The POC would also include knowledge transfer to the Client's Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) in the Finance area.

The main challenges were to prove that SAP BW could address the Reporting and Analytic needs of the client and provide the requisite knowledge which would enable the SMEs to implement other BW Modules with the aid of limited external resources in order to contain costs. Because SAP BW was new to the client's systems environment, it was the first time any of the employees would be working with SAP BW.





THE APPROACH

In implementing a POC for SAP BW, it is always recommended to use the SAP-delivered Business Content without enhancements to the objects. This is to minimize the time it takes to do an end-to-end implementation. The SAP Business Content consist of templates and will sometimes not meet the complete business reporting requirements, but enhancements could be completed prior to moving the objects into a Production Environment.

Once again, in order to minimize costs, the client agreed that a large percentage of tasks could be done remotely, reserving on-site tasks to those that will provide the most knowledge transfer.

The following steps were completed remotely:

- Performed BW System Health/Installation checks, including connections to ECC Source System.
- Identified all objects (InfoObjects, InfoSource, DataSource, DSO, InfoCubes and MultiProviders) associated with the Finance Module and activated them.
- Coordinated with Basis Administrator to ensure that Source System has quality data for testing. (The testing environments had good-quality data which would later be used to do quality checks with other reports.)
- Extracted Master Data and Transaction Data to BW.
- Created and tested queries to ensure system is ready for knowledge transfer.



Once satisfied that the BW System was healthy and stable, a date was set for the onsite visit and knowledge transfer.

Day one of on-site work was spent with management finalizing the format of the BW Training/Knowledge Transfer. This knowledge transfer consisted of demonstrations showing the remote tasks completed and executing queries to generate finance reports. During the demonstrations, the team engaged in discussions around difficulties in getting some needed reports out of the ECC System as currently configured. After completing the demonstrations, Titan Consulting conducted an intensive one-week training session. The topics of this session included the definition of objects in the BW [Backend] System, and BEx Queries, and Query objects (Structures and Key Figures) creation.



RESULTS

Working with the client's team, Titan was able to replicate many of the Profit & Loss Statements being used, proving to the client that BW was able to address their reporting and analytic needs. As a result, a detailed, comprehensive SAP BW Developer Operations Manual was developed and given to the client to be used for reference as they proceeded to implement and rollout SAP BW across the business landscape.



GLOSSARY

BEx	Business Explorer
BI	Business Intelligence
BW	Business Information Warehouse
DSO	Data Store Object
ECC	SAP ERP Central Component
FI/CO	Finance/Controlling
POC	Proof of Concept
SME	Subject Matter Experts



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