

Topic

Implementation of forecast planning in BW-BPS including reporting in BW 3.5.

Customer

pfm Produkte für die Medizin AG, Cologne

Task

- To provide planning functionality via the web portal for the Sales, Controlling, Human Resources and Accounting areas. This means:
 - Providing planning screens, which display the necessary reference data and default values calculated in advanced. Moreover, additional values can be entered manually into these screens.
 - Planning functions and sequences to calculate the key figures automatically and to process the plan values for subsequent planning levels.
 - Display the reports in BW, especially the plan/actual and plan/plan comparisons
 - Create BW-workbooks and web-templates

Implementation

Prior to this project, the customer did not use SAP BW; therefore we first investigated what data was required to base the BW-planning system on. In particular, this involved invoices, cost centre costs and financial accounting documents.

Subsequently, the relevant Business Content components were

unpacked in R/3 and BW. The SAP InfoCubes only served as a guidelines; this meant that we eventually created bespoke data providers that met the customer's exact requirements.

For further information, such as extra material master fields or sales price lists, we upgraded existing extractors through User-Exits and programmed our own extractors in R/3 respectively. Moreover, the corresponding models were implemented in BW.

In order to process the sales data as requested, for example to add certain conditions or to create special hierarchies, further programming in BW was required.

To store the generated BW-BPS plan data we created additional InfoCubes for each area.

Based on these objects, we created the planning environment in BW-BPS, as well as defining the planning functions for calculating certain plan data automatically. At the same time we created several input masks for manual planning of sales data, cost center costs, investments, personnel expenses, balance data and income statement data. In addition, we provided a lot of automatic calculations; these ranged from top-down plan distributions of data per product group on materials, the calculation of revenue and margins, the calculation of valuation adjustments and depreciation, to the creation of budgeted balance sheet.

Moreover, we integrated additional functionality to give a monthly breakdown of data that was entered on a yearly basis or calculated automatically. With this, we defined various distribution rules for the different areas and divided controlling and financial accounting data into monthly parts. The sales data can be divided per sales organization and channel according to a percentage for the single months.

The layouts for the manual input of plan data and all necessary automated planning functions were deployed as a web application for each user group.

To enable prompt reporting, we created bespoke reports and workbooks in BW using Business Explorer Analyzer and web templates using the Web Application Designer. They provided plan/plan and plan/actual comparisons for each area.

Since all necessary BW information is authorization-relevant, we developed an authorization concept (including the sales area, company code and cost center hierarchy level), which controls the users access rights to the data.

At the end of the project we created technical documentation detailing all BPS settings.

In summary, PIKON was responsible for the following activities:

- IP-Design
- Data extraction from SAP R/3 and Excel (including the creation of custom extractors in R/3)
- Data modeling and design in SAP-BW
- Setting up the planning environment in BW-BPS
- Setting up the planning functions and sequences
- Creation of web interfaces for the manual input of plan data and the execution of planning functions
- Adjustments to reports in Business Explorer Analyzer and the Web Portal.
- Design and implementation of an authorizations system
- Compilation of technical documentation
- Ongoing support for users in the planning and reporting process
- Continuous enhancements and adjustments to existing solutions