CASE STUDY:
LIFE SCIENCES

DATASOURCE
CONSULTING
an EXL company

CLIENT BACKGROUND

A leader in genomics - an industry at the intersection of biology and technology - this company is making bold discoveries that are transforming healthcare beyond its previous reach. Early on, the company's products enabled researchers to explore DNA on an entirely new scale, helping them create the first map of gene variations associated with health, disease, and drug response. Today the organization's innovation continues to drive a deeper understanding of genetic variations and those discoveries are leading to potential breakthrough treatments.

BUSINESS FOCUS

After working with us for several previous implementations, this global genomics innovator partnered with Datasource yet again for a new Business Intelligence project. The client needed to streamline internal reporting of purchasing data for accrual and quarter close, following the implementation of a new ERP system and data mart.

CLIENT CHALLENGE

Looking for continuous improvements, the company launched the Global Business Performance (GBP) initiative in 2013. The goal of the program was to ensure the organization had a solid and scalable foundation to support future growth. As a result, we redefined and streamlined seven core business processes across the organization and migrated them from JDE to a global, single instance ERP - an SAP environment.

After the transition to SAP, company leaders realized there were gaps in the company's data warehouse; the system hadn't matured to the level required by the business users. The team identified gaps in its purchasing, supply chain, and financial data which made it difficult to ensure transparency and create meaningful reports quickly.

THE DATASOURCE SOLUTION

Looking for a solution, the organization turned to Datasource Consulting. The team included a data architect, senior solution architect, an ETL lead, and an ETL developer. With a tight timeline of only a couple months, leaders determined the top priority was to address immediate reporting needs for finance, purchasing, and supply chain, specifically streamlining the accrual, quarter close and purchase order reporting.

Strategic

Datasource started by speaking with stakeholders within the organization – everyone from IT leaders to the business reporting team. The scope of the project included technical discovery, requirement definition, data profiling, data modeling, and ETL development and deployment.

Tactical

SOLUTION CONTINUED

Datasource mapped out approximately 150 new attributes and worked closely with the internal team responsible for data profiling to better understand the data that composed each report attribute. This included a range of transactional data – data that is entered into the SAP systems, including orders, purchasing details, internal and external data, vendor information, and much more.

During the data staging process, Datasource exposed over 500 attributes and enabled approximately 150 attributes for reporting.

500+
attributes exposed
150+
attributes enabled

SOLUTION ROADMAP

Datasource consultants applied a Lean BI approach for this effort – relying on Agile development methodologies to encourage frequent inspection and adaption and to quickly align customer needs with company goals. Leaders followed this approach from requirements to testing and through to user assessment testing and post-production validation. With this practice, Datasource delivered rapid and incremental integration with the data in the existing data warehouse and within the new data mart. Datasource also provided business analysis, data architecture, and ETL solutions.

THE RESULTS:

Datasource worked within the company's tight project timeline to architect, model, and build an integrated and scalable purchasing data mart where purchasing data is extracted, transformed, and loaded into the data warehouse. Today this solution powers the company's finance and supply chain teams to fulfill critical financial reporting needs. The finance and supply chain leaders now have a more mature data warehouse and a sophisticated financial reporting solution with the ability to:

• Efficiently close the books on a monthly basis

• Clearly view and consume purchasing data for accrual, quarter close, and purchase order reporting

• Improve internal and external financial transparency

THE RESULTS CONTINUED:

With the purchasing data mart up and running, business users can now not only utilize the data warehouse for more efficient monthly and quarterly close processes, unlock the value of purchasing reports to improve transparency, and make more informed decisions. Today, the company's finance team pulls from the updated data warehouse and new data mart for the financial statements. The information is fed into statements the company publishes for business users and executive leaders, allowing the organization to meet regulatory compliance mandates.

WE ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT DATA

We are a consulting company that focuses exclusively on enterprise data management, including both strategic and implementation services. We are experts in data architecture, data integration, data quality, data governance, MDM, reporting & analytics, and program management.

We employ the best and brightest experts in the industry. Datasource Consulting not only remains close to the latest technology and industry trends, but we also help move the needle with thought leadership in areas such as BI in the Cloud, Agile BI, and Big Data.

Empowered with a proven methodology that embraces Agile and Lean principles, Datasource Consulting knows how to make your project and program successful.

PARTNER WITH US

Contact us to learn more about how our data integration solutions can provide your organization with access to improved information enabling leaders, to make well-informed decisions and achieve more efficient operations.

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