CASE STUDY:
LIFE SCIENCES

DATASOURCE
CONSULTING
an EXL company

CLIENT BACKGROUND

Datasource Consulting helps leading genetic sequencing firm to cleanse data in preparation for an ERP data migration. Data quality improved from 50% to over 97%.

With over $1B in revenue, this genetic sequencing company is a leader in, manufacturing integrated systems for the genetic variation and biological function analysis. Data is at the core of this corporation's business, but with rapid growth, the company found itself facing the daunting task of migrating to a more sophisticated SAP ERP platform.

As with most ERP migrations, a major hurdle was migrating dirty data from the legacy application to the new platform. To resolve data quality issues, the company decided to launch a new cleansing initiative, leveraging Informatica Data Quality (IDQ) before migrating to the new ERP. The data quality initiative focused on duplicate records, non-standard formats, blank values, missing default values, and invalid addresses.

BUSINESS FOCUS

The overall goal of this initiative was to decrease the cost, risk, and rework common in many ERP migrations. The company wanted to minimize the number of issues that could arise when migrating platforms by ensuring source information in the legacy system was in optimal condition. Furthermore, by establishing a scalable, repeatable process, data quality rules could be re-run to produce a fresh batch of cleansed data. This ensured business continuity during a challenging and often chaotic migration effort.

To be effective with any data quality project, the first step is to engage business users who understand the nature of the data. To accomplish this, Datasource established an interactive environment, providing end users access to the data quality exceptions to incrementally improve the data.

Datasource defined roles with the client to ensure improvement in data quality and to determine which areas required expenditure of precious time. The company assigned a data manager and data steward to oversee data quality improvement. Involving the business early and frequently gave data challenges sufficient priority and visibility. Cleansing efforts focused on areas that most impact the business's success.

THE DATASOURCE SOLUTION

As a long-term strategic partner, Datasource previously helped this customer to establish reliable Data Integration and Reporting and Analytics environments. This enabled Datasource to hit the ground running, integrating seamlessly within the customer's development environment. Datasource quickly established a team of one data quality architect and one senior solution architect, and the project was broken up into two main releases: Customer Data Domain and Product Data Domain.

SOLUTION CONTINUED

Initially, Datasource collaborated with an Informatica consulting team to establish and ensure the project leveraged the Velocity methodology and best practices. In line with Datasource's proven Data Quality methodology, the team took the following steps:

- Performed profiling to determine which data elements to include
- Defined validation and manipulation rules based on profile results and needs of the target ERP (SAP)
- Determined address validation requirements
- Determined match and merge requirements
- Designed reusable IDQ objects
- Leveraged Logical Data Objects (LDOs) for profiles
- Created scorecards with notifications to monitor data quality

The first step listed was the most important. By reducing the number of critical elements, Datasource was able to minimize the amount of effort spent on creating rules and implementing data quality. Through the course of the project, we selected a total of 10 tables and 136 columns as critical data elements and were subsequently addressed, using IDQ.

The technology stack for the project included: Informatica Data Quality, SQL Server (transactional and dimensional database), Informatica PowerCenter (ETL), Skybot (scheduling tool), and Cognos (reporting and analytics).

THE RESULTS:

By seamlessly integrating into the project team, Datasource was collaborated with the customer and Informatica to successfully drive the overall project to completion. The project was a success and it empowered the customer to:

- Cleanse customer and product data, making it ready for migration to the new ERP
- View exception records to update the data in the existing ERP
- View trends and overall health of the data through scorecards
- Establish a set of development standards for IDQ to be leveraged by future data quality initiatives

THE RESULTS CONTINUED:

Each table/column/rule combination was unique, but during this project, the team saw **data quality improve from 50% to over 97% clean on average.** This improvement stood testament to the data quality approach and methodology and resulted in multiple subsequent data quality initiatives.

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.

DATASOURCE
CONSULTING
an EXL company

info@datasourceconsulting.com
888-4LEANBI (453-2624)
DatasourceConsulting.com