

Baldor Electric

RPF worked together with Business Objects to provide Baldor Electric with a highly flexible reporting and dashboarding tool that connects directly to their SAP BI Netweaver 7.0 data. The user friendly tools of the Business Objects Suite opened up a world of data to the Management Staff, the Sales Engineers and to their end customers. Baldor built their data in SAP Business Warehouse and viewed the results through Business Objects, which offered them a flexible and enterprise quality reporting tool that was easy for the end users to utilize. During this project RPF provided strategy, guidance and knowledge transfer for the complex integration of ECC 6.0, EDW 7.0 and Business Objects XI 3.0, integrated business intelligence platform. RPF created a complete working production ready system and procedures for promotion (test/qa/prod), source control, and security plan for reporting platform. As part of the working system we provided a very deep but narrow business process, which contained the use of dashboards, ad-hoc reports, standard reports, drill through technology as well as deliver business intelligence to the desktop and Microsoft office suite of products. Upon completion Baldor's internal resources possessed the skill set to continue to deliver high-end analytics for their organization.

Newell Rubbermaid

Newell Rubbermaid wanted to reduce the time and effort to access corporate information especially SAP data, empower associates with self-service reporting capabilities, and create interactive dashboard visualizations of executive reports to replace the mundane tabular reports they were using. RPF was able to work closely with Newell to understand both the business and technical objectives of the Business Objects project. We first planned out a Proof of Concept to make sure we were truly aligned with what the customer's objectives and desired deliverables were, as well as what products would be best utilized and how the technical environment is configured. RPF demonstrated the concepts and capabilities of the Business Objects' Business Intelligence solution within the Newell's own SAP environment, which has resulted in a successful deployment. Newell transformed its ability to collect, interpret, and act on information through the implementation of SAP BusinessObjects analytics. One reason Newell chose Business Objects reporting over their existing Cognos deployment was because of RPF's ability to demonstrate how a critical daily sales operations report was rapidly made-over with cutting edge visual aesthetics leveraging the SAP BusinessObjects BI platform. That, combined with having a single vendor for all their business management and reporting needs made Business Objects an easy choice.

Silicon Laboratories

Silicon Labs wanted the ability for their business users to quickly and accurately acquire their data from the BW without having to create BeX queries. RPF incorporated the Business Intelligence Process (BIP) for the daily sales data including shipments, backlog, RMA credits, billings and shipments in progress. The BIP will allow for a dashboard and direct drill down to ad-hoc reporting in a point and click environment for all reporting based the above mentioned information sets. RPF then worked with Silicon Labs to design and implemented a robust solution with Xcelsius dashboarding, Web Intelligence, and Live Office to meet their specific needs. Executives were now able to quickly take a pulse of their business process and determine action, while business users could analyze and extract valuable decision metrics in short order.

Cleveland Cliffs International

Cleveland Cliffs were having issues providing reporting and analysis solutions from their existing Elipse system. Before our solution was in place, CCI had to manually generate an extraction query in their system and then produce a flat-file like output that end users had to format in Excel. Using Data Integrator, RPF was able to take nightly snapshots and transform the data into a true data warehouse. Web Intelligence, and Xcelsius was brought in to enable an end to end solution that provided executive level dashboards with drill down capabilities. RPF was also able to create business processes at the site which allowed users the ability to look at current or period based evaluations and provide what-if analysis based on sound business metrics.

Angelica

Angelica was using an internally developed Executive Information System for their reporting needs. They knew they had incorrect and inconsistent data, but couldn't pinpoint the source to correct it. They also spent hours loading the data, and once it did load, the reporting was not extremely user friendly. Distribution was also an issue, becoming a very manual task when distributing information among Angelica's several plants and offices.

RPF recommended the Business Objects Edge Series for Mid Market to give Angelica a taste of several different types of functionality that would satisfy their key business issues, including dashboarding, reporting, ad hoc query and analysis and easy distribution. Also, because Angelica uses "best of breed" industry specific systems, RPF proposed they use the Business Objects ETL tool, Data Integrator, to help pull in and integrate data from several different systems. Another reason that Angelica chose BusinessObjects Edge Series was the product's ease of use, especially beneficial for a small IT department that wanted to free up the time it spent generating custom reports for the staff. Edge Series requires only one key code and installs on a single server.

"The quality of information available to management allows them to be much more data centric than ever before – We know we have real numbers to back us up" says Alma Richardson, Director of Application Development and Support.

Some of the benefits include:

- Revealing where the "dirty data" is so they can pinpoint the problem and correct it at the source.
- Enabling Angelica to pull information across multiple systems specific to their industry and integrate the data.
- Enabling IT to respond much faster to user needs, as well as empowering the end users to find information on their own.

Market Force Information, Inc

Market Force's offering is Business Intelligence. The SAP BusinessObjects software is the cornerstone of MFI's offering, reporting information and insights to our clients. Market Force evaluated several offerings for a business intelligence platform and ETL tool to replace the current internally developed Reporting infrastructure offered to clients. Market needed to build a reporting application off their operational databases that will allow and empower end users to perform standard operational reporting and ad-hoc analysis. After a short Proof of Concept provided by RPF Consulting, Market Force decided that the SAP Business Objects solution fulfilled all their needs and decided to move forward with the BI Initiative.

With the help of RPF Consulting, MFI was able to improve data-warehouse and Reporting solution by improving performance issues and offering additional features and products (e.g. dashboards, client self service capability, improved ad-hoc query capability etc.). As an important competitive advantage, RPF developed a dynamic branding solution within the InfoView application for the MFI's external customer facing portal.

Some of the benefits include:

- Rapid report development leads to reduced operating expenses.
- Feature rich reporting application provides for MFI's differentiation from our competition.
- Business Objects security/authorization architecture will allow MFI to productize and sell features increasing revenue.