Customer Profile

Fraport AG soars with Infor BI Application Studio

Facts at a glance

Product: Infor BI Application Studio
Industry: Aerospace
Country: Deutschland

"The Infor solution is very user-friendly. Even users who don't work with the system every day find it straightforward right from the start."

—Elke Lay, Team Leader, Controlling Concepts and Systems, Fraport

About the company

Fraport AG is one of the leading companies in the airport industry worldwide. In Frankfurt Airport, Fraport AG operates one of the most important air transport hubs in the world. An experienced management firm, Fraport is developing Frankfurt Airport City into an outstanding location for mobility, adventure, and real estate. The range of services provided by Fraport AG includes all services associated with the flight industry. Fraport is also a competent partner for airport retailing and real estate development. As a full service provider in airport management, Fraport AG is active in numerous locations worldwide.

The strategy

Integrated controlling for planning and reporting coupled with central and clear reporting tools: Ten years ago, Fraport AG faced the task of developing a new controlling concept. It was hard to imagine then that this solution for the decentralization of planning and reporting tasks would, a decade later, be combined with the Infor® BI Application Studio reporting tool and globally available functions to form one uniform interface. The Frankfurt Airport Controlling Tool (FACT) was first designed in 1997 and implemented based on the Infor BI OLAP Server (called Alea at that time). With the uniform system and database, planning work was reduced by a third.

The Infor BI Application Studio tool (called onVision at that time) was then introduced, which enabled all essential company data to be pooled together for clear reports and analyses. In a further step, strategic planning is now to be integrated into the Infor environment. “In this way, we gain driver-based, high-performance planning and analysis capabilities in one integrated tool,” explains Elke Lay, team leader for controlling concepts and systems.

Getting business specific

Fraport AG decided on the Infor BI solution because of its user-friendliness, flexibility, and functional scope. Sophisticated business process applications and detailed analyses are combined into meaningful company data based on Infor BI tools. By handling all business divisions using the same database, Infor ensures universal transparency and tighter processes.

With the help of the Infor BI tool's planning function, tasks such as business planning, group consolidation, accounting, and creating profit and loss statements and cash flow statements are supported. On the Infor BI Application Studio interface, all data from Fraport subsidiaries is operated together, simplifying administration and planning.

With the company-wide rollout of Infor BI Application Studio, this tool can now be used as a general reporting and comments interface for executive reporting. The 300 or so BI users agree on strategies with resources and provisions, measure and monitor them, and make them available for the whole company. With the strategic planning component, strategic business plans can be created, communicated, executed, monitored, and managed.

"We also produce special segment reports for retail and properties or external activities, for example. Even if there are no standard lists for a sector, the system is flexible and the data can be consolidated quickly," explains Lay, who is deputizing for the head of the corporate controlling department.

Seeing results

“The Infor solution is very user-friendly. Even users who don’t work with the system every day find it straightforward right from the start,” says controlling expert Lay. The design too is well liked: “Reports, whether annual figures, balance sheets, or business plans, are well presented. We can print them out easily and they can be presented to the board in this format. This saves us a great deal of time and effort in changing the layout.” New Excel® lists used to have to be created for every request. The BI solution allows for a detailed and coherent overview. Lay adds: “We also liked Infor’s coaching methods in the introductory phase, where everyone pulls together and learns as a group. This reduces the number of support questions that emerge later on when the solution is implemented.”

641 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10011
800-260-2640
infor.com

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