itelligence AG, Bielefeld

Easier Than You Think:
itelligence Migrates to SAP HANA®

» Migrating our system environment to SAP HANA was our way of putting our principle into practice – we only sell what we use ourselves. We consider ourselves technology leaders. It is important to us to make sure that innovations in customer projects are easy to understand, tangible and measurable. «

Herbert Vogel, Chairman of the Board, itelligence AG

itelligence was one of the very first companies to make the switch to SAP® ERP powered by SAP HANA®. Our goal in rolling out the system was to get to know the technology better, to enable the company to provide the best support possible for customers with similar projects.

We also wanted the solution to speed up internal processes, reporting in particular. The SAP HANA database allows itelligence to use data from the ERP system without having to upload it to the Business Intelligence solution first. That makes up-to-date reports at the push of a button a reality.

The significant reduction of the database size was another advantage, as were the resulting reduced costs.

Up to Date at All Times: Detailed Reports With Just One Click

In-memory technology maximizes the benefits of big data analysis. It helps companies monitor their business in real time and enables them to react to new market requirements immediately. Detailed analyses and scenarios are available with just a few clicks – speeding up the decision-making process.

itelligence NTT DATA Business Solutions

itelligence
NTT DATA Business Solutions

Name:
itelligence AG

Industry:
IT services

Products:
IT services and SAP-based enterprise solutions

Company Size:
3,000 employees

Turnover:
457.1 million Euros (2013)

Main Headquarters:
Bielefeld

Subsidiaries:
In 22 countries and 5 regions worldwide

The Project Workflow: itelligence Accelerates to Real Time

First, the itelligence experts copied the existing SAP ERP system to a sandbox environment. They used it to test the runtimes and technical challenges and to calculate the server size required. The positive result: SAP HANA achieved a data compression of 72 percent. That meant that even a small, low-cost server (Size S+ with 256 GB) was enough for the SAP HANA database.

The operating system (Microsoft Server 2003) and SQL database (Microsoft SQL Server 2005) were not compatible with SAP HANA, so itelligence upgraded its hardware and software during the second project phase. The team also replaced the dedicated servers with virtual servers, and installed two SAP HANA appliances – one for the test and development system, and the second for the productive system.

How do Custom Solutions React to Migration?

A copy of the development system guaranteed data privacy: "We anonymized or deleted sensitive HR data beforehand," says Heinz Feil, Head of Internal IT at itelligence. "That allowed us to give our developers extensive authorizations and analyze the custom software in detail." The tests were performed on a second system. The team used the "Code Inspector" check report tool to determine whether the custom solutions were compatible with SAP HANA. The analysis was completed in just five man-days. And the subsequent optimization only took three man-days – surprisingly little work for such major changes. As a result, many reporting processes became even more efficient. After a test by key users from the specialist departments, the team migrated the productive system.

The downtime was low: just one and a half working days in Europe, and two in the USA and Canada.

After the Go-Live: Growing Faster With SAP HANA

"The entire migration process went smoothly and involved far less work and lower costs than we had expected," says Heinz Feil. On average, itelligence speeds up its processes by 60 to 70 percent. Reports on outstanding items are now completed 85 percent faster, asset history sheets are 83 percent faster and profit center reports are 77 percent faster.

Herbert Vogel, Chairman of the Board at itelligence AG: "I expect our deployment of SAP ERP powered by SAP HANA to create new growth opportunities for itelligence. It improves and speeds up our customer interaction, and allows us to implement customer requirements even more effectively."

Read the whole story in our Expert Paper at: **www.itelligencegroup.com.**

Facts & Figures

Project: Rollout of SAP ERP powered by SAP HANA
Duration: Six months incl. test phase (four-month rollout period); 72 days of consulting

The Benefits:
- Processes speeded up by 60 to 70 percent on average
- Database size reduced by 72 percent
- Extremely fast parallel processing possible
- New platform for developing technological innovations, solutions and cockpits based on SAP HANA
- Technological basis for future direct access to data in SAP ERP without a Business Intelligence solution

Version: 05/2014