KEY LEARNINGS FROM IMPLEMENTATION

BENEFITS

1 – Common Corporate ERQA front-end user experience across the Globe independent of business function and application

2 – Seamless integration of data in backend and front-end across heterogeneous BI (i.e. SAP BW, MSAS, Oracle, etc), ERP (i.e. SAP, PeopleSoft, Oracle, etc) and DB environments

3 – Cost Savings: Potential to retire other SILO reporting tools and technologies long-term to reduce overall IT expenditure and overhead of using multiple reporting tools within each heterogeneous environment

4 – Create executive dashboards rapidly without custom code using xCelsius directly accessing BEx queries / universes / query as web services / flat files.

WHAT'S IN PIPELINE FROM SAP IN CONTEXT TO BOE XI

1 - BOBJ XI 4.0 (Code name **Aurora**) & NW BW 7.3, 2 - Advanced Analysis formerly known as Pioneer (will replace SAP BW BEx and WAD), 3 - SAP BPC with full support for BOBJ universes, 4 – Enhanced SAP Business Explorer (aka Polestar) with seamless access to SAP BW data for interactive dash boarding and 5 - SAP NEWTON (next generation BIA with full support for BOBJ universes and DSOs) and more...

IMPLEMENTATION PAIN POINTS

1 - Corporate Reporting Tool **Decision Tree** (will vary by each organization's preferences)

2 - Work through heterogeneous SSO security authentication configurations (Windows AD, SAP Portal, IDM, SAP Authentication) for internal and external access users

SAP BOBJ XI 3.1 – A NEW REPORTING PARADIGM FOR CREATING INTUITIVE SAP BW AND R/3 REPORTS & EXECUTIVE DASHBOARDS

BOBJ Reporting Tools – Strengths and Recommended Usage:

1 – Info View Portal (aka IVP):
Strengths: central web portal to access all BOBJ reports. IVP fully supports pre-calculation and distribution of reports using complex parameters. IVP provides integration with other enterprise portals

Recommended Usage:

IVP is mandatory to run BOBJ XI 3x environment. However, IVP can be a provider portal in a federated portal environment to other web portals.

2 – Interactive Analysis (formerly known as Webi):
Strengths: Ad-hoc reporting tool that can merge data on the fly from different OLAP, DB and flat-file data sources

Recommended Usage:
Interactive analysis is the most flexible BOBJ reporting tool. Ideal for OLAP, transactional and flat-file data source reporting

3 – Crystal Reports 2008:
Strengths: Pixel perfect corporate reporting tool. Provides pre-calculation and broadcasting options. Highly customizable by developer and is an industry leader for pixel based reporting needs (i.e. financial statements). Supports interfacing with xCelsius

Recommended Usage:
Transactional and OLAP reporting

4 – xCelsius:
Strengths: Intuitive dashboard creation tool based on .SWF (Shockwave Flash) technology. Supports offline reporting and Crystal Report interfacing

Recommended Usage:
Create intuitive executive dashboards using data from various data sources such as CR, Webi, Universe Query, etc.

5 – Live Office
Strengths: Seamless integration with Microsoft office applications. Can use CR for data integration

Recommended Usage: Ideal for data integration with MS Office applications.

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Rama Shankar is an SAP BOBJ (incl. BO Explorer), SAP BI/BW, SAP BPC NW and SAP Portal solutions architect with extensive experience with SAP R/3 (incl. several years of experience with SAP BW and Portal) full lifecycle implementations. Rama has worked on several end-to-end implementations of SAP BOBJ for SAP BW, SAP R/3, SAP BPC NW 7.x, MS BI and Oracle DB environments in the beverages industry, state agencies and pharmaceutical industry.