QLIKVIEW: CONSOLIDATED DATA VIEW FOR THE DISTRIBUTION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE ASGA PENSION FUND

"With QlikView, we can easily bring together all relevant information on one interface and are more quickly and, most significantly, more comprehensively informed."

- Beat Zuberbühler, head of management support, ASGA pension fund

Information consolidation challenge
The ASGA pension fund, with approximately 9,500 member companies and more than 76,000 insured members, is the largest independent business pension fund in Switzerland. Since 1962, the company has been committed to the professional pension scheme of small and medium enterprises from trade, industry, commerce and the service sector. The businesses are attended to by 70 employees at four locations. Services range from individual solutions for BVG obligatory insurance to comprehensive non-obligatory pension and disability and accident.

In order to support the internal business consultant in controlling the sales force, a particular kind of reporting was required. Rather than entrust this to "hard programming" from the core software supplier, Beat Zuberbühler, head of management support for the ASGA pension fund, remembered a live demo presentation of business discovery solution QlikView. "This reporting requirement was, from my point of view, ideal for being implemented with QlikView," said Zuberbühler. "At the same time, we decided to expand this pilot project to management and distribution analyses."

Previously, data for relevant reports had to be read separately from a central application and the accounts payable system and then merged and analysed manually.

Decisive factors technology & user-friendliness
Zuberbühler initially became aware of QlikView because of the technological base that allows the combination of different data sources on one interface. QlikView uses a main memory-based approach. In addition, the BI solution has an inference engine that automatically creates associations between data. Data is compressed to up to 10 percent of its original size to optimise processor performance.

SOLUTION OVERVIEW
ASGA pension fund
Independent community provident funds in Switzerland, with a focus on professional pension funds for small and medium enterprises from business, trade, industry and the service sector

www.asga.ch
Sector
Services
Departments
Management, sales, controlling
Regions
Switzerland
Challenges
- Merging of different data sources through an analysis interface
- Standalone use in the departments
- Reduction of analysis complexity/expenditure
- Increased reporting options
Solution
Implementation of QlikView and of a centralised dashboard for 20 employees within 8 weeks
Advantages
- Consolidated data view
- Faster availability of reportings
- Improved data quality
System environment
application: WinPKS
DW / BI: SQL server
Database: SQL server
Hardware: HP ProLiant DL380
QlikTech Partner
iNFORMATEC Ltd.liab.Co.
Secondly, the self-service BI approach was very persuasive: this enables users to examine their data freely, so they are no longer limited to following a predefined path of questions. At the same time, the color-coded interfaces and mouse click control are very convenient to use, even for operators without in-depth IT knowledge.

**Short implementation time**

Only eight weeks are required from the beginning of a project to going live. The pension fund is professionally supported by the INFORMATEC Ltd.liab.Co. application - and the company can easily make GUI adjustments in-house - a significant factor in terms of cost efficiency. Currently, 20 employees from management, sales and controlling use QlikView for the reporting of some 27 million records from WinPKS. With the broker-reporting it is possible to check, among other things, whether there are discrepancies between commission calculations and actual disbursement. Insurance contracts are also displayed according to the distribution channel, company, industry code etc.

**Valid information at your fingertips**

In addition, there are analyses of active account development and actuarial reserves as well as stock development according to factors such as age or professional group. "Our basic principle is that we are a safe fund. Our acceptance criteria for new customers are very strict," explains Zuberbühler. "Thus it is of vital importance for us to know precisely what age group the insured belong to and which professional branch they are from. With QlikView, we have the valid information at our fingertips and can make decisions much more quickly." The area manager particularly appreciates the graphical display options. At a glance, the core information is recognisable among the mass of available data.

A positive secondary effect is the improved data quality: faulty records in the source systems can be directly identified and corrected.

**Better customer service**

QlikView reports have also become established as an important source of information for our customers: for them, the transparent information on age structures is an important added value, for example with regard to decisions on changes in social benefits or in planning the recruitment of new staff.

Businesses particularly benefited in the area of consulting for corporate clients and sales partners. "Previously, consultants had to search for the relevant information in various departments" said the head of management support.

In future, the CRM system of ASGA will be linked to QlikView. Moreover, integrated viewing of total tenders is planned.

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