VALOREC SERVICES AG: GREATER TRANSPARENCY FOR SAP®- DATA WITH QLIKVIEW

"With QlikView, we have been able to significantly increase the transparency of our activities towards clients and thus our service quality and the corresponding data quality. At the same time, we have benefitted from optimised business processes and improved interaction between IT and specialist departments."

- John Martinussen, Chief Information Officer, Valorec Services AG

SOLUTION OVERVIEW
Valorec Services AG
Local Swiss environmental service provider with a focus on waste management, energy services, facility management.
www.valorec.com
Sector
Services
Departments
Management, Plant Management, External Clients
Regions
Switzerland
Challenges
- To make evaluations more flexible
- Reduction of time invested in analysis
- Ensuring usability, also for non IT-savvy users
Solution
Implementation of QlikView and provision of applications for the evaluation of data from SAP, SQL Server
Advantages
- Faster and more flexible Data analysis
- Improved service transparency for external clients
- Optimised data quality and integrity
- Higher readiness for dialogue and interaction between IT and specialist departments

System environment
Application: SAP® ECC 6.0, Excel
Database: SQL server
QlikTech Partner
iNFORMATEC Ltd.liab.Co.

Flexibility and ease of data analysis
The disposal and recycling of waste as well as energy services and facility management are the core business of Valorec Services AG, a member of the global group Veolia Environnement. With 320 employees, the environmental services provider, which was founded in 2001, operates resident and foreign companies in the chemical and pharmaceutical industries at four industrial sites in pharmaceutical chemistry cluster Basel.

For data analysis, the service provider previously used a program of their own design, SAP sat®-Queries A. With the increase in analysis requirements, this proved to be inefficient, as John Martinussen, Chief Information Officer of Valorec Services AG explains: "Query generation is time-consuming and subsequent modifications cannot easily be entered. That is why I was looking for a solution which allowed more flexible, timely analyses and could also be operated without IT expertise."

Decisive factors usability and performance
The analysis and reporting solution QlikView proved effective. Decisive factors were its intuitive usability and the speed with which data could be displayed and changed. The user-driven business discovery approach of QlikView enables self-service BI for all users, while the IT ensures the provision of data and the corresponding data model. The user interface is graphically appealing and has a self-explanatory design.

Its high performance is provided by the patented in-memory technology: via an integrated ETL feature, data can be extracted from any source, converted and loaded.

The data remains in memory receive, so that it can be evaluated at any time and the analysis angle can be varied by adding new KPIs or hierarchies.
Plus point: dedicated authorisation concept

“Our next eye-opening experience was when one of the service chiefs asked whether the client could also be provided with available data, to which the answer was a resounding “yes”. QlikView Publisher ensures that users only have access to documents and reports which are based on their associated data. Previously, this information was printed out and posted in the works. There was also a self-developed analysis solution available for major clients. However, this was no longer up-to-date.

After just two weeks, QlikView had been implemented and the first applications were available. INFORMATEC Ltd.liab Co., based in Muttenz, is supporting further developments, much to the satisfaction of the CIO: “INFORMATEC is very quick to implement and has come up with a real IT gem, particularly by providing client access to QlikView.”

All order items with detailed information will be evaluated from 2008 on. Data sources are SAP®, SQL databases and Excel spreadsheets. Diverse energy and waste statistics are used. Energy consumption is represented, for example, according to type of fuel, buildings, works or period and waste amounts and types or delivery location. External clients use evaluations for cost centre-related further charges for consumption and invoice control in the waste sector. Analyses in this area concern, for example, how much waste of which kind has been delivered where and when and by whom.

“We were able to markedly increase the transparency of our activities towards clients with QlikView. They can call up detailed information according to their respective authorisation, easily and at any time, via web access,” says Martinussen, “Should the average volume of the last five weeks, for example, exceed or fall below the contractually agreed amount, we can react immediately.”

There is a specific dashboard available for management. Evaluations are also carried out in the field of planned maintenance. The incorporation of data from the controlling, human resources and finance departments is also planned.

Better interaction between IT and specialist departments

A positive side effect is the improvement of data quality: Inconsistencies are instantly visible and can be corrected immediately.

Using QlikView does not only have an influence on data, as the CIO explained: “The interaction between IT and the operating departments has developed very positively. We now have more lively communication - at a mutually comprehensible conversational level. Data analysis is no longer an IT specialist topic, it takes place in the back- and front office.”