Solver helps Hyperion M & T with migration to Power BI and develop a new cloud-based Data Warehouse

When Hyperion M & T was acquired by KKR there was an immediate need of a completely new solution for Business Intelligence and Data Warehouse. Due to that they shared all IT with the former owner Sandvik and that would no longer be possible, they faced a gigantic challenge to divorce from all former IT-systems

www.hyperionmt.com

Company Profile

A global leader in development and manufacturing of hard and super-hard materials.

Industry

Manufacturing

Country

Sweden, Globally

ERP System

Infor M3

Introduction & Background

Hyperion Materials & Technology was part of Sandvik AB until 2018, when they were acquired by the US-based investment corporation KKR. In order to disconnect from Sandvik´s shared IT-services, an analysis was made to determine Hyperion's technical debt and to get an overview of what was needed to be changed and upgraded.

Among all operational systems, the cost of its current solution for Business Intelligence (BI) stood out the most. By changing to a cloud and harmonized Microsoft solution, Hyperion was able to save money and keep all its platforms and software up to date at a lower cost and with increased efficiency.

The Challenge

Hyperion had to make a complete "carve out" of its previous IT-systems and build an entire new IT-environment from scratch in just 18 months.
Prior to this, their IT-systems have been integrated in Sandvik's IT-systems. With a migration that affected 30 countries and 1500 colleagues, Hyperion realized that it was a good timing to get rid of all its technical debt and change to a completely new system environment

The project

To complete the migration and the "lift and shift" of Hyperion's old operations, the company moved out of the old organization and moved forward with a completely new IT-technology. Furthermore, the company saw this as an opportunity to investigate the costs of its current systems and what could be improved upon. The lift and shift were no frivolous act. Chief Information Officer (CIO) Johan Hagström points out that they had over a hundred different projects going on during this process.
"The ambition with this 'lift and shift' was always cloud-first. We've had as many as fifty parallel IT-projects running at the same time, with well over a hundred consultants that supported us during these 18 months."

They decided to establish a completely new BI-platform. Looking at where they were at the time and thinking about where they wanted to go by upgrading and considering costs during the migration, It became clear that the costs for their existing BI-solution would be all too expensive in the long run.

It became obvious that we would get the best synergy in management, support and licensing if we worked towards a harmonized Microsoft platform.
CIO, Johan Hagström.

By reviewing their costs and focusing on minimizing the use of different technologies, Hyperion started to look for a solution that would deliver the same functionality but with greater efficiency at a lower cost. The fact that they wanted to look for a cloud-first solution is what made them decide to go for Microsoft Power BI.

One major obstacle was that about 50% of the users at Hyperion preferred using their BI tools in a specific way and were quite skeptical in changing systems.

To help with the transition, Solver developed a mock-up of Power BI with a similar user experience that the users at Hyperion were used to. Subsequently Solver created a Proof of Concept (POC) and a Pilot with Power BI, which were both tested and approved by the users in management before the final roll-out could begin.

"We had a change management process during this time to educate the users and get them acquainted to these new tools. The POC and the Pilot were tested on a smaller group, like our Sales Controllers and at the end of it all, they could barely notice a different between Power BI and our previous tools" – CIO, Johan Hagström.

"The talent of the Solver BI team was key to the success of our Lift and Shift project." - Project Lead, Edgar Saldana

The result was a more harmonized BI-solution where Hyperion got rid of its old technical debt and could move on to a complete cloud-based BI solution. The implementation of Power BI by Solver helped them implement these new solutions in about 3 months. As part of the project, Solver also developed a cloud-based Data Warehouse with SQL Server to be the backend for their new Power BI-solution.

"It works the same", Johan Hagström says, "and we use it in the same way. Because the main use is for Business Control and Sales Analytics, the data presented is just what the users need."