

The Client: **Allvac**

The Dilemma:

Integration of multiple, disparate platforms and applications

Configuring a complicated manufacturing environment that includes IBM main-frame COBOL-based applications, a number of HP platforms, four different UNIX production platforms and a dbase application created an impossible data access situation for Allvac's IT shop. Demands of corporate management to produce monthly reports forced a resource intensive cycle within IT and the Accounting departments that had no chance of closing in a timely manner. Merging three companies' IT structures into the existing struggling system forced an unbearable situation upon IT.

The Challenge:

Integrating multiple, disparate platforms and applications into a manageable environment within stringent time constraints.

The Solution: **DECISION SUPPORT'S** DQbroker® and DQview™

The Talk:

DQbroker allows us to tap into all of our data sources, wherever they are, and access them as if they were all in one place, regardless of the platform, or the underlying language of the database. That in itself is a minor miracle. With DQbroker, there is no business justification to migrating or re-coding all of our IBM data to an Oracle and HP environment. DQbroker provides the same functionality at a fraction of the time and expense of such a migration project.

Buford Beadle

Allvac
Applications Development Manager

To proactively grow this company, management must be able to quickly access operations data. DQbroker is helping us get our hands around the data management issue by reversing the 80/20 rule. Programmers no longer spend 80 percent of their time chasing data. Decision Support has put the rules in the tools with their use of metadata and restored the efficiency and integrity to complex data environments.

Gary Bratton

Allvac
Director of Information Systems

The Comparison:

Then

The old stuff

The process:

Inventive measures, including complex migrations and laborious re-keying of data from Oracle, Microsoft Access, VSAM, Fox Pro, Excel and Paradox into either Oracle or FoxPro databases, are performed so that applications can access vital data. The more complex migrations require data to be manipulated and handed off in a step-by-step process for the resulting data to be useable. Corporate management status reports are created from the data compiled. Corporate schedules require that the brutal process take place each month. Data access constraints, when combined with imposed deadlines, often prevent the inclusion of all pertinent data in reports.

Projected time spent:

Two weeks

Business impact:

The accounting and IT departments struggle to close their reporting cycle with reports often without the required data. This requires management to make decisions with incomplete information, forcing the company to run in a reactive mode. The process is resource intensive and produces substandard results.

Now

DQbroker & DQview

The process:

Data throughout the enterprise is accessed easily and quickly prepared for reports. An environment which includes IBM mainframe COBOL-based applications using VSAM data structure, a number of HP platforms with Oracle database engines, four different UNIX production platforms, applications on Novell network servers and a dBase application is integrated. Data resident in Microsoft Access, Fox Pro, Excel and Paradox databases is presented in a Global View™. Accounting can reach all the data required for the monthly reports without getting IT involved in the process.

Projected time spent:

Four days

Business impact:

Allvac can close its reporting cycle within the deadline constraints of corporate management using all required data that is accessed in real-time. Decisions become proactive as management has the ability to analyze up-to-date trends. The entire process utilizes minimal resources and garners premium results.

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