

High performance SAP BW enabled with 64 bit PRIMEQUEST

Solution

- Mission critical SAP Business Warehouse (BW) for 64-bit environment

Industry

- Pharmaceutical company

Product

- PRIMEQUEST 580

Requirement

- Need to ensure data availability for high performance business planning while facing increasing data loads following a company merger.

Benefits

- Existing skills assets were retained. Overnight workloads reduced, Business analysis performance improved, and data loading was reduced; with three times the data loaded in one third of the time.

Overview



DAIICHI SANKYO CO., LTD.

Location: Nihonbashi, Chuo Ward, Tokyo Japan
Nature of Enterprise: Research & Development, Manufacturing, Import, and Sales & Marketing of pharmaceutical products.

Recent trends towards business consolidation in the pharmaceutical market foreshadowed the merger between Daiichi Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd and Sankyo Co., Ltd. On 1st April 2007 a new company DAIICHI SANKYO CO., LTD. (DAIICHI SANKYO) came into being seeking to maximize the synergy between the previous businesses. To help ensure timely analysis and planning DAIICHI SANKYO use a Fujitsu mission critical IA server PRIMEQUEST 580 as the platform for their combined SAP data warehouse solution, SAP BW. Its high speed data processing and reliability is essential in coping with the major increases in data resulting from the new consolidated business.

Mr.Umezawa, General Manager, IT Strategy, in speaking about the potential advantages of the business merger and plans for strengthening creativity, productivity and effectiveness said, "The mission of the IT strategy Department is to enable management strategy through consolidation of operational processes and information systems. We needed to understand both the operation and the technology to achieve our future plans."



Mr.Umezawa,
General Manager,
IT Strategy

Prior to the merger, SAP BW (Business Information Warehouse) was used by the Management Planning department and the Production Management department in Daiichi Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. SAP BW enabled production planning based on management plans plus demand and supply fluctuations. Mr.Hirano, Associate Manager,

Implementation Group, IT Strategy Department, said. "Pharmaceutical products need to be provided timely and take into consideration the balance of supply and demand. For example, production planning for cold and flu medicines, typically sold in the winter season, needs to be fixed during the previous summer."

Even before the merger, the nighttime operation to batch load data into the business information warehouse was taking until 5 AM to finish. This had knock-on effects in operational delays that were also causing problems with daily operations. In addition, since the volume of data was expected to increase dramatically, as a result of the business merger, a replacement server platform had become essential.

PRIMEQUEST 580 easily handled three times the data in a third of the time.

Introduction planning for the new system started in December, 2005. The acceptance benchmark was the performance to load large amounts of data at very high speed. Mr.Izumi, Associate Manager, Implementation Group, IT Strategy Department said, "We were using a 32 bit industry standard server with the previous SAP BW system and faced a limitation in memory space. This





Mr.Kakuta,
Manager, Planning
Group, IT Strategy
Department

resulted in our choice of a 64 bit server. Reliability was also a major factor in the selection as system downs were seen as unacceptable with information systems related to businesses enterprise management.”

For these reasons DAIICHI SANKYO finally selected a Fujitsu’s mission critical IA server

“PRIMEQUEST 580” as their SAP BW platform. PRIMEQUEST 580 with its 64 bit environment supports extensive memory space, while the power of the dual core Intel Itanium 2 processors, provided the capability to handle growth. PRIMEQUEST also has a duplicating architecture which enables high mainframe-class reliability and availability, but in an open server environment. These features, when compared to other vendors, showed the major advantages that resulted in Fujitsu being chosen.

System verification was undertaken at Fujitsu’s Platform Solution Center in Hamamatsucho (Tokyo) using a benchmark that reproduced the operations needed to store purchasing data in the database. PRIMEQUEST 580 achieved the transfer of three times the previous data volumes in just one third of the previous elapsed time.



Mr.Hirano,
Associate Manager,
Implementation
Group, IT Strategy
Department

The partitioning functions, available on the PRIMEQUEST 580, also enabled the new system to host a SAP BW development server (using 4 CPUs), a verification server (using 4 CPUs), and the operational server (8 CPUs). With the systems capable of being expanded up to 32 CPUs (64 cores), it also showed the scalability to deal with future data and operational increments.

Mr.Umezawa says, “We didn’t hesitate to choose PRIMEQUEST 580. Fujitsu’s know-how, their ability to show future prospective uses, plus their support organization led us to choose Fujitsu.”

64 bit Windows retained existing skills and reduced staff workloads

Introduction of the new system started in September, 2006 and was completed for April, 2007. As well as the change of SAP BW platform, consolidation of SAP ERP(SAP R/3) which was previously used by Daiichi Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. and Sankyo Co., Ltd., was also executed.

Fujitsu configured a SAP ERP infrastructure layer and “SAP NetWeaver XI(Exchange Infrastructure)”. They also provided the necessary server and storage from their strong

and comprehensive product portfolio. Mr.Kakuta, Manager, Planning Group, IT Strategy Department, said “In the project, which involving 480 members and had to conform to the tight schedule of the business merger, Fujitsu’s contribution was outstanding.”



Mr.Izumi, Associate
Manager,
Implementation
Group, IT Strategy
Department

Although the amount of data increased following the business merger, the actual batch data operation was shortened by 2 hours from the introduction of the PRIMEQUEST. DAIICHI SANKYO decided on “Windows Server 2003, Datacenter Edition (64 bit)” as the Operating system. That meant administrators could reduce their workloads by using their existing Windows skills.

Mr.Umezawa and other staff in the IT planning department relied a lot on Fujitsu’s SAP skills and support services. Mr.Umezawa said in closing, “In the future, DAIICHI SANKYO will increase its use of SAP BW and we expect to acquire timely support from Fujitsu.”

System Configuration

