Automation Of Data Extracts And Reporting Improves Accuracy

Client Description	Industry	Technologies
Top 10 Global CPG Cleaning Products	CPG	> SAP > Teradata > Bluejay > Tableau > Informatica

Challenge

Our Client wanted to increase visibility of their new Transport Management System (TMS) provider (BluJay) by developing centralized reporting. The goals were to:
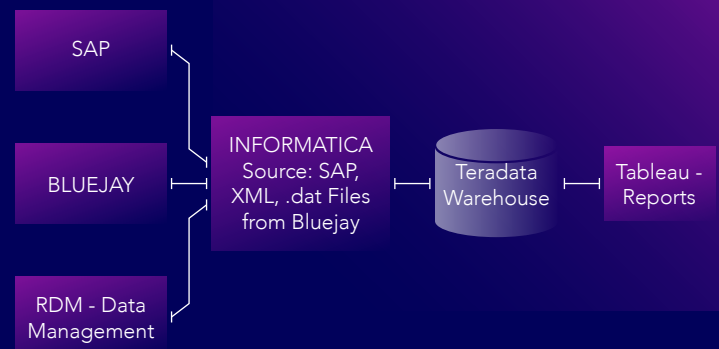
> Analyze and improve truckload usage for replenishment shipments to reduce internal freight costs
> Analyze Carrier compliance to awarded routes and reduce Slippage
> Ensure Customer compliance with weight bracket pricing allowance
> Improve visibility of the Cost to Serve

Our Consultants were engaged to build the necessary data extracts using Informatica and to develop the reports through Tableau.
The reports developed in Phase 1 revealed some shortcomings which was creating additional work for the Finance team in processing this data. As part of data validation activities, our Consultants identified gaps between payments & shipments from the source systems of BlueJay and SAP.
SAP receives data with payment, shipment and other information. But it is neither CSV or fixed width file. The existing extract could not manage the variable lengths and often did not include the payment & shipment data needed for Enterprise Data Warehouse checks and balances.

Our Solution

Our Consultants modified the extract to load with ASCII Unit Separator ("\037") as the delimiter which helped in loading different variable length lines as a single row to the database. Post processing was via SQL (in Database) & Informatica based on the file format which extracted much more information than was processed by SAP ABAP code.

SAP → INFORMATICA Source: SAP, XML, .dat Files from Bluejay → Teradata Warehouse → Tableau - Reports

BLUEJAY →

RDM - Data Management →

Benefits

The automation and improvement of the data extract:
1) Improve accuracy and efficiency of the Freight Accrual process (removing many current manual steps).
2) Provide auditing of expected Freight bill posting versus actuals