

SUCCESS STORY N° 5



HeidelbergCement automates Housekeeping

HeidelbergCement is one of the world's largest building material suppliers operating at 2,300 locations in 40 countries. Their Business Warehouse (BW) of 2,700 users and 12 TB volume is a complex system with multiple data flows and reporting applications. To relieve the BW team and slow down the system growth, HeidelbergCement implement-

ed the housekeeping solution Datavard OutBoard™ for Housekeeping. The solution helped centralize and automate data cleansing as well as enable system-wide governance. At the same time, 62% of the running housekeeping costs and 24% of the house keeping initial costs were saved; the BW team saved 6 working hours per week.

"Datavard OutBoard™ for Housekeeping is a highly innovative solution precisely addressing the customer's needs. Very recommendable."

Dominik Ruf,
HeidelbergCement

AT A GLANCE

Challenge:

Few resources for data cleansing, no centralized, system-wide control, growing data volumes.

Solution:

- Datavard OutBoard™ for Housekeeping

Results:

- 15 TB saved
- 11 housekeeping objects implemented in 7 BW systems
- System-wide governance
- Automated data cleansing
- BW team saved 0.22 FTE
- Cost savings: 24% initial costs & 62% running costs

No time for housekeeping

Increasing data growth, decreasing performance

In more than 140 years since foundation of the company in 1873, HeidelbergCement has developed from a regional cement manufacturer into one of the world's leading building material suppliers. The international scope of the company is also reflected in its system environment. HeidelbergCement runs a 4-system environment with their own systems for Europe and Asia. The Business Warehouse (BW) has already been in service since 2007. "Our BW is very special. A lot of data flows with corresponding dependencies, lots of applications in two productive systems, over 2,700 users and a size of 12 TB make the system complex", Dominik Ruf, BI Technology Leader at HeidelbergCement, explains. A team of 30 internal and almost 30 external developers is in charge of the BW. Thus, a great number of projects is running in the system simultaneously. "Value increase is the focus for users. Housekeeping has been neglected so far", Dominik Ruf describes the problem. "What is more a system of this size makes it difficult to monitor all the running projects." The consequence: growing data volumes and a permanently deteriorating system performance. The housekeeping solution Datavard OutBoard™ for Housekeeping should resolve the issue by introducing automated data cleansing possible and enabling system-wide governance.



On the one hand, the target was to reduce manual tasks thus relieving the BW team. On the other hand,

system growth was supposed to be decelerated.

OutBoard™ for Housekeeping keeps an eye on everything

Datavard OutBoard™ for Housekeeping was particularly convincing with its central cockpit allowing for system-wide monitoring as well as planning of all housekeeping measures. Moreover, the solution automates and controls handling of temporary data. It takes over the temporary data storage for further use or deletion, clears up data trash and regulates measures on performance

improvement. The application controls deletion and cleansing of superfluous data locally or for complete system groups via rules once defined. System and temporary data are moved automatically, compressed and stored in a data register analogous to the Windows recycle bin up to their final deletion. If necessary, data can be restored from it again. A clearly structured calendar function,

which can be represented centrally in SAP® GUI, creates transparency for all housekeeping activities in addition to planning and grouping. "So far, we have only been able to initiate these activities in the productive system. "The possibility to keep an eye on everything throughout the system was a decisive aspect for us", Dominik Ruf says.

Individually adapted

Prior system analysis customizes housekeeping

To spare internal resources, the solution should be implemented with a minimum participation of the BW team as possible. This is why Datavard advisors have taken over a large part of the activities. Initially, Datavard conducted a system analysis with the help of the BW Fitness Test in order to adapt the housekeeping solution accordingly. Data volumes of any data contained, performance of reports and queries as well as data quality and full system capacity were checked. The BW Fitness Test identified the highest improvement potential in the areas of Cube Compression, Change Logs and Number Range Buffering of the HeidelbergCement's

BW system. Therefore, the project team focused on these areas when introducing Datavard OutBoard™ for Housekeeping. An individual solution had to be found for the time zone issue: The system time running in the UTC time zone simply does not match CET. "To date, we've had to plan jobs forward or backward correspondingly due to summer and

winter time change", Dominik Ruf explains. The Datavard advisors developed a special feature to make it possible to automatically conduct that rescheduling process. Dominik Ruf: „We were impressed with how quickly Datavard developed a corresponding solution for that and how they adapted the tool to our special needs.“

“Our complex system environment, a number of simultaneously running projects and scarce resources complicated regular data cleansing immensely. With Datavard OutBoard™ for Housekeeping we have managed to centralize and automate housekeeping.”

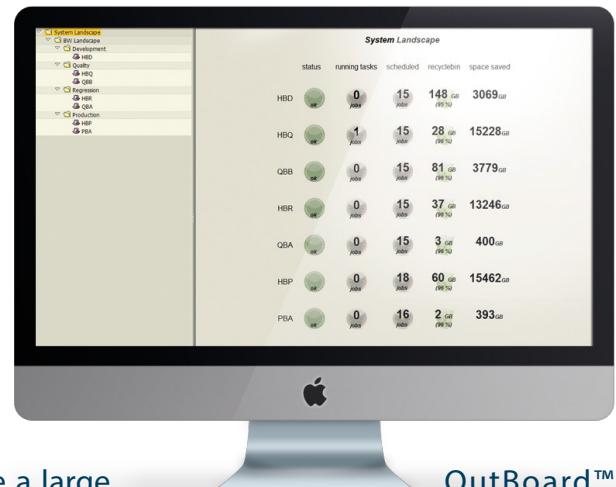
Dominik Ruf,
HeidelbergCement

Housekeeping running automatically

System growth permanently decreased

As predicted, personnel costs were low for the BW team of HeidelbergCement during introduction. It only took the employees 17 working days for the implementation, 5 days for discussion of the concept in the individual teams and 12 days for general coordination and technical tasks. The participants of the projects were also very satisfied with the results. "Since the introduction, we have already seen rapid growth significantly decreasing", Dominik Ruf reports. Although

the system has continued to grow since then, the growth is considerably less than before. "With the help of the Datavard OutBoard™ for Housekeeping we have been able to save a large amount of storage space in various systems. Currently, the cockpit shows us savings of 15 TB." However, he sees the biggest advantage in the system-wide governance: "Now we can control all the systems centrally over the



OutBoard™ for Housekeeping cockpit in the large and distributed systems environment. OutBoard™ for Housekeeping automatically considers new objects and conducts housekeeping measures without our help."

HEIDELBERGCEMENT GROUP

HeidelbergCement is a publicly traded DAX listed German building material supplier. Headquartered in Heidelberg and active in over 40 countries, employing 44,900 in 2014, in roughly 2,300 locations generates a total turnover of € 12.6 billion. HeidelbergCement is clearly one of the world's largest building material suppliers. Core business of the company is manufacturing and distributing cement and ingredients supplemented with the downstream activities of transit-mixed concrete and asphalt. HeidelbergCement provides international maritime trade of cement and coal.

Result

Housekeeping costs reduced by 62%

The conclusion drawn by the project participants is positive. All the targets in connection with Datavard OutBoard™ for Housekeeping have been achieved. "We are very satisfied with the housekeeping solution. All our expectations concerning central governance, security and storage space savings have been fulfilled", David

Ruf summarizes. The BW team of HeidelbergCement was able to save 6 working hours per week thanks to more efficient administration. On the whole, the running cost of housekeeping was decreased by 62% and initial costs for housekeeping by 24%, thanks to Datavard OutBoard™ for Housekeeping.



For further information
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