

## SUCCESS STORY N° 12



# BW reduced by 35%

Fitness combination: NLS plus automated housekeeping

Rollouts and the development of new applications had led to an increase in system growth at the KION group AG. The BW landscape of the leading forklift truck manufacturer had grown to 11TB. In order to reduce system size to improve performance and reduce further growth, the internal IT services provider KION Information Management Services (KIM) implemented the NLS solution

Datavard OutBoard™ for Analytics and the housekeeping solution Datavard OutBoard™ for Housekeeping. The project was successful; 3.3TB of data dead freight was removed. And what was most exceptional about this was that the end-users' data was not affected throughout the entire project. On top of that, uploading processes and increased performance were up by 25% on average.

*“With the help of OutBoard™ for Analytics and OutBoard™ for Housekeeping we were able to reduce the system size by 35% in the initial wave of archiving.”*

Jens Graef,  
KION Group IT

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# Tremendous system growth

KION sees a need for action



KION group is market leader for industrial trucks in East and West Europe and second globally. Due to constant growth, KIM's IT experts were challenged to ensure performance of a rapidly growing system. "As part of many rollouts, new companies and therefore new applications have been added in re-

cent years, leading to an increase in BW size from six to eleven TB," explains Jens Gräf, Head of Business Intelligence at KIM describing the initial situation. Furthermore, the BI team and support were maxed out and therefore allowed little time for typical housekeeping tasks. Tremendous growth in

the databases resulted in longer query times and the responsible BW team was left fighting nightly uploading processes still incomplete by 8 am. Based on these parameters management decided to assess optimization potential of the BW landscape in an IT project. All measures were to be taken within IT, without the involvement of other departments and with manageable personnel expenditure. KIM defined the main target as a reduction of the current system by 30 to 40%, and to control future system growth, as well as improving their housekeeping processes.

The KION Group AG and its seven brands Linde, STILL, Fenwick, OM STILL, Baoli, Voltas and Egemin, are globally active. As market leader for forklift trucks and warehouse technology in Europe they are 2nd globally and the leading foreign provider in China. KION and its more than 23.000 strong staff generated 5.1 billion Euros in fiscal year 2015.

# Datavard OutBoard™ for Analytics impresses

## Future-proof, flexible, requires little expenditure

During the evaluation period, KIM compared several data archiving solutions. Main criteria were to be future-proof, flexible and easy to implement and operate. They chose Datavard OutBoard™ for Analytics as the new Nearline Storage Solution (NLS). The SAP certified solution splits data according to relevance and stores them highly compressed (up to 95%). Data always remains available for reporting and analysis. "Datavard is the optimum so-

lution for various reasons. Particularly because of its easy handling which keeps our expenditure low," Gräf explains. The NLS solution can be dealt with independently by the BI team, as the archive is in the BW server. "A further important criterion, which competitors could not provide during the evaluation, was the NLS writer, which enables us to edit archived data," project leader Sascha Ohms adds. The NLS solution also got thumbs up for being fu-

ture-proof. With the storage management module for OutBoard™ for Analytics, external databases such as SAP IQ, Apache™, Hadoop® or, as in this case, the existing content-server can be connected, too. With rapid system growth or implementation of new technologies such as SAP HANA, relocation of archived data enables a considerable reduction in infrastructure and license costs.

# 120 BW objects archived

## End-user data remains unaffected

Datavard started with an in-depth analysis. Based on more than 70 KPIs and a benchmark of more than 250 systems, the BW Fitness Test™ analyzed the strengths and weaknesses of the BW. "More than half of the system contained data with no added value, in particular ODS-, PSA-, and Changelog data," Gräf explained. "Fortunately the main savings could be realized in the ODS area and we did not have to touch data from the reporting layer." Coordination with the end-user was therefore not necessary. BW Fitness Test™ also showed

the system had continued to grow during the evaluation. "The dead freight had grown continuously, as many applications and hidden objects made manual cleansing difficult. The analysis revealed cleansing potential," said Ohms. Which led KIM to implement the housekeeping module OutBoard™

for Housekeeping as well. The application automates data cleansing processes by compressing system and temporary data and keeps them in a designated bin until they are deleted, much like the Windows recycle bin. All activities are steered and monitored from one central cockpit.

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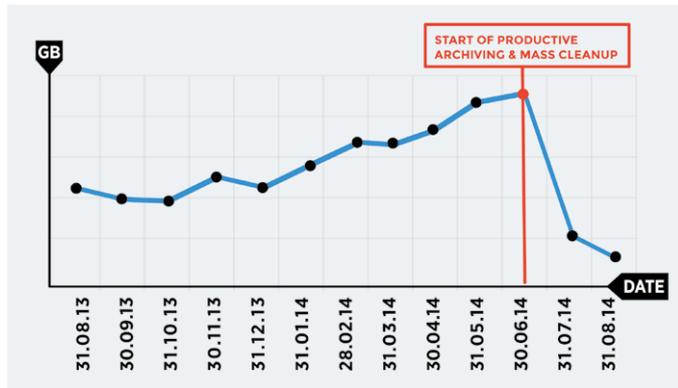
*"We were able to archive 120 of the largest BW objects with Datavard OutBoard™ for Analytics and achieved a compression rate of 91% of archived data. We were impressed by the results."*

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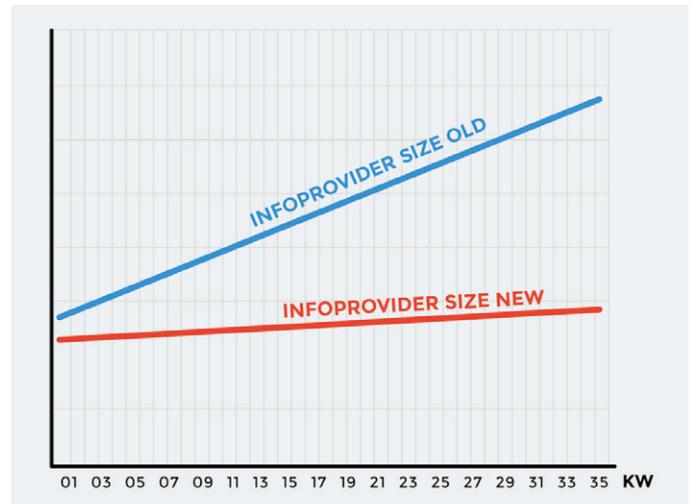
Sascha Ohms,  
KION Group IT

# Convincing results

Streamlined systems, improved performance



After 4 months, the project was successfully completed. Six KIM employees were given in-house and telephone training. “The know-how transfer went really well and Datavard was of great help, even during the critical phase,” Ohms reports. The results: They were able to streamline the system by 3.3TB with the help of OutBoard™ for Analytics and the housekeeping module OutBoard™ for Housekeeping. During the initial wave of archiving, 120 of the largest BW objects were archived, but remain available via the standard NLS interface. “Bottom line, we saved 1TB through archiving. We were impressed by the compression rate OutBoard™ for Analytics pro-



vides. We never expected a rate of 91%,” said Ohms. OutBoard™ for Housekeeping’s automated data cleansing shrunk the system by a further 2.3TB. On top of that, uploading processes and increased performance were up by 25% on average. The upload time of an important process chain was reduced by over 60%. OutBoard™ for Housekeeping was a great help in making work easier, too. “Now we have more time for value-added tasks,” Ohm explains.

# Satisfied and motivated

Exploit further potential

The project leaders at KIM are very satisfied with the results and wish to use it for further optimization opportunities. “Out-Board™ for Housekeeping is a very valuable tool for us, which apart for the existing benefits, has far more potential. Of course we want to exploit that,” says Ohms.

Jens Gräf also believes the project was successful. “With regard to reducing system size, we have taken a very big step forward. We have not reached the end of the road, yet.” The plan is to sustainably work on this topic and find more potential for savings with future high-volume projects.



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