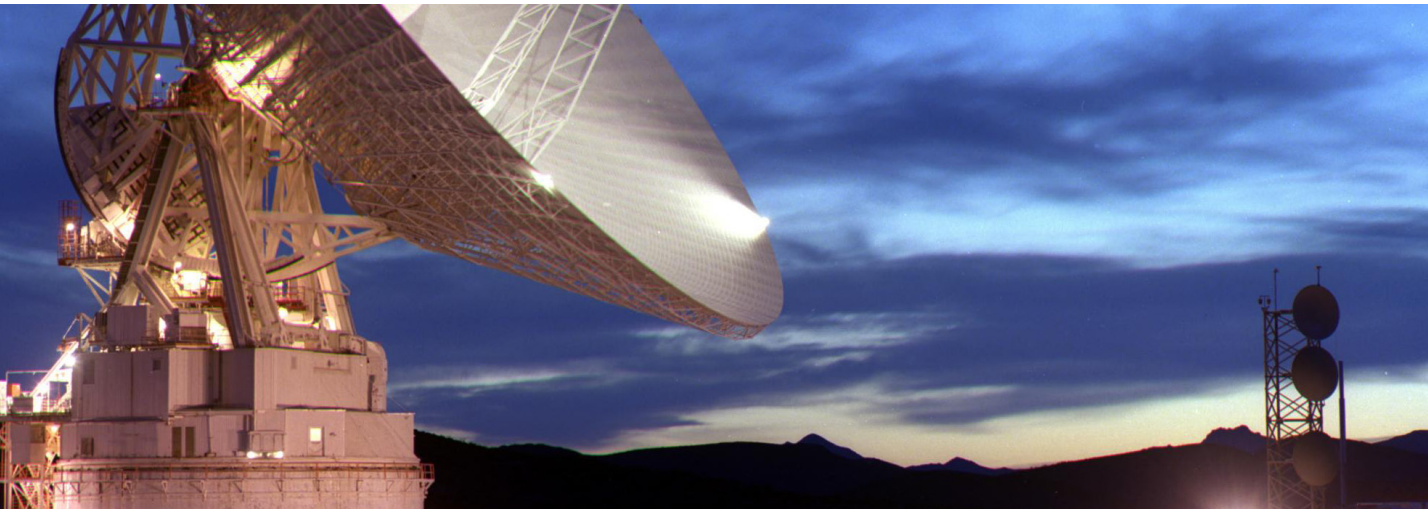


Comstellar Technologies Improves its Budgeting and Reporting Process



THE CLIENT

Comstellar Technologies, Inc. (www.comstellar.com) is the premier organization for architecting innovative companies that will develop core disruptive technologies to dramatically improve the capabilities of the communications network and drive the next generation of communications. Its founders have a proven record of leadership and expertise in the communications industry at companies such as Telcordia, IBM, Sun, StratumOne, Cerent and Siara. Comstellar, with headquarters in Los Altos, CA and Florham Park, NJ, has raised about \$150 million in investment capital, led by Accel Partners and New Enterprise Associates. Other investors include Clarity Partners, First Analysis Venture Capital, Goldman, Sachs & Co., J.P. Morgan Ventures, Lehman Brothers, Mayfield Fund, Oak Investment Partners, and Soros Private Equity Partners.

THE CHALLENGE

Comstellar needed the ability to view its organization in an easier and more flexible method than their current methods allowed. Comstellar used Microsoft Excel to collect and report its budgeting information. It did not report on its “actuals” at the time since it was a relatively new company.

Comstellar needed a way to collect its budget data in one central place instead of on numerous Excel spreadsheets. Comstellar also wanted a corporate budgeting application that could not only handle its eight companies, but could grow with it.

THE SOLUTION

Comstellar engaged Praxinet to develop and implement Comstellar's Application for Reporting & Budgeting (CARB). To design CARB, Praxinet collaborated with Comstellar to develop the specific requirements around the budgeting and reporting application. Praxinet also provided Comstellar with valuable business process consulting to optimize its approach to budgeting.

Using the defined requirements and process improvements that resulted from joint requirement planning meetings (JRPs), Praxinet developed the end-user Excel-based budgeting templates and created a multidimensional data warehouse (Essbase cube) to house the budgeting data. The engagement team successfully loaded budgeting and actual data to the Essbase cube. Praxinet's final development was an interactive, Excel-based reporting application to display budgeting results and rollups.

Praxinet implemented the final application and provided end-user training to complete the engagement.

THE TECHNOLOGY

Hyperion Essbase Multidimensional database
Hyperion Enterprise
Microsoft Windows NT Server
Microsoft Visual Basic
Microsoft Excel

THE BENEFITS

The solution that Praxinet developed gave Comstellar a corporate budgeting application that met its current and future needs. The Hyperion Essbase platform provided them with the flexibility and scalability that Comstellar needed as a growing company. CARB served as the first step in a complete budgeting and reporting application that included both client/server and Internet technologies.

The corporate budgeting process was significantly improved. The efficiency of the application shortened the process timeline by weeks, thus lowering operating costs. End-users were now confident that they were working from the same version of data, updated to the second. CARB was designed to receive actual data from Hyperion Enterprise and collect budget data through Excel-based Budgeting Templates, giving Comstellar a comprehensive view of its finances and more accurate prediction and analysis capabilities.

The database and reports that Praxinet developed by leveraging the Business Intelligence (BI) tools included in the Hyperion Essbase platform provided end-users with the ability to conduct thorough analysis and thus make more knowledgeable business decisions.

About Us...

Praxinet, Inc. provides consulting and software solutions that improve business performance across government and private enterprise. Praxinet leverages its core competencies in strategic consulting, Internet technologies, and business intelligence to enable its clients to manage their operations more efficiently and intelligently. Praxinet has designed and developed mission-critical solutions for major clients such as Avaya, Swiss Re, Pitney Bowes, GE, Star Gas Partners, Deloitte & Touche, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Citibank, Pfizer, Verizon, UPS, IRS, NH Dept. of Health & Human Services, and Tishman Speyer Properties.

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