

DHL Aviation welcomes you!

(this presentation used several video clips, which were removed from this printout version.)







IBM PERFORMANCE EVENTS





Powering-up IBM Cognos BI

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1 Introduction

- Deutsche Post DHL Group
 - Deutsche Post
 - Original national mail service Germany
 - DHL
 - Global transport service





1 Introduction

- DHL Group
 - DHL Express
 - Global package & document express transportation service.
 - DHL Global Freight
 - Global logistics partner for large volume shipments.
 - DHL Supply Chain
 - Customized solutions for full supply chain in industries.
 - DHL Mail
 - Global mail service for company mail, publications, etc.



DHL Express



DHL Global Freight



DHL Supply Chain



DHL Global Mail



1 Introduction

- Network Global BI Department
 - Provides Global Reporting facilities to DHL Aviation
 - Global userbase of 1200 users
 - Cognos as main reporting engine
 - Post-operational reporting, refreshed 1-3x / day
 - 2 main data warehouse sets :
 - for reporting on own air fleet (focus on efficiency)
 - for reporting on commercial airline hauling (focus on cost).





2 The 2008-2009 BI Project

- Historical growth of Business Intelligence at DHL Aviation
 - Initial Global Aviation BI project started in 2003
 - 2003 : Initial BI Project
 - 2004 : First Go-Live
 - Explosive growth in business reporting needs
 - 2004 : 20 Reports, 3 Cubes, 80 users
 - 2006: 120 Reports, 6 Cubes, 250 users
 - 2008: 1050 Reports, 32 Cubes, 1000 users



2 The 2008-2009 BI Project

- Choice between 2 solutions to kill the monster :
 - Fast
 - Cheap
 - Low performance
 - Basic
 - Generic design
 - Short life
 - Bug prone design

- Slow
- Expensive
- High Performance
- Detailed
- Branded design
- Long life, future-proof
- Oiled & slick design





2 The 2008-2009 BI Project

- Goals of the project :
 - Better Performance
 - Higher Flexibility
 - Lower Maintenance cost
 - Increased Productivity
 - Stronger Visual Appeal
 - More focus on Branding
 - More User-friendly
 - Easier Scalability





- 3.1 Framework & Report Optimization
 - Problem:
 - A badly designed framework kills performance
 - A complexly designed report kills performance as well
 - Area:
 - Performance
 - Solution:
 - Optimize both framework and reports
 - Possible Gain:
 - Reports will run much faster, user experience will look smoother







- 3.1 Framework & Report Optimization
 - Hints:
 - It all starts with your data ware house...
 - Read the official Framework Modelling guidelines
 - Use aliases in your framework to avoid looping relationships
 - Avoid master detail relationships in reports
 - Try to play with the Query Hints parameters (Local Cache, Processing) for very long-running queries
 - Think logical, avoid complexity in reports







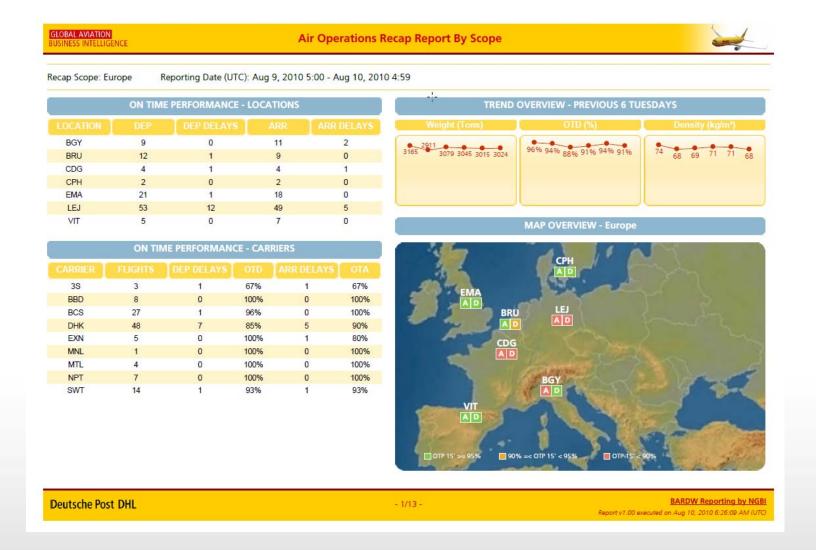
- 3.2 Branding
 - Problem:
 - Reporting sites sometimes do not fit in the company house style
 - Business users need to restyle report output before they can use it in official documents/presentations
 - Area:
 - Increased brand appeal, visual appeal
 - Solution:
 - Use a site template, style report outputs
 - Possible Gain:
 - Less time wasted for business users, increased brand awareness





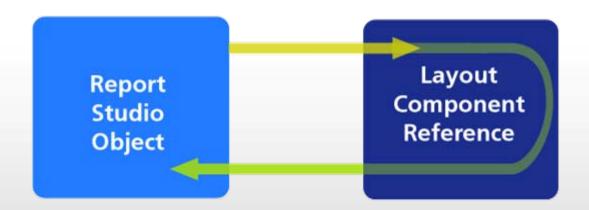
3.2 Branding







- 3.2 Branding
 - Hints:
 - Use Layout Component Reference
 - Keep all layout reports in one location, allow read rights but hide content from users.
 - Add building blocks to XML files on the webserver (\webcontent\pat\res)





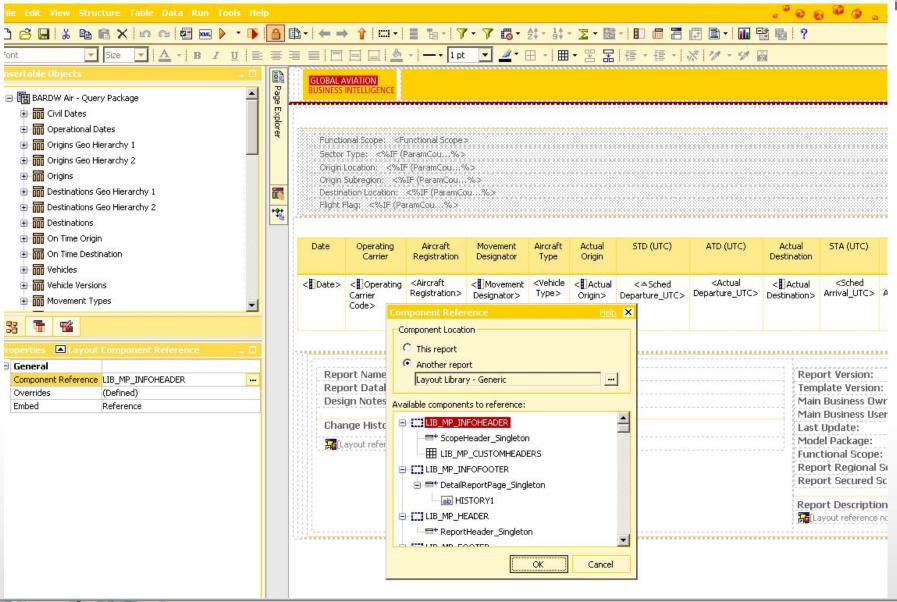


- 3.3 Building Blocks & Templates
 - Problem:
 - Report maintenance cost increases on every report added
 - Reports grow out of sync with older report styles
 - Report authors waste time styling every report
 - Area:
 - Maintenance, productivity
 - Solution:
 - Use layout component references & report templates
 - Possible Gain:
 - Report authors work faster, reports stay in sync, can be adapted in one go



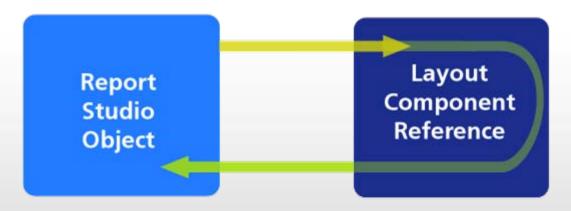
3.3 Building Blocks & Templates







- 3.3 Building Blocks & Templates
 - Hints:
 - Use Layout Component Reference
 - Keep all layout reports in one location, allow read rights but hide content from users.
 - Add building blocks to XML files on the webserver (\webcontent\pat\res)
 - Add preset filters to your framework.









- 3.4 Report Info Headers
 - Problem:
 - Users do not know of special business rules applied to a report
 - Business users need to run a report before they know what it is about
 - Area:
 - User-friendliness
 - Solution:
 - Create an information header in the prompt page
 - Possible Gain:
 - Business users waste less time finding the right report
 - Business users know immediately who to contact



3.4 Report Info Headers



GLOBAL AVIATION BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE

BARDW OnTime Reporting

Flight Detail by Flight Number 6 Generic



Report Detailed Information:

Flight Detail by Flight Number Report Name:

Report Database ID:

-Movement Designator not like '%P' Design Notes:

Change History:

v1.00 11 Aug 09 Saskia van Oldenborgh Regport migrated to 8.4, templated

Report Version: 1.00 2.80 Template Version: Ben Bridge Main Business Owner: Main Business User: Ben Bridge

Last Update: Aug 11, 2009 12:00:00 AM

BARDW Model Package: Functional Scope: OnTime Generic Report Regional Scope: Global Report Secured Scope:

Report Description:

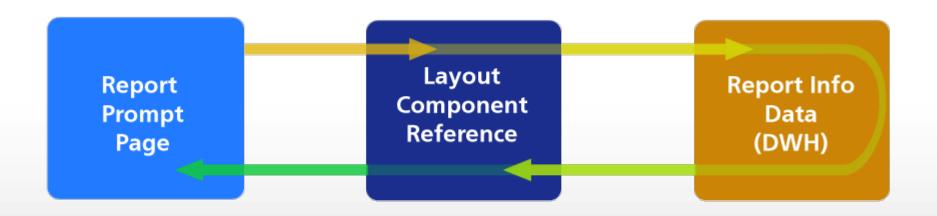
This report shows per day, operating carrier per flight scheduled - and actual time details (e.g. departure-, arrival-, block- and taxi time). It also shows the Net weight and Fuel Burn.







- 3.4 Report Info Headers
 - Hints:
 - Keep a separate table with business report info and change lists
 - **Use Layout Component Reference**
 - Use HTML DIV to show/hide the header







- 3.5 Auditing Date Warehouse
 - Problem:
 - User info, report info, Cognos content resides in different databases
 - No visibility for reporting staff or key business users
 - Area:
 - Performance, productivity
 - Solution:
 - Create a small datawarehouse connecting all data
 - Possible Gain:
 - More information (which reports/users/.. are used, which not?)
 - More possibilities for reporting



3.5 Auditing Data Warehouse







- 3.5 Audit Data Warehouse
 - Hints:
 - Write an ETL procedure to load the data
 - Clean the data and link it in the ETL procedure
 - Create a solid framework









- 3.6 Active Trigger Cube Building
 - Problem:
 - Cube builds by passive file triggers is depreciated in 2010
 - Wastes resources on cube build machine
 - Area:
 - Flexibility, performance
 - Solution:
 - Use an active trigger method, like HTTP triggering
 - Possible Gain:
 - Less resources used, cleaner setup





3.6 Active Trigger Cube Building

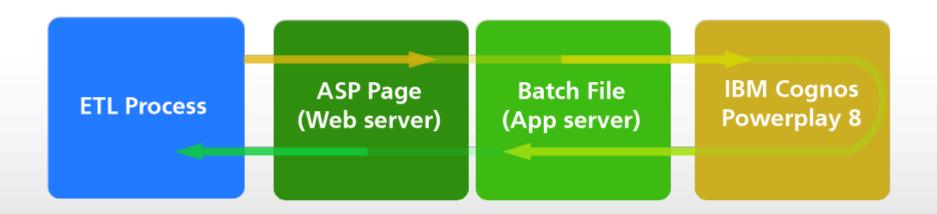


DHL Trigger Menu					
Please select your required DHL Trigger.					
Please Select A Trigger:					
Cubes Rebuild Test Trigger					
Selected Trigger: Cubes Rebuild Test Trigger					
Password:					
•••••					
Run Trigger					
Result:					
Process BUILDMODEL.TEST.AIR failed to start.					
Request initiated at Wed Dec 8 16:11:26 UTC+0100 2010. Error 15 occurred. Please supply the correct password for group TEST					





- 3.6 Active Trigger Cube Building
 - Hints:
 - Use WMI Service object
 - Link it to winmgmts:\\PC_NAME\root\cimv2:Win32_Process
 - This is an object that can run a command on a remote server
 - Set up security on the remote server to allow this







- 3.7 Event Handling
 - Problem:
 - Scheduled reports are too complex, bursting is limited
 - Business users receive reports
 - Area:
 - User-friendliness, maintenance, flexibility
 - Solution:
 - Use the full functionality of Event Studio
 - Possible Gain:
 - Much more flexibility, users get decent reports in clear e-mails





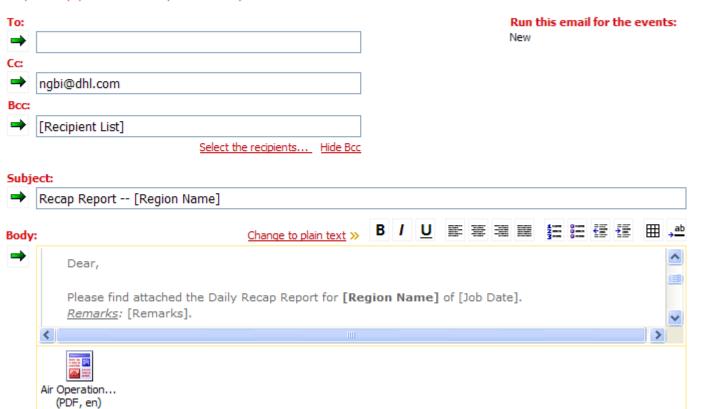
3.7 Event Handling





Specify the email to send

Specify the recipients and contents of the email. To add recipients, click Select the recipients or type the email addresses separated by semi-colons. Body box empty and select the report as the only attachment.



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Attach ▼ Add links...



- 3.7 Event Handling
 - Hints:
 - Use Event Studio
 - Inform business users pro-actively of this possibility
 - Use conditional schedules
 - Write nicely formatted HTML e-mails with plenty of information







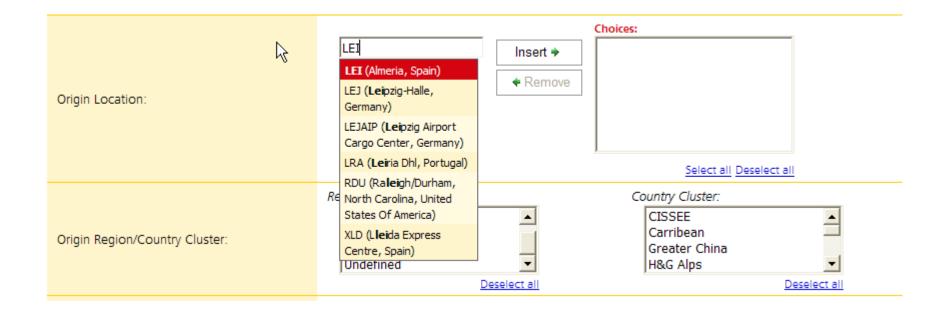
- 3.8 Advanced Prompting
 - Problem:
 - Business users require prompt pages to be fast and easy to use
 - Area:
 - User-friendliness, productivity
 - Solution:
 - Add autocomplete functionality and more user-friendly prompts
 - Possible Gain:
 - Users waste less time in prompt pages





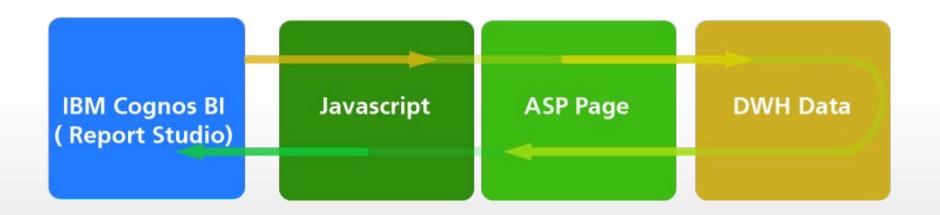
3.8 Advanced Prompting







- 3.8 Advanced Prompting
 - Hints:
 - Javascript inside HTML Item
 - Use open source jQuery module for autocomplete
 - Use layout component references







- 3.9 Definition Glossary
 - Problem:
 - Business users do not always know every business definition
 - Area:
 - User-friendliness, productivity
 - Solution:
 - Add a definition glossary link to IBM Cognos BI
 - Possible Gain:
 - Users waste less time looking up what a report is all about





3.9 Definition Glossary

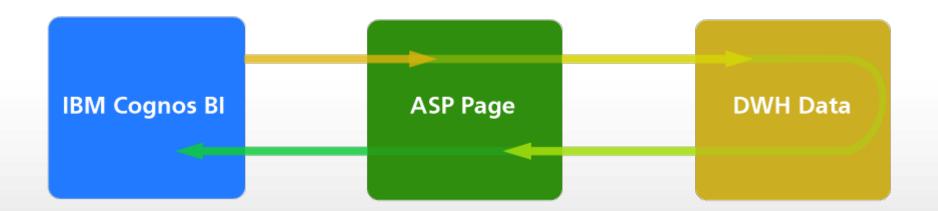


Delay 3 Description	Actual Block Time	Scheduled Block Time	Block Time Difference	Taxi Taxi Time Tin A 最 Drill Down Orit 最 Drill Up
	08:55	09:15	-12:20 AM	00 — 1
	08:30	08:30	-12:00 AM	001
	05:50	06:05	-12:15 AM	00 Lineage
	06:55	06:40	+12:15	00:44





- 3.9 Definition Glossary
 - Hints:
 - ASP: ADODB Connection, ADODB recordset
 - **ODBC** Connection
 - Cognos Administration: Glossary URI: link to ASP page.
 - Add glossary definition table to DWH.





- 3.10 Documentation
 - Problem:
 - Knowledge can easily be lost
 - New installations using an existing model take a long time
 - Area:
 - Scaleability, maintenance
 - Solution:
 - Write documentation on all customizations, store them together
 - Possible Gain:
 - New setups are up and running in no time

3.10 Documentation



7.2 Custom Cognos 8 Skin Colors

We have applied a customized DHL skin for all our users. This skin contains all the official DHL colours, logos and fonts. It was made internally, because of its complexity no information is provided, only the source files. The source files are commented where possible.

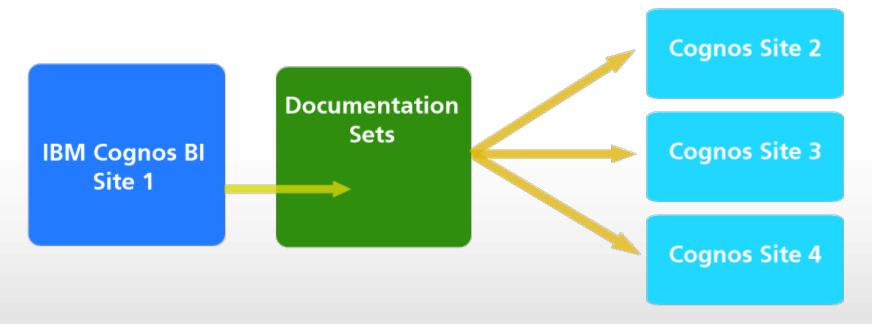
Following colour corrections were generally made (but can differ a lot, the rule of thumb is, do not just blindly change colours, but try to use the original colour code ccs pages we now created):

#				
	Old Color	New Color	New Color Name	Special Use
	Code	Code	(*=NGBI specials)	
	#000099	#BB0000	DHL Fat Title Red*	Used in Titles with darker background, and in titles that
				need different colour than other text that is in DHL Red.
	#666699	#FFE88C	DHL Yellow 45%	1
	#666699	#FFDB4C	DHL Yellow 70%	
	-	#666666	DHL Black 60%	Visited Links
	-	#EB7A16	DHL Orange	Active Links
	-	#D40511	DHL Red	Text, links, Logo Foreground
	#D8DEDC	#FFCC00	DHL (Post)Yellow	Logo Background, Menubar, Titlebar Background



3 Power-ups

- 3.10 Documentation
 - Hints:
 - Have all customizations clearly documented
 - Do not exaggerate keep it useful, not bureaucratic
 - Store all adapted files in one central location





- Reminding you on the goals :
 - Better Performance
 - Higher Flexibility
 - Lower Maintenance cost
 - Increased Productivity
 - Stronger Visual Appeal
 - More focus on Branding
 - More User-friendly
 - Easier Scalability





- Better Performance
- Higher Flexibility

– Power-ups:

- Framework & Report Optimization
- Auditing Datawarehouse
- Active Trigger Cube Building

- Average report runtime reduced by 78%
- Users see prompt screens 211% faster
- Report usage can be analyzed







- Lower Maintenance cost
- Easier Scalability

– Power-ups:

- Building Blocks & Templates
- Documentation
- Event Handling

- All reports can be managed centrally at one location
- Setup can easily be extended or implemented in other system
- Less reports, all standardized (1050 -> 150 reports)







Increased Productivity

– Power-ups:

- Advanced Prompting
- Building Blocks & Templates
- Event Handling
- Definition Glossary

- Users waste less time running reports
- Authors lose less time building reports
- Most reports can be scheduled professionally







- Stronger Visual Appeal
- More focus on Branding

– Power-ups:

- Event Handling
- Branding

- Company brand is clearly visible, users do not need to rebrand report outputs for presentations
- Professionally looking scheduled reports by e-mail







Visual Appeal Improvement – Cognos Connection

OldNew









Visual Appeal Improvement – Report in PDF

Old

New

BSA Fuel Captured

Location Code	# Flights	Dep Fuel Entered	Arr Fuel Entered
BRU-CDG			
BRU-LYS	4		
BRU-NTE	4		

Flight Detail by Flight Number

Regional Scope: Global

Civil Year/Week: Previous Week (201045)

Origin Region: All

Movement Designator: All

Carrier: All

Arrival Time Difference	Delay1 Code	Delay1 Description		 Delay 2 Description	Delay 2 Minutes
+00:15	21C	Documentation	11		







More User-friendly

– Power-ups:

- Advanced Prompting
- Report Information Headers
- Definition Glossary

- Users are much happier to use your system
- Users lose less time in searching for information elsewhere







5 Future Plans

- Related Future Projects
 - Analyze possibility to revamp Back-End (Data Ware House) in a similar way
 - Migrate Frontend solution to other BI systems in Global DHL **Express**





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6 Round-up



• That's all folks.

Feel free to ask questions!



