#### **IBM Performance 2011**

Smarter Decisions. Better Results.





# Financial Performance Management at Mensura

**Lessons Learned** 

Stefan Nouters 16/11/2011



## Mensura = 4 Activities



#### Insurance

- Occupational Accident Insurance
- Guaranteed Income Insurance

## Prevention & Protection at Work

- Health Supervision
- Risk Management

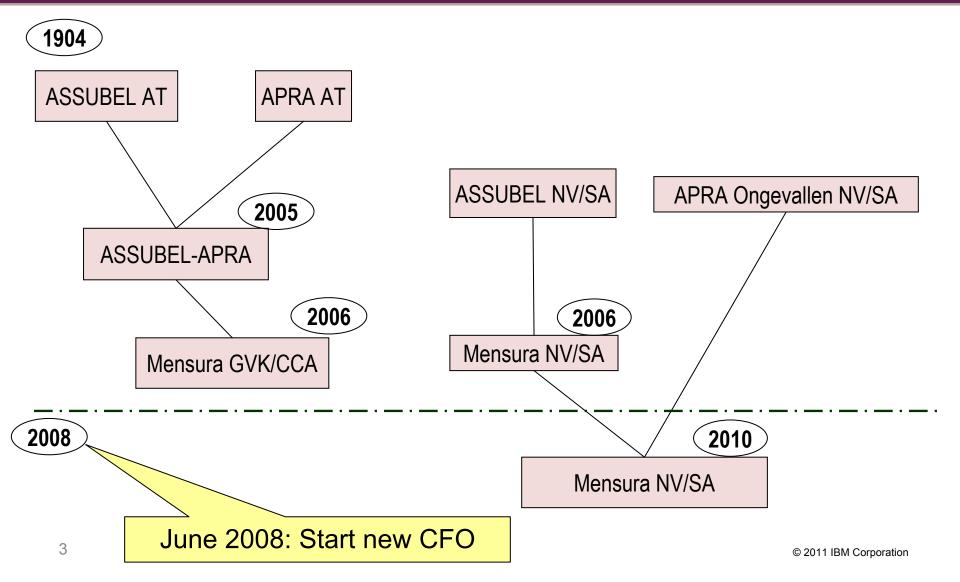
## Absenteeism

- Medical Checks & Work Attendance
- Child Allowance



# Some history...

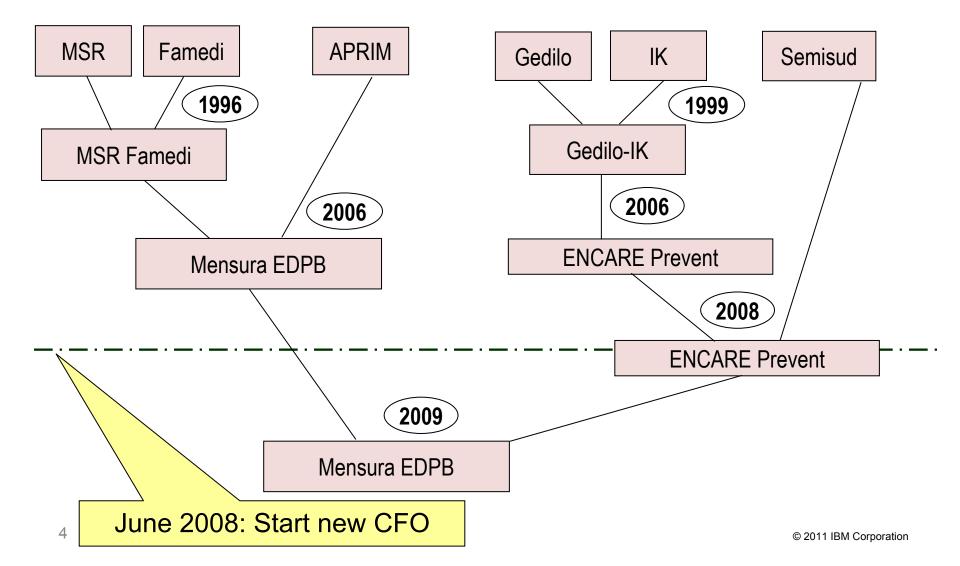






# Some history...

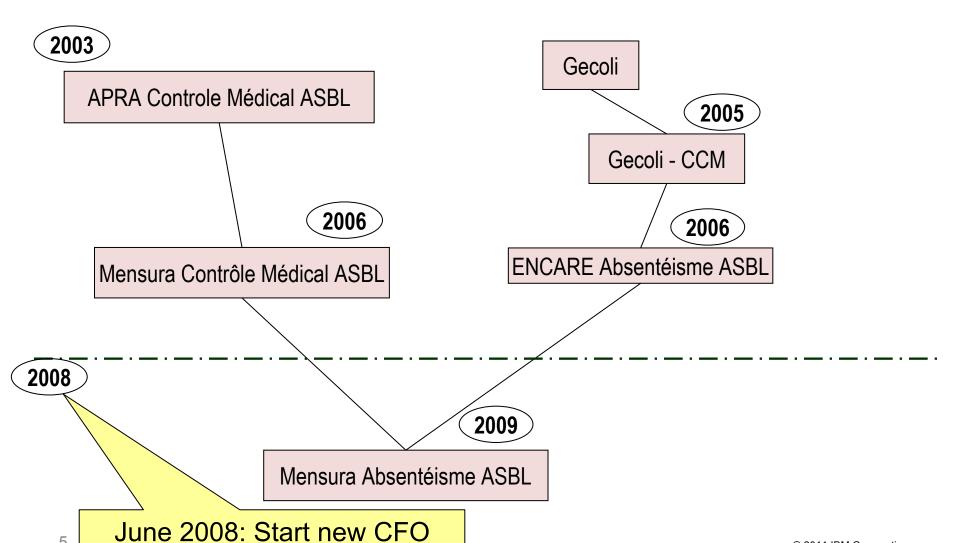






# Some history...







# Situation in June 2008



- Finance department = collection of small islands due to lack of integration after numerous mergers
  - Each entity has its own little finance team
    - => fragmentation of resources
    - => lack of talent and professionalism
  - Total lack of uniformity:
    - Different systems & processes
    - Different charts of accounts
    - Different (or no) use of cost centers



## Situation in June 2008



- Controlling & Financial Performance Management = Weak
  - Controller at GVK/CCA tries to fill the role of Group Controller but is not up to the task
  - Lack of system & processes:
    - Excel is only available tool
    - No instructions regarding reporting/budget/forecast
    - A lot of work & stress but with little relevant output





- Reorganization of Finance Department
  - Centralization of Finance department in Brussels
  - Recruitment of talent
    - Wave 1: Group Controller

Chief Accountant

**Asset Manager** 

Wave 2: Financial Analyst (FP&A)

3 Accountants

2 Financial Analysts (Asset Mgmt)

Goodbye to weak elements
 (early retirement, exit, transfer)





#### Maximum standardization:

- One accounting platform
- Standard Chart of Accounts
  - 1 for the insurance entities
  - 1 for the other entities
- Standard Management P&L
- Standard list of cost types (limited number)
- Uniform set of cost centers (valid for all entities)





- Investment in IBM Cognos TM1 Software & **Development of:** 
  - Interface with accounting system
  - Interface with payroll system
  - Application for standard management reporting
  - Application for budgeting & forecasting

With help from Aexis consultants





- Implementation of New **Performance Management Process** 
  - 5-Yr Plan / Budget / Forecast
  - Monthly Variance Analysis
  - Monthly Reporting to Management Team
  - Quarterly Reporting to Board of Directors
  - Roles & Responsibilities
  - Planning & Due Dates + Strict Follow-up
  - Standard Format & Templates
  - Info Sessions







# Why IBM Cognos TM1?

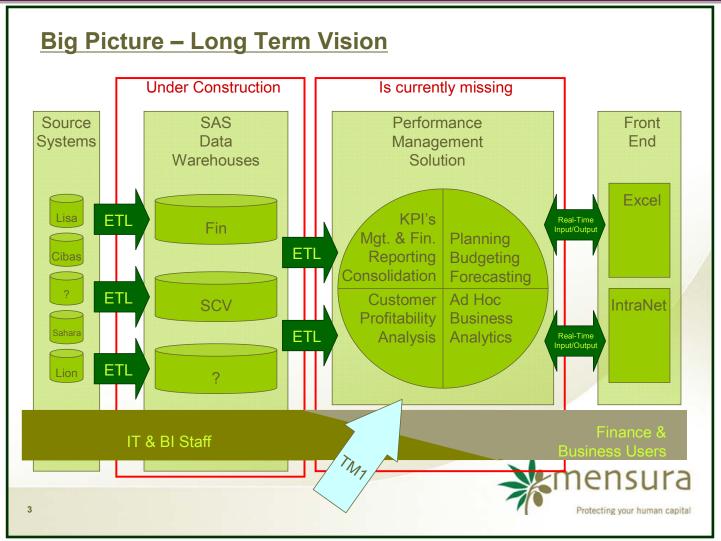


Data resides in internal memory of central server Real-time calculations (very fast) **OR** Interactive flow of data (two directions) Very good interface with Excel Excel TM1 Web Flexible and user-friendly Ease of implementation Excel **VPN** Solid security + Audit trails LAN Internal memory TM1 Web TM1 Server 12 © 2011 IBM Corporation



# How we got started...

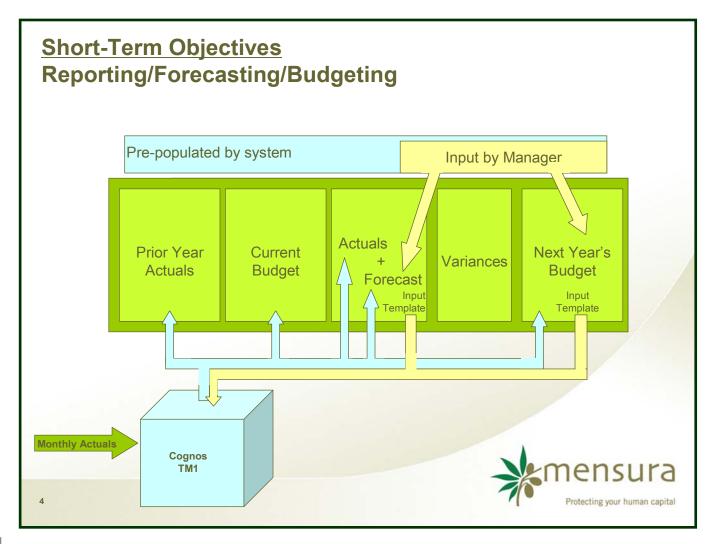






# How we got started...

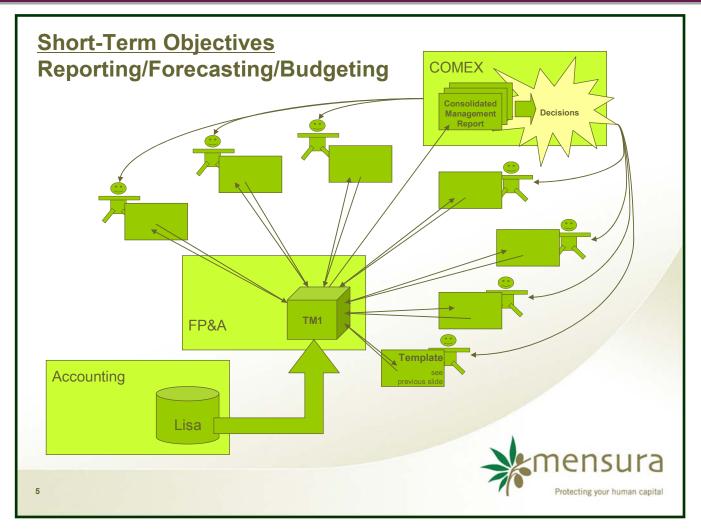






# How we got started...

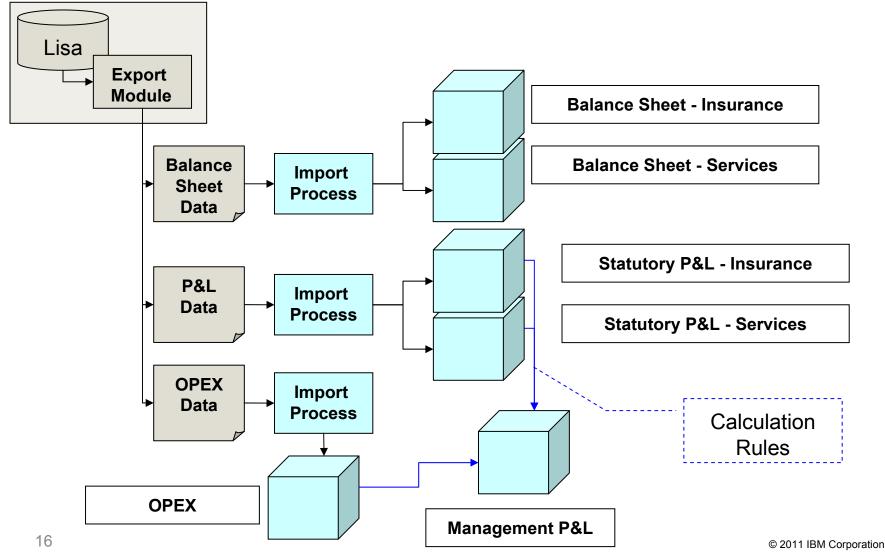






# Initial Setup: the Basics

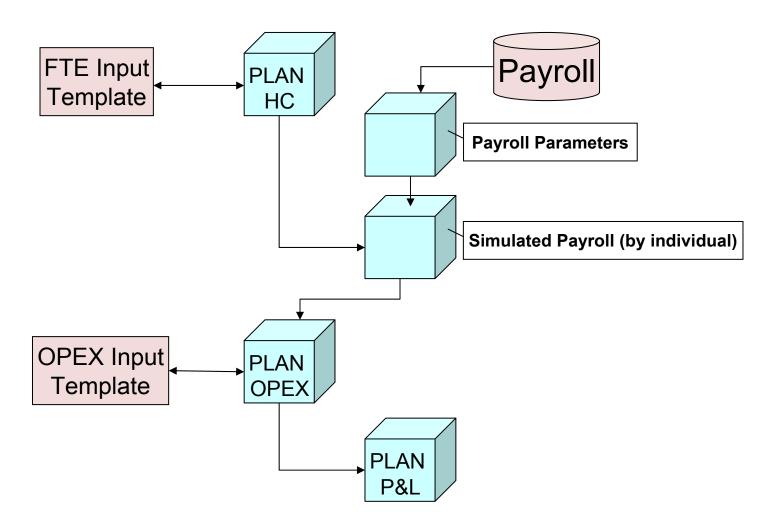






# Next: Forecasting + Budgeting

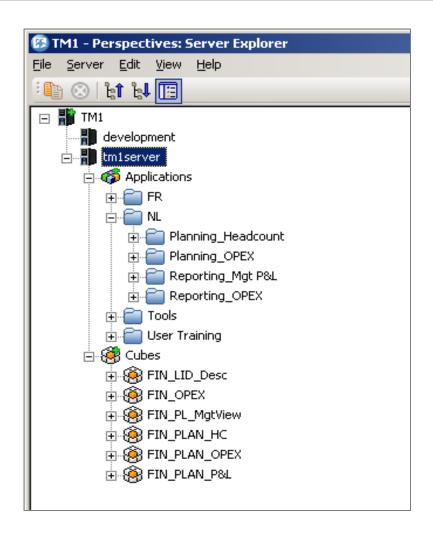






# Live Demo







## **Lessons Learned**



- The right software/system is important BUT is only one aspect of the total solution
- Start from a comprehensive long term view
- But implement step by step with short term objectives & limited scope sub-projects
- Start with the basics (go first for the lowhanging fruit)
- Make sure the CEO is on board
- Don't allow the IT folks to dictate the selection of software
- Standardize as much as possible
- Trial & Error is often much faster than endless analysis
- Trial => Test => Improve => Test Again!
- Communicate (again and again...)



## Thank You



Questions?

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