

# PROJECT BRIEF



Business Problems  
Challenges  
Deliverables  
Outcomes  
Data Sources  
Technology

## COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR

### CUSTOMER:

Commercial  
Construction  
Contractor  
– Midwest USA

### PROJECT:

Evaluating  
Construction  
Project Budget  
vs. Actual

### BUSINESS PROBLEM

A national commercial building contractor wanted to find ways to enhance project quality, increase profitability, improve control over project budgets and identify predictive indicators that could serve as an early warning system for overall project performance. The company's planning and budgeting systems were manually linked and required an intensive, time consuming spreadsheet "factory" to track planned and budgeted amounts relative to actual dollars and hours. The result was a cumbersome system that made it very difficult to implement timely corrections to minimize overruns and realize resulting improvements in project quality and profitability.

### CHALLENGES

Integrate data from multiple project-related planning and tracking systems into a single reporting environment, that allows typical business users and project managers to quickly and easily gather reliable project information so they make better decisions faster and drive incremental improvements in project quality and profitability.

### DELIVERABLES

- Extract relevant data from source systems and stage in an Operational Data Store (ODS).
- Design a star schema with measures and analytical dimensions.
- Develop standard reports and a multi-dimensional cube

### OUTCOMES

- Identified multiple opportunities to reduce costs and improve profitability
- Less time and fewer resources required to produce reporting
- Increased the quality of project information and reduced the potential for reporting errors
- Significantly more time spent analyzing data instead of compiling data
- Improved decision making process providing the ability to make better decisions faster

### DATA SOURCES

- Legacy applications on Oracle and SQL Server databases
- Web forms
- Unstructured user input data (spreadsheets, desktop databases, etc...)

### TECHNOLOGY USED

- Microsoft SQL Server 2008 –
  - Integration Services (SSIS)
  - Reporting Services (MSRS)
  - Analysis Services (MSAS)

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