

THE COMPUTERWORLD HONORS PROGRAM

CASE STUDY



LOCATION:
Rome, Italy

YEAR:
2006

STATUS:
Laureate

CATEGORY:
*Government and Non-Profit
Organizations*

NOMINATING COMPANY:
Microstrategy

ORGANIZATION:

Italian Treasury Department (Consip)

PROJECT NAME:

PointRGS

Summary

The principal aim of this project is to improve the information level gathered in the dashboard of the Ragioneria Generale dello Stato (General Accounting of the Italian State), transforming this tool into the chief implement of synthesis of any accountant phenomena as well as the main instrument of Public Finance monitoring.

It is increasingly important for the Italian State to obtain precise and punctual information of the budget trend.

Today, the dashboard is already the monitoring tool of expenses and entrances trend competence of the General Accounting of the Italian State. Therefore, it is the instrument collecting information and controlling the performances of General Inspectorates, which are competent for diverse Public Expense areas.

The dashboard of the General Accounting of the State is the terminal point of Business Intelligence, located in the very heart of the information system of the Italian Ministry of Economy.

Introductory Overview

The main target of this dashboard is to monitor the Italian Public Administration Expenses, through the consolidation of several data, which are gathered and organized through enquiry tools.

Its success is the possibility, given to the users, to create and define a clear synthesis of accounting phenomena of the Italian Public Administration.

The huge informative patrimony, which was collected in several years, allowed Consip to create the hypothesis of a unique control dashboard.

Data deriving from diverse expense areas of the Italian State are gathered and aggregated for monitoring purpose. They are then exploited through forecasting models, expressly defined by the General Accounting of the State, based on historical statistics series. The results, obtained through this process, are displayed in the dashboard and are useful in supplying economic trends, which are fundamental start basis for political choices to be adopted.



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Benefits

The project was successfully completed. Today the General Accounting of the Italian State is able to obtain a synthesis of Italian Public Expense trend with remarkable time advantage and noticeable precision of data. It is an efficient tool helping in analysing the economic situation and finding out which actions need to be suggested to Political Organs.

Technological and organizational innovation allowed the realisation of a system, which structured a considerable amount of data for several different views corresponding to diverse Inspectorates of the General Accounting of the Italian State, which have competence on various expense areas, among which sanitary cost, pensions, HR for the Public Administration, purchase of goods and services.

It is easy to imagine the benefit received by the Italian State.

Today, all necessary information is at quick disposal, managed by friendly tool creating reports at any detail level.

These applications, even if they have to be unique and confidential, allow today immediate synthesis for medium-long time forecast, in answer to performance needs

of the Italian State in the European economic context

The Importance of Technology

Technology was the best support of our success. Based on a defined logical structure, the dashboard enquires and organizes data into drillable tables, making figures available for web interfaces as well. Today, without this kind of technology, response time and modality of personalization with such demanding and competent users would not be possible.

Originality

The outstanding aspect of this project is the realization of a unique database for the Italian State, which is a necessary tool to monitor different expenses. This dashboard is exclusive and efficient.

The General Accountant of the Italian State, who is the Italian Institutional Authority entitled to certify the expense trend of the State, has nowadays at his disposal a synthetic vision and the opportunity to zoom in details and check even the agreed specifications to better identify the expense forecast.

Success

The General Accountant of the State manifested several times his appreciation for the effective use of such tool proposed by Consip

The project started in 2000, 2 years were necessary in order to realize it. The prototype was already available in 2003 and from that moment the Accounting guessed its potential.

Not all hierarch levels agreed at first. This initial delay was caused by several factors among which the complexity of the tool itself, technical and organizational gap created in the governmental structure. The entire appreciation of the project came at the end of 2005.



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Difficulty

The most important obstacle was, obviously, the distrust in this tool. We did not incur in technological obstacles, technology followed us step by step. Today, we are only facing a definitive organizational problem but it has been already set up

The resistances we encountered at the beginning of the development were not too strong, in the “average“ of any new project. At the beginning, the project was proposed both at operational level and at higher level, in order to force the middle resources to accept the innovation. This strategy granted successful results.