Efficient visualization with TRUECHART and Qlik Sense

Siemens Smart Infrastructure links procurement data worldwide

HICO GROUP

SIEMENS SMART INFRASTRUCTURE

TRUE CHART

Qlik Q

Client
Siemens Smart Infrastructure
Region
Global
Industry
MEM (mechanical and electrical engineering)
Department
Procurement, Supply Chain Management
Application
Visualization, Reporting, Planning
System Environment
AWS Multi-Cloud, Qlik Multi-Node

Executive Summary
Siemens Smart Infrastructure is adopting the BI platform Qlik Sense and the BI extension TRUECHART to boost efficiency in Procurement. This combination offers efficient visualization through self-service and guided analytics, IBCS® conformity, and a customized TRUECHART MENU-BAR.

Siemens Smart Infrastructure is headquartered in Zug, Switzerland. The company is shaping the market for intelligent, adaptive infrastructure for today and the future. It addresses the pressing challenges of urbanization and climate change by connecting energy systems, buildings, and industries. Siemens Smart Infrastructure provides customers with a comprehensive end-to-end portfolio from a single source – with products, systems, solutions, and services from the point of power generation all the way to consumption. With an increasingly digitalized ecosystem, it helps customers thrive and communities progress while contributing toward protecting the planet. Siemens Smart Infrastructure creates environments that care.

Project Partner: HICO-Group

The BI experts and IT consultants at HICO-Group design and implement integrated business intelligence and controlling systems across all industries and functions. Using market leader software from QLIK®, JEDOX®, MS POWER BI® and TimeXtender®, a company's internal value-chain processes can be significantly improved. With ROKS, the Results-Orientated KPI System, the success-relevant KPIs are generated, processed, and transformed into state-of-the-art visualizations according to IBCS® standards. In addition to the integration of SAP®, Microsoft®, and other ERP systems, HICO-Group offers TRUECHART, a scalable cross-platform BI tool, which optimizes the visualization of controlling data in IBCS® format in individual dashboards.

Outcomes

- "Best of both worlds": self-service and guided analytics

- Commenting on enterprise level, with clearly defined roles and rights

- Clear data scaling for improved communication

TRUECHART specs

- Report commenting and enterprise-wide collaboration system

- Template library

- IBCS® charting engine

- Customizable MENU-BAR and additional triggers

- Brand consistency

Bringing data together – and visualizing it

Within Siemens Smart Infrastructure, the Procurement business unit employs close to 1000 people and operates nearly 20 ERP systems worldwide – along with numerous data warehouses. The harmonization of these many systems can be improved further. A central DataMart concept, launched in 2018, aims to link all data sources (ERP and non-ERP) in a multi-cloud environment. Procurement stands to benefit from vastly increased efficiency. The challenge, however, was finding a way to automate and visualize the large data volumes. The previously used tool, QlikView®, was efficient, but did not fit in with Procurement's strategy, which incorporates personalized visualization.

Flexible: self-service and guidance

In line with the newly defined Procurement strategy, and together with Qlik partner HICO-Group, a new solution was developed. Nicolas Michel shares why HICO-Group was selected: "They had the necessary experience to understand and manage complex data structures, process high data volumes, automate data load processes efficiently, and realize the desired front end." Procurement had been successfully using Qlik tools since 2014, so Qlik Sense® was a natural choice for the self-service environment. The Qlik Sense business intelligence platform can interact with other platforms via application programming interfaces (APIs). The trusted extension TRUECHART – approved by Qlik – enables guided analytics and aligns with IBCS®, an ingenious framework for depicting business data. Efficient visualization and commenting is the result.

SIEMENS SMART INFRASTRUCTURE

Nicolas Michel
Product Manager Procurement,
Procurement Controller

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When I first saw TRUECHART, I was impressed. It suits my Procurement BI strategy perfectly, and will free up valuable time for operating business.

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TRUECHART website
web: truechart.com
e-mail: info@truechart.com

IBCS® website
web: ibcs.com
e-mail: info@ibcs.com

Qlik website
web: qlik.com
blog: blog.qlik.com

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Solution: increasing precision and time savings
The TRUECHART extension delivers increased precision and a familiar corporate "look and feel", ensuring brand consistency and leading to increased user acceptance of the solution. Applications will use it to visualize actual figures clearly and in various dimensions. Previously, these tasks were very time-intensive, but TRUECHART and Qlik Sense promise to change this dramatically: cutting days of work down to mere hours.

Results: leaner processes
As of November 2019, the solution for Siemens Smart Infrastructure Procurement is being scaled up. More users, enhanced support processes, considerably higher data volume than originally projected – "TRUECHART and Qlik Sense are proving to be as flexible as I expected," reports Nicolas Michel. The results will make Procurement more efficient overall: freeing people up for other tasks, reducing maintenance costs, and occupying less working memory.