



Industry

Logistics

Software Tools

Oracle Hyperion® Essbase®

OLAP Server

Oracle Hyperion® Essbase® API

Preferred Consulting

Partner

Constructive Consulting Ltd

DHL uses Essbase for Cost Recharging Solution

DHL is the global market leader in international express, overland transport and air freight. It is also the world's number 1 in ocean freight and contract logistics.

DHL offers a full range of customised solutions - from express document shipping to supply chain management.

The Challenge

In any large, successful company, IT constitutes a major contributing cost.

Part of DHL's IT mission was to ensure that IT costs were efficiently distributed, representing the true and fair consumption of IT Services to the business units that benefit from these services.

A solution was needed to **automate** the process through which corporate cost allocations could be calculated and applied in a consistent manner to the appropriate business entities.

The functionality of the solution would enable Corporate IT costs to be **allocated**, using a permutation of rules, applied to Business Units, Regions and Countries down to an entity level within those countries.

Over and above this key requirement, the solution had to:

- Accept imports from many data sources
- Export data for uploads to other systems
- Handle Budget, Forecast and Actuals allocations
- Calculate drivers
- Allocate funds in a two-tier process
- Create reports for internal and external use
- Perform balance checks

"Our number 1 mission was to improve transparency of IT costs throughout our business. Thanks to Essbase, we have achieved this. The benefit of having Constructive help us along the way has been, without doubt, a key contributing factor to the project's success".

David Bird,
Project Manager,
DHL, Europe



The Tools for the Job

Oracle Hyperion Essbase® was selected as their mid-tier OLAP Server solution predominantly for its ability to handle large, complex allocation routines whilst being able to provide speed-of-thought analytics.

Microsoft Excel, in conjunction with the **Oracle Hyperion Essbase**® API, provided the basis for ad-hoc analytics and consistent and timely management reporting.



The Business Partnership

DHL was looking for a partner who could not only implement the required solution, but also understand the challenges of a global logistics business.

Project manager, David Bird acknowledges that *“we needed to engage with a partner who would provide us with not only the expertise in the product, but would also mentor and share best practices with us. We found these qualities inherent in Constructive”*.



Business Confidence

By using Oracle Hyperion Essbase® and the controls that have been implemented, business confidence grew knowing that the correct IT recharge costs were proportioned to the necessary cost centres. With the implementation of Oracle Hyperion Essbase®, DHL's finance and management teams now have a variety of in-depth analysis reports which are intuitive to use and maintain.

Users and managers alike are now spending their time analysing the information instead of worrying about the data.

“Once the users accepted that the figures in Essbase consistently reflected their underlying data warehouse, the business could move forward with confidence to analyse the results—which is a position where all businesses would like to be”.

Mark Davies, MD,
Constructive Consulting Ltd

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