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Unilever: Improving Information Access and Streamlining Business Processes with the SAP® HANA Platform

From face cream to ice cream, brands from Unilever can be found in homes around the world. So fast data access is crucial for efficient operations. With the SAP HANA® platform, Unilever has accelerated financial close processes, reducing month-end close cycles to just one day using half the staff. Reports have been consolidated, and user experience is much improved. With SAP HANA, Unilever is opening the door to further technological innovation, helping it stay ready to meet consumer demand.

Unilever speeds close processes with half the staff

Wide user adoption and greater business value with SAP HANA®



Objectives

- Double the size of the business without increasing the environmental footprint
- Speed and simplify processes enterprise-wide, including month-end close cycles
- Streamline user adoption of SAP® solutions

Why SAP

- Ideas and technology that challenge business models and improve market position
- Design-thinking workshops for business innovation to unlock valuable opportunities
- SAP Enterprise Support and SAP MaxAttention™ offerings that provide total quality management to enable 24x7 operations that are fully aligned with business requirements
- Increase in return on investment by maximizing the use of existing SAP solutions and by using SAP Rapid Deployment solutions for the SAP HANA® platform

Benefits

- Faster, better access to information, improving business and management decisions
- Streamlined business processes that drive faster data analytics
- Month-end close cycles as short as one day
- A single receipt and invoice report, consolidated from 10
- Joint development of an intuitive user interface, driving wider solution adoption

Future plans

- Focus on demand and supply-network planning, factory scheduling, and working capital impact
- Use SAP HANA to accelerate analytics in areas like trade promotion management
- Continue to roll out apps on SAP Mobile Platform
- Evaluate the SAP Cloud for Human Resources portfolio for the benefits of cloud technology plus back-end integration and a user-friendly interface

“We see SAP HANA in many of our projects as an accelerator and an enabler. And as we speak, we’re executing on those. But the next wave will be to work collaboratively on exploiting all the benefits that SAP Business Suite powered by SAP HANA will bring to our core operations.”

Willem Eelman, CIO, Unilever PLC

Company

Unilever PLC

Headquarters

London

Industry

Consumer products

Products and Services

Personal care, foods, beverages, and home care

Employees

174,000

Revenue

€49.8 billion

Web Site

www.unilever.com

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The Best-Run Business Run SAP™