

A Story to Tell:
What Happens When you Combine PeopleSoft, Oracle, Cognos
By: Dr. Allen Clark
(Director of IR at University of North Texas)

Status:

- PeopleSoft Implementation began in 2002 for a fall 2004 implementation
- Could not find data in PeopleSoft tables (1000's of tables)
- Contracted RDS for table description (Phytorion- No longer a part of PeopleSoft)
- Used RDS, PeopleSoft Tools, to build customized data tables
- Utilized PeopleSoft extract for SAS programming until data warehouse was implemented
- CITC utilizing ETL tool (Informatica) to develop Oracle data warehouse
- Currently using Cognos Report Studio to develop IR Reports
 - Cognos 8 combined Q tool, Power Play, Report Net
 - Two Level (Authoring, Administration)
- Two set of reports being generated (Portal secured data, Fact Book)
- Most reporting is complete – Need to resolve retention and graduation rates
- Note: More to programming than was is presented
 - SQL programming
 - Variable had to be created
- THECB Reporting generated through PeopleSoft
- Still no data dictionary

Lessons Learned

- IR reporting was left out of the planning process
- Need for more collaboration and documentation
- Need for improved communication and demonstration

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- Real life examples needed to determine amount of work required to implement Cognos reporting
 - Examples included flat files and small data sets
- IR Lost reporting capabilities
- IR cannot add to data warehouse
- Did not have structure of data ownership
- Need good relationship with Database Administrator and Data Warehouse Administrator
- Added multiple layer for maintenance (6 teams)
(Timing Issues, Security, Reporting)
- Report generation is very time consuming but provides for stable reporting over a long period of time
 - Watch for changes in variables
- Require consistent levels of personnel
(Upgrades are difficult)
- Good combinations of products
- SAS does allow for interface with Oracle Database
- IR empowered to generate reports using Cognos
- New world of IR Reporting