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CUSTOMER SUCCESS

Business Needs

Company spun-off of a portion of their business to create a new business entity. The plan was to provide a copy of the SAP database to the new company, but it needed to remove all data, both live and archived, that pertained to the original business. Neither company had experience with SAP data archiving, and they were facing an aggressive timeline to complete the transfer of data.

Solutions

- Dolphin developed a data archiving and carve-out strategy
- Using Dolphin Archive Migration Tool, they moved data and documents from an Open Text ECM to the PBS SAP-certified SAP content repository for spin-off business unit
- Custom tool provided data archiving object for Company's custom objects
- Dolphin Data Management Cockpit utility and services were used for masking sensitive data for carve-out

Benefits

- SAP data archiving tools assure all sensitive data has been archived then deleted in the spin-off company's SAP system
- Project divided the company's data so that the new company had only the data they needed through data archiving, clean up and masking

DOLPHIN BUSINESS UNIT CARVE-OUT PROCESS

Mergers, acquisitions, sales and divestitures have become common occurrences in our economy. These changes impact most levels of the business, particularly in large corporations that run sophisticated systems and create volumes of data. For this reason, Dolphin created the Business Unit Carve-out process to split out certain parts of an operation from a productive SAP® instance. It is based on the SAP standard Archiving Development Kit (ADK) with customizations to facilitate full carve-out of target data and add safeguards in to prevent carve-out of non-target data. This came about as a result of requests from several Fortune 500 companies who were in the process of merging and/or divesting large portions of the ongoing business activities.

The Business Unit Carve-out process targets whole areas of business operations based on organizational entities specific to each unique business object. It removes the objects and all related data as a complete data object.



BUILT-IN SAFEGUARDS AND RISK MITIGATION

The Business Unit Carve-out process is for the express purpose of handling carve-out data and has several main objectives. First, it facilitates the complete carve-out of all target transactional data; data can be deleted from the database regardless of online residence times, data complete status, and any predecessor/successor dependencies. Master data is also taken into consideration but, as is best practice, is addressed last to guarantee that transactional data is not "orphaned" in the system.

Second, the process prevents the unintended elimination of non-target data that is essential to continued operation of the productive system by restricting the deletion of data to the organization values determined for each selected archiving object. It is paramount that all data related to the retained Business Units is maintained in the system to prevent any impact on continuing operations.

Third, the process facilitates the purging of carved-out archive files once the process has been confirmed to prevent the unintended purging of non-target archive files. This is done by grouping the target archive files together. Once the target data has been carved out, it may be retained in the file system or near-line/offline storage until the appropriate business verifications are completed.

Because each divestiture is unique in its requirements, the carve-out process has to allow the object-specific configuration of date ranges for individual objects. As an example, SD and MM data could be deleted for one operation in their entirety but the resultant Financial and Controlling postings remain for a longer period of time. This flexibility and granularity allows very specific target data to be removed while leaving all retained data intact.



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INTEGRATION WITH SAP AND DOLPHIN TOOLS

The Business Unit Carve-out process was created based on the SAP standard archive objects with modifications and enhancements that allow the operations to be removed for the appropriate areas. It has zero impact on the continuing operations of the retained operations. Reliance on the basic underlying SAP solution ensures that the divested data will be carved out in “complete data objects” and also ensures that the carve-out will have no adverse impact on continuing operations.

Dolphin’s Business Unit Carve-Out process has also been fully integrated with other Dolphin archive solutions – such as the Archive Sessions Cockpit and Archive Retention Cockpit – to leverage the information in both tools as well as to minimize the additional configuration effort and time to achieve the final result. It also can leverage Dolphin’s archive management solution which automates the encryption of data that was either previously archived without encrypted protection or has lost encryption due to archiving.

“Dolphin’s solution can be used to delete and mask sensitive data in archive files before it is shared”



ABOUT DOLPHIN

Dolphin leads the way in SAP business performance improvement and is the one partner that manages both data and processes. From data and information lifecycle management to end-to-end solutions for SAP procure-to-pay and order-to-cash processes, Dolphin delivers a competitive advantage that drives cost savings, optimizes cash flows and fosters a lower total cost of ownership. Leveraging SAP technology, Dolphin’s data lifecycle and business process management solutions, and SAP-certified add-on applications, have built-in flexibility and are designed to be tailored to each customer’s specific business processes and IT environments.

The company was founded in 1995 and has offices in San Jose, CA, Philadelphia, PA and Toronto, Canada. Dolphin’s smart, adaptable and proven solutions are implemented by hundreds of companies across North America and around the world. Among Dolphin customers are more than one-third of Fortune 100™ companies running SAP systems. **To learn more, email us at contact@dolphin-corp.com or visit www.dolphin-corp.com.**



888.305.9033
www.dolphin-corp.com
contact@dolphin-corp.com

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