How a manufacturer successfully migrated from Oracle Discoverer to Microsoft Power BI

Background

The client is a subsidiary of a global Japanese $2.6B semiconductor manufacturer that provides digital inkjet production solutions for professional print operations, and is based out of Rolling Meadows, Illinois. They have a strong presence in North America and South America, and are renowned for the fine quality of systems and components that they provide for the graphic arts industry. They use Oracle E-Business Suite (R12) to run all back-end operations and Oracle Discoverer for business analysis and reporting.

Overview

The manufacturer needed ennVee's help to provide a solution that would enable them to extend their analytical reporting and investments made in Discoverer. The migration option needed to be conscious of time, cost, and resources, since the customer's internal employee did not have the availability to take on a migration project. Given these constraints, ennVee elected to automate the migration from Discoverer to Power BI and manage a majority of the project off-shore, which would minimize consulting dollars and shrink the overall duration by 50%.

ennVee and the customer have a long-standing partnership, supporting their Oracle ERP and reporting systems for more than a decade. Because of this partnership and comprehensive understanding of their business processes and supporting technologies, the customer opted to partner wtih ennVee to automate the migration from Discoverer to Power BI using ennVee's accelerated migration services and automated migration tool, ennSight.

Key Requirements

- Extract reports and associated elements from Discoverer
- Migrate extracted reports to Microsoft Power BI
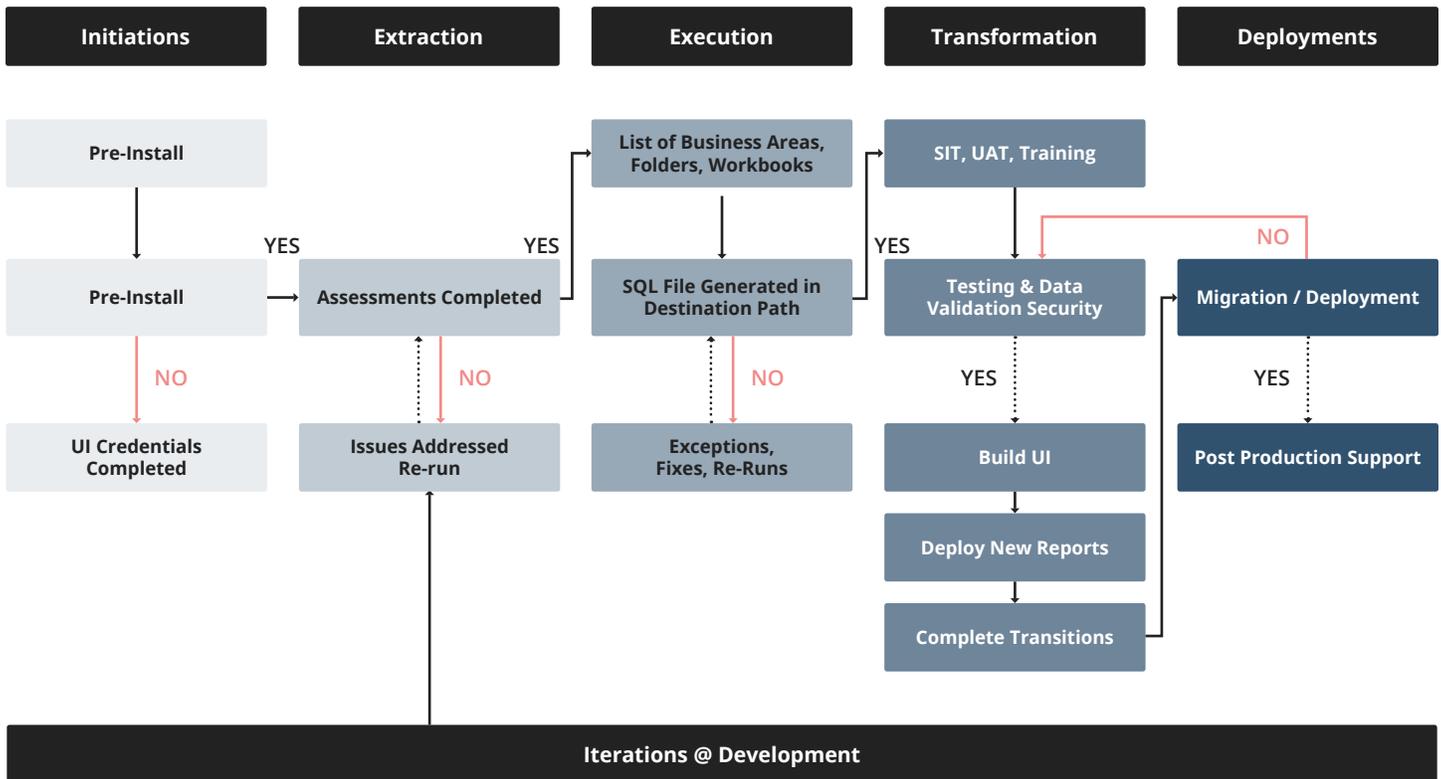- Create dashboards and visualizations for migrated reports

Client Snapshot

- Industry: Manufacturing
- Location: Chicago, IL

Project Topology

- Oracle Discoverer 10g
- ennSight Discoverer Migration Accelerator
- Microsoft Power BI (Desktop)
- Microsoft Office365
- Oracle E-Business Suite R12

Project Execution

Solution Approach

Our approach was to leverage the ennSight tool to automate the entire migration process. We expedited the process by automatically extracting the workbooks and worksheets from Discoverer and migrating to Power BI, which did not require any additional rebuild or loss of data post-migration. User access information was also transfered in-tact and then provided to the client's end users, so they could manually share and identify users for the reports. We also provided a fully-integrated report migration environment to improve corporate performance and maintain a competitive advantage.

Once the report details were extracted, we collaborated with the client team to enhance the visualizations in Power BI based on their unique requirements. Finally, the converted reports were production-ready after completing one round of unit testing by our team and then system testing by the client team.

Figure 1. Automated migration process from Discoverer to Power BI

Outcome and Future Benefits

The client initially estimated it would take twice as long to convert all Discoverer reports to Microsoft Power BI, but was able to halve the amount of time, manual effort, and cost required to migrate by utilizing ennSight. Automating the migration process also eliminated the need to rebuild any reports in Power BI. Key business benefits include:

- Reduced migration time line, cost, and resources by 50%
- Successfully retired and migrated from Discoverer without any additional rebuild or loss of data
- Reduced the cost of report development
- Reduced total report count
- Immediate availability of error-free analytic reports with zero disruption to the business