Akzo Nobel N.V.

IBM Client Reference Materials

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Solution synopsis

A paints, coatings and chemicals producer based in Amsterdam can maintain a key ERP-development outsourcing arrangement and easily demonstrate data security compliance to auditors when it implements IBM InfoSphere Guardium Database Activity Monitor software

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Client information

Client name: Akzo Nobel N.V.
Location:
Amsterdam Netherlands
Industry: Industrial Products

General Business: Enterprise Account
Geography/IOT/GMU: Europe IOT
Region/IMT/GMT: Belgium, Netherlands, Luxemburg IMT

Focus area:
Information Governance, Information Infrastructure, BA - Risk Analytics, IIG - InfoSphere Guardium

Client background:
Akzo Nobel N.V. (AkzoNobel) is an international paints, coatings and chemicals producer based in Amsterdam. The company is one of the world's leading paints and coatings businesses and a strong competitor in the specialty chemicals industry. Its brands include Dulux, Sikkens, International and Eka. AkzoNobel employs approximately 55,000 people at operations in more than 80 countries. In 2010, its sales

revenue totaled approximately EUR14.6 billion.

URL: http://www.akzonobel.com

Project start: 09/2010

Project end: Ongoing

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Special handling instructions

The client has agreed to be a reference for sales situations. The status of any installation or implementation can change, so you should always contact the Primary Contact or Additional Contact named in the reference prior to discussing it with your client.

Any public use, such as in marketing materials, on WWW sites, in press articles, etc., requires specific approval from the client. It is the responsibility of the person or any organization planning to use this reference to make sure that this is done. The IBM representative will, as appropriate, contact the client for review. You should not contact the client directly.

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Business need

To process financial transactions from across the enterprise, Akzo Nobel N.V. (AkzoNobel) uses an SAP ERP software system connected to myriad business applications. Because of the complexity of the environment, the company outsources ERP-related software development to a third party. However, a Netherlands business regulation requires companies to maintain full control over business and financial data. The outsourcing arrangement, by giving external developers access to the ERP system, put AkzoNobel at risk of noncompliance.

To help ensure compliance, AkzoNobel sought to establish continuous, real-time visibility into the access and use of its financial and business data.

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Solution implementation

AkzoNobel implemented IBM InfoSphere Guardium Database Activity Monitor software. Without modifying databases or applications and without affecting system performance, the client uses the solution to:
- Continuously track all database actions and proactively identify unauthorized or

suspicious activities
- Detect or block unapproved activity by database administrators, developers and outsourced personnel without relying on native logs, triggers or other mechanisms
- Simplify audit and validation processes with preconfigured reports and automated oversight workflows, such as electronic sign-offs and escalations
- Support data governance and audit-compliance requirements by preventing unauthorized changes to critical database values or structures

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Benefits of the solution

By implementing IBM InfoSphere Guardium Database Activity Monitor software, AkzoNobel can maintain its outsourcing arrangement and easily demonstrate data security compliance to auditors. Because of the solution, the client gained the ability to:
- Mitigate risk and prevent inappropriate access and use of financial and business data
- Support audit-compliance requirements by providing a high level of security and full visibility into database activity on the SAP ERP system
- Automate and simplify the audit and compliance process
- Optimize ERP performance and improve overall efficiency by automating previously manual tasks
- Provide database activity-monitoring capabilities that are transparent to business and IT users and do not impact ERP system performance
- Eliminate the time and costs associated with developing database monitoring scripts
- Reduce the costs of storage and maintaining system health and performance

Solutions/Offerings

Software:

Information Management: InfoSphere Guardium Database Activity Monitor

Solutions:

Global Alliances Marketing and Communications (i.e. Oracle / SAP / Microsoft): SAP ERP