



Clarity Assessment and Migration For CEMEX

Customer Profile

- Cemex is a global building-solutions company headquartered in Monterrey, Mexico that produces, distributes, and markets cement, ready-mix concrete, aggregates, and related building materials to customers and communities in more than 50 countries.

Problem Statement

- Cemex had been using Clarity for approximately 1 ½ years for project and resource management, but the users continuously experienced extreme instability and poor response times.
- The internal Clarity administrators were unable to determine the cause of the instability and poor performance, and were unable to resolve the issues through CA Clarity technical support.
- As a result of the poor performance, end users were reluctant to continue using the solution, and management began questioning the effectiveness and viability of the tool.

Technology Used in Production before Migration:

- Clarity 7.5.2
- SQL 2000
- Actuate Report Writer
- IBM Websphere Application Server
- MS Internet Information Server
- Netpoint Single Sign-On
- MS Active Directory

Assessment Findings

The goal of this project was to optimize and stabilize the performance of the Clarity environment. Our assessment revealed several technical and functional issues that were contributing to the poor performance and instability. Some examples:

- Integration with third-party software that is not included in the certified product architecture stack.
- Use of two web servers supporting the Clarity environment.
- Fragmented database.
- Misuse of tabs, portlets and columns, resulting in excessive amounts of calls to the database and data return.

Solution

- Upgraded to Clarity 7.5.3 FP05
- Upgraded to MS SQL 2005.
- Replaced Websphere with Orion
- Removed IIS from Clarity environment
- Removed Netpoint SSO integration.
- Technical best practice instructions
- Removal of excessive db calls and data returns.
- Functional best practice instructions.

Benefits of the Solution

- Extreme performance and response improvement. Log In time went from minutes to 1 second.
- Clarity environment stabilized.
- Increased functionality resulting from removal of bugs by upgrading.
- Increased productivity and restored confidence in the solution by users, administration, and management.