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A PowerAnalytics case study with comments from  
Andreas Ludwig, VP & Chief Information Officer



CPG INTERNATIONAL  
*Building Products. Better.*

## CPG Leaps Forward with PowerAnalytics Fast, Consolidated Reporting for SAP Business One at Large Multi-Company Site



### Benefits derived from CPG's PowerAnalytics solution:

#### Fast Consolidated Reports

"You go from spending days of consolidation to just minutes!"

#### Productivity

"We spend less time on the exercise of consolidating companies and instead use that time on value-adding activities including analysis."

#### Speedy responsiveness to management's reporting needs

"We can quickly respond to requests for information from managers."

#### More and Powerful New Reporting

"Most companies do not have the ability to report the way that we can now."

#### Flexibility and Familiar Front End

We are creating reports we were not able to create before.

**"We can actually use our time for something more valuable—like analysis"**

### From Days to Minutes—Enabling Maximum Productivity

"I have seen a direct, powerful result from using PowerAnalytics—you go from spending days of consolidating to minutes!" says Andy Ludwig, VP & Chief Information Officer of CPG International. CPG staff can focus on business performance. "Having consolidated financials is critical, we spend less time on the exercise of consolidating companies and instead use that time on value-adding activities including analysis," explains Ludwig.

"We can quickly respond to requests for information from managers," Ludwig adds. His comment goes to one of PowerAnalytics' main benefits—the significant improvement in staff productivity that results from increased reporting capabilities: there's much less time clerking data and much more time focused on results. With increased productivity comes greater responsiveness to management's needs.

In addition to reaching consolidated financials from their multiple SAP databases, CPG is producing a reporting package with financial data and metrics. As well, along with their vastly enhanced data-analysis capabilities, users are loading budget data into PowerOLAP in order to create variance analyses.

### Reporting Flexibility—and Working in Excel

Ludwig cites the flexibility of reporting and the fact that staff can still work in the environment they are already know—Excel. "We are now creating reports we were not able to create before," says Ludwig.

The 'before' picture was very different from what they have now. The Finance staff had hit a wall vis-à-vis basic needs for consolidated company reports: The reports took a long time to run and were tedious to create. "It was a real burden, a pain in the neck. Any additional changes would trigger going through the same time-consuming, tedious routine again," Ludwig complains of the original consolidation system.

"It took them a half hour to run a single Profit & Loss statement," noted Frank Sposato of CPG's SAP solution provider, Accelbus. Fortunately, Sposato had a background in OLAP technology and a specific understanding about how PowerAnalytics could meet CPG's needs: "The type of analysis and reporting that CPG needed could not be done



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## What PowerAnalytics Delivers

-Consolidated, Multi-Company Reporting in Minutes.

-Real-time, Multidimensional Reporting and Analytics of Key Business Drivers—by Company, by Account, by Period, by Region, by Dept, etc.


-Direct and Dynamic Connectivity to Fully Enabled Spreadsheet Environment.

-Significant Empowerment of Users.

in what is essentially a 'query-pass' reporting system that tosses data into spreadsheets and must be run again for each report."

What Sposato observes is true of many—perhaps most—firms: they try to make do with built in reporting systems, and then end up 'clerking' growing mounds of disconnected data in spreadsheets. This is precisely the problem that PowerAnalytics addresses to such powerful effect for users of SAP Business One.

CPG International is a manufacturer of market-leading brands of highly engineered building products for residential and commercial markets designed to replace wood, metal and other traditional materials in a variety of construction applications. In choosing an SAP Business One system that includes 150 users—one of the largest implementations of its kind—CPG addressed its sophisticated requirements to manage general ledger accounts across separate business entities.

In order to address its dire need for a consolidated reporting solution, CPG eventually agreed to a PowerAnalytics pilot; in less than a week, the firm had online, dynamic reports that they had not been able to create for months. CPG has by now made the great leap forward with the multidimensional reporting, analysis and planning capabilities that PowerAnalytics for SAP Business One provides—"Excel-friendly OLAP" in the words of one expert. Since then, CPG has been achieving outstanding results for time-critical management and SEC reporting, as well as sales and inventory reporting, and budget variance analyses. 

### About PARIS Technologies International, Inc.

PARIS Technologies International, Inc., Doylestown, Pennsylvania USA, is an intelligent solutions technology leader, featuring advanced, intuitive and cost-effective OLAP and Business Intelligence technologies. PARIS's solutions allow users to plan, analyze and report—online, via Microsoft Excel and the Web—from enterprise and external data for business-critical relationships and insight. For more information: [www.olap.com](http://www.olap.com).

### About SAP

SAP is the world's leading provider of business software\*. Today, more than 43,400 customers in more than 120 countries run SAP® applications—from distinct solutions addressing the needs of small businesses and midsize companies to suite offerings for global organizations. Powered by the SAP NetWeaver® technology platform to drive innovation and enable business change, SAP software helps enterprises of all sizes around the world improve customer relationships, enhance partner collaboration and create efficiencies across their supply chains and business operations. SAP solution portfolios support the unique business processes of more than 25 industries, including high tech, retail, financial services, healthcare and the public sector. With subsidiaries in more than 50 countries, the company is listed on several exchanges, including the Frankfurt stock exchange and NYSE under the symbol "SAP." For more information: [www.sap.com](http://www.sap.com).

To learn more about CPG International please see [www.cpgint.com](http://www.cpgint.com).

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