

Reading Sample

Chapter 11 introduces the embedded environment; the second environment offered with SAP BPC 10.1 version for NetWeaver. You will begin the process of creating an embedded environment. You will also learn the basics for developing a planning application in the SAP BW system by forming the application's building blocks with the SAP BW Integrated Planning Modeler.



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SAP BPC 10.1 version provides the capability to create two different types of environments-standard and embedded. The embedded environment is a new type of environment that has been introduced in SAP BPC 10.1. In this chapter, we will introduce you to this environment.

11 Embedded Environment

The previous chapters discussed how to configure a standard environment and use its features to develop applications for planning and consolidation. For the next three chapters, we will look at the embedded environment and its role in SAP BPC. We will begin by introducing you to an embedded environment.

In Section 11.1, we will discuss advantages of using the embedded environment in SAP BPC. In Section 11.2, we will introduce you to a case study for Financial Planning. This case study will be used as the basis for developing a planning application in the subsequent sections. In Section 11.3, we will go over the steps to build the data model for the planning application in the SAP BW system. In the chapters that follow, we will use these building blocks to develop a planning application with the SAP BW Integrated Planning Modeler, and then create an embedded environment within SAP BPC.

To begin, let's look at the characteristics of an embedded environment within the SAP BPC framework.

11.1 Embedded Environment in SAP BPC

The embedded environment is based on SAP BW metadata and provides tighter integration with objects created in the system. Specifically, the environment leverages the BW Integrated Planning Modeler (SAP BW-IP) framework, which includes pre-defined planning functions and reporting capabilities.

The SAP BW system has seamless integration with external source systems, which includes the SAP ECC system. SAP provides business content for extraction, trans-

formation, and loading (ETL) of data from SAP ECC to SAP BW. This data can be consumed in an embedded environment of the SAP BPC system without addition replication of the data. This saves time and reduces cost of ownership by using existing data in the SAP BW system.

The embedded environment is based on the Planning Application Kit (PAK) paradigm, where the planning capabilities can be handled using SAP HANA. This provides improved performance when running tasks related to planning, such as planning functions.

The creation of an embedded environment involves the following high-level tasks, which will be discussed across this and the next two chapters:

- Gathering the requirements for building application
- Building a data model to support application in the SAP BW system
- Designing an application using the BW-IP
- Creating an input-enabled query using BEx Query Designer
- Designing an application using an embedded environment in SAP BPC

We will now introduce you to a case study that presents a scenario for creating a planning application in an embedded environment.

11.2 Case Study for Financial Planning

The case study that we introduce will be used as the basis for developing a planning application in SAP BPC. This section will give you an overview of a fictitious sample company, along with detailed information about its operations.

The objective of the case study is to project the *gross profit margin* of the company's operations. The gross profit margin is a measurement of the efficiency of the company's operations. It is the company's total sales revenue minus its cost of goods sold. It can also be expressed as a percentage.

11.2.1 Rich Bloom Case Study

Rich Bloom is a popular clothing retailer that caters to the teenage market. The company has a large presence in the US and also has operations in Europe, with companies set up in the UK and Germany.

Rich Bloom products and business model have been well-received in the market, and it has been expanding since it was founded in 2007.

The company is incorporated as follows:

- ▶ Rich Bloom Inc., incorporated in San Diego, California (parent company)
- Rich Bloom Ltd., incorporated in London, England (subsidiary)
- Rich Bloom AG, incorporated in Frankfurt, Germany (subsidiary)

The details of the company's teenage line of products are as follows:

- ► RB T-shirts
- ► RB shirts
- ► RB jackets
- ► RB designer jeans

The company sells most of its products to large department stores, which in turn sell them to retail customers. Rich Bloom also has a few retail stores of its own that sell directly to retail customers. The RB T-shirt and RB designer jeans product lines are especially popular among teenagers and have contributed to large profits for the company in recent years. The company introduced RB jackets in 2006 and has been selling them at a promotional price. The promotional price is 20% less than the original price. The company plans to continue using the promotional price for selling this item for the whole of 2014.

From a financial and monetary transaction standpoint, the company is organized in the following manner, using a unique company code:

- ▶ 20-Rich Bloom Inc., San Diego, CA, USA
- ▶ 25-Rich Bloom Ltd., London, UK
- ▶ 30-Rich Bloom AG, Frankfurt, Germany

The subsidiaries operate as independent entities but report their operations to the parent company. Each of the companies has its own production centers to cater to market demand.

The currencies for transactions are the respective currencies of the countries in which the companies operate. They are as follows:

- ► US Dollar—Rich Bloom Inc., San Diego, CA, USA
- ► British Pound−Rich Bloom Ltd., London, UK
- ► Euro-Rich Bloom AG, Frankfurt, Germany

For the purpose of analysis and reporting the operations of the company as a whole, the operations of the subsidiaries are converted into the currency of the parent company, which is US Dollars (USD). The calendar year is used as the fiscal year for reporting.

11.2.2 Requirements of the Case Study

The company has a fully functional SAP R/3 system. It also implemented SAP BW four years ago and has fully realized the benefits of using this tool for analysis. It recently upgraded the SAP BW system to the 7.4 version on SAP HANA and wants to do financial planning in SAP BPC. The actual and historic sales and cost data for the last four years are maintained in SAP BW.

The company's management is convinced that it can increase sales and reduce costs by implementing a robust process for planning. A good planning system will help the company anticipate demand for its products and position itself to meet customer requirements. The company also believes that it can reduce production-related labor and material costs by having a good planning system for procurement in place. Moreover, labor costs and other overheads can be planned effectively to increase productivity. The objective of the planning in this case study is to project the gross profit margin of the company's operation.

The company wants to compare the plan data with actual data and project how well it will perform over time. The planning application will use the current and historical sales revenue and cost of sales data as the source for planning for the future. This, in addition to marketing research, will form the basis for projecting the gross profit margin.

The company has decided to use the bottom-up approach for planning. Using this method, the initial planning of sales revenue and cost of sales for the individual sales areas will be done by the sales representatives. The sales representatives will complete the sales-revenue and cost-of-sales plan for their respective areas and send it to the sales manager for approval. The sales manager will then combine the data from all of the sales reps, make any necessary changes, and send it on to

the regional manager. This process will continue up the hierarchy to upper management until the entire plan data is consolidated and approved.

Proposed Planning Application

To meet the outlined requirements, a planning application needs to be developed and made available to the users involved in the planning process. The functional aspects of the planning should be incorporated into the planning application, which should in turn meet the planning requirements of the business. The planning application must also be flexible, reliable, and easy to use, as well as comprehensive with respect to the integration of various sources of data.

Determining the Required Information

The company has determined that it needs the following pieces of information to plan effectively:

- ► Financial Organization
 - Company Code
- Controlling Area
- Cost Center
- Business Area
- ► Product
 - Material
- Material Group
- ► Customer
 - Customer
- ► Sales Organization
 - Sales Organization
 - Sales Office
 - Distribution Channel
 - Division

- ► Version
 - ► Version
 - ► Value Type
- ► Country
 - ► Country
- ► Period
 - Calendar Year
 - Calendar Period
- Values (key figures)
- Quantity (including units)
- ► Sales Amount
- ► Cost Amount

The above elements correspond to the different characteristics of the business and will be used to develop a data model for the purpose of planning.

In the next section, we will delve into the details of building a data model to suit the planning requirements of our sample company. In the subsequent sections, we will explain the process of configuring the planning objects and the integration of the planning objects into a comprehensive application in SAP BPC. The planning application will be used for creating, modifying, reporting, and analyzing the planned data.

11.3 Building a Data Model in SAP BW

In this section, we will start building the objects required for supporting our case study. Note that we will build the objects sequentially. This will give you a clear understanding of the steps involved in creating the necessary objects before building a planning application. First, we will build objects in the SAP BW system.

11.3.1 SAP BW Integrated Planning Prerequisites

SAP BW Integrated Planning (BW-IP) is a tool that allows developers to create planning application in the SAP BW system. SAP BW-IP was introduced as an option for planning with the release of SAP NetWeaver BI 7.0. The main advantage of using SAP BW-IP for developing a planning application is that it provides a common interface for data entry, reporting, and analysis of actual and plan data. The ability to leverage the objects created in the SAP BW reporting environment by using the BEx Query Designer tool is an added benefit when using the SAP BW-IP. This brings down the TCO and provides the flexibility of enabling a webbased configuration.

The following is a summary of the prerequisites for planning in the SAP BW-IP:

► Real-Time InfoCube

You must have at least one real-time InfoCube. When a standard InfoCube is checked as real-time at creation, it becomes available for planning using planning objects. This InfoCube can be used to generate and modify data using planning objects in the SAP BW system. A standard InfoCube that is not checked as real-time does not support generation or modification of plan data using the planning tools.

MultiProvider

While the plan data is always stored in a real-time InfoCube, you may need a planning application to reference data in an InfoProvider that may not be a real-time InfoCube. For example, let us assume that an organization's sales data ("actuals") is maintained in a standard InfoCube and that the plan data is maintained in a real-time InfoCube. In this case, a MultiProvider can be defined to include both the standard InfoCube and the real-time InfoCube. This MultiProvider then can be used in the context of a planning application, and the planning objects can reference the data in both InfoCubes.

In the following section, we will discuss the model of InfoCubes that will be used to develop our application.

11.3.2 Designing a Data Model in SAP BW

To begin design our data model, we will create the InfoCubes in SAP BW to store actual sales and plan data.

An InfoCube called "Sales InfoCube" will store the actual sales and cost data for the last four years. It will also be used as one of the sources of data for the purpose of planning for the future. Market research will also be used to determine the current trends in clothing in the teenage market. The data in the Sales Info-Cube will be loaded with data from the SAP R/3 system on a daily basis.

An InfoCube called "Plan InfoCube" that will store the plan data will also need to be created. The structure of the Plan InfoCube will mirror the structure of the Sales InfoCube. The Plan InfoCube will be configured as a real-time InfoCube.

The InfoObjects to be included in the Sales and Plan InfoCubes are listed in the following tables and are SAP-delivered unless indicated by the words *Custom Info-Object*. Characteristics and their values are listed in Table 11.1, the time characteristics and their values are listed in Table 11.2, the unit characteristics are listed in Table 11.3, and the key figures (quantitative measures) are listed in Table 11.4.

Characteristic	Values
OCOMP_CODE	 20, 25 and 30 20 - Rich Bloom Inc., San Diego, CA, USA 25 - Rich Bloom Inc., London, UK 30 - Rich Bloom Inc., Frankfurt, Germany
0CO_AREA	1000
OCOSTCENTER	 CC1 and CC2 CC1 – Cost center for T-shirts, shirts, and jackets CC2 – Cost center for designer jeans
OBUS_AREA	BA1 and BA2
OSALESORG	 20, 25 and 30 20 - Rich Bloom Inc., San Diego, CA, USA 25 - Rich Bloom Inc., London, UK 30 - Rich Bloom Inc., Frankfurt, Germany
0SALES_OFF	 SO1, SO2 AND SO3 SO1 – US sales office SO2 – UK sales office SO3 – Germany sales office
ODISTR_CHAN	70 (Direct Distribution)

Table 11.1 Characteristics

Characteristic	Values
ODIVISION	 D1 and D2 D1 – Shirt division D2 – Jeans division
OVTYPE	 10, 20 and 60 10 - Actual 20 - Plan 60 - Forecast
OVERSION	 00, 01 Actual data is always stored with version 00 Plan data is stored with version 01
OMATERIAL	 CK2000, CK2001, CK2002 CY7000 CK2000 - T-shirts CK2001 - Shirts CK2002 - Jackets CY7000 - Jeans
OMATL_GROUP	 Material group is also an attribute of material CK - Shirts CY - Jeans
OCUSTOMER	 C1-C4, C20-C21, C30-C31 C1 - C4 – Customers in the US C20 - C21 – Customers in the UK C30 - C31 – Customers in Germany
OCOUNTRY	 US, UK and DE US (United States of America) GB (United Kingdom) DE (Germany)

Table 11.1 Characteristics (Cont.)

Time Characteristic	Values
0CALMONTH	Calendar period for sales/plan data
OCALYEAR	Calendar year for sales/plan data

 Table 11.2
 Time Characteristics

Unit Characteristic	Values	
0D_UQTY	Used in Key Figure 0D_QTY	
OCURRENCY	Used in Key Figures ZCTAMT_GC and ZSLAMT_GC.	

Table 11.3 Unit Characteristics

Key Figures	Values
0D_QTY	Quantity in units (Key Figure of type unit; associated with OD_UQTY unit measure)
ZCTAMT_GC (Custom InfoObject)	Cost amount (Key Figure of type currency; associated with OCURRENCY currency measure)
ZSLAMT_GC (Custom InfoObject)	Sales amount (Key Figure of type currency; associated with OCURRENCY currency measure)

Table 11.4 Key Figures

Now, create an InfoArea called ZSALES ("Sales Management") and create three InfoCubes under it. These include a Sales InfoCube for storing the actual sales and cost data, a Plan InfoCube for storing plan data, and a MultiProvider InfoCube that provides a unified view of the Sales InfoCube and Plan InfoCube. These are outlined in Table 11.5.

InfoCube	Description
ZSLS_ACT	Sales InfoCube
ZSLS_PLN	Plan InfoCube
ZSLS_CMB	Sales and Plan InfoCube (MultiProvider)

 Table 11.5
 InfoCubes for Creating a Financial Planning Application

Next, we will go through the steps to create a Sales InfoCube.

Creating a Sales InfoCube

This section explains how to create the Sales InfoCube based on the requirements listed in Table 11.1, Table 11.2, Table 11.3, and Table 11.4. The dimensions and key figures used in the Sales InfoCube are shown in Table 11.6 and Table 11.7.

Characteristics
 Company Code (0COMP_CODE) Controlling Area (0CO_AREA) Cost Center (0COSTCENTER) Business Area (0BUS_AREA)
 Sales Organization (OSALESORG) Sales Office (OSALES_OFF) Distribution Channel (ODISTRCHAN) Sales Division (ODIVISION)
Value Type (OVTYPE)Version (OVERSION)
 Material (OMATERIAL) Material Group (OMATL_GROUP)
Customer (OCUSTOMER)
Country (0COUNTRY)
Calendar Month (OCALMONTH)Calendar Year (OCALYEAR)
Sales Quantity Unit (0D_UQTY)Currency (OCURRENCY)

 Table 11.6
 Dimensions for the Sales InfoCube

Key Figures	Description
0D_QTY	Quantity
ZCTAMT_GC	Cost Amount
ZSLAMT_GC	Sales Amount

 Table 11.7
 Key Figures for the Sales InfoCube Creating a Plan InfoCube

We will now explain how to create the Plan InfoCube based on the case study requirements listed in Table 11.1, Table 11.2, Table 11.3, and Table 11.4. The Plan InfoCube is created in much the same way as the Sales InfoCube except that this InfoCube is set as a "real-time InfoCube." The dimensions and key figures used in the Plan InfoCube are displayed in Table 11.8 and Table 11.9 respectively.

Dimensions	Characteristics
Financial Organization	 Company Code (0COMP_CODE) Controlling Area (0CO_AREA) Cost Center (0COSTCENTER) Business Area (0BUS_AREA)
Sales Organization	 Sales Organization (OSALESORG) Sales Office (OSALES_OFF) Distribution Channel (ODISTRCHAN) Sales Division (ODIVISION)
Version	Value Type (OVTYPE)Version (OVERSION)
Material	Material (OMATERIAL)Material Group (OMATL_GROUP)
Customer	Customer (OCUSTOMER)
Country	Country (0COUNTRY)
Time	Calendar Month (OCALMONTH)Calendar Year (OCALYEAR)
Unit	Sales Quantity Unit (0D_UQTY)Currency (OCURRENCY)

Table 11.8 Dimensions for Plan InfoCube

Key Figures	Description
0D_QTY	Quantity
ZCTAMT_GC	Cost Amount
ZSLAMT_GC	Sales Amount

 Table 11.9
 Key Figures for Plan InfoCube

Finally, we will create a MultiProvider using these two InfoCubes.

Creating a MultiProvider Using Sales and Plan InfoCubes

A *MultiProvider* does not physically store data but instead provides a unified view of data from the InfoProviders used in its definition. A MultiProvider is necessary

for our case study because one of the requirements for the planning application is to use the data in the Sales InfoCube as the source of data for planning.

The MultiProvider we'll create, called *Sales, Actual, and Plan*, will provide a unified view of the data in the Sales and Plan InfoCubes and will be used as the basis for configuring the planning application. When creating a MultiProvider, in addition to selecting the InfoProviders and the InfoObjects required, you will have to map the characteristic InfoObjects and the key figure InfoObjects in the MultiProvider to the respective InfoObjects in the selected InfoProviders, The process of mapping is also called identification.

The dimensions and key figures used in the Sales, Actual, and Plan MultiProvider are shown in Table 11.10 and Table 11.11 respectively.

Dimensions	Characteristics
Financial Organization	 Company Code (OCOMP_CODE) Controlling Area (OCO_AREA) Cost Center (OCOSTCENTER) Business Area (OBUS_AREA)
Sales Organization	 Sales Organization (OSALESORG) Sales Office (OSALES_OFF) Distribution Channel (ODISTRCHAN) Sales Division (ODIVISION)
Version	Value Type (OVTYPE)Version (OVERSION)
Material	Material (OMATERIAL)Material Group (OMATL_GROUP)
Customer	Customer (OCUSTOMER)
Country	Country (0COUNTRY)
Time	Calendar Month (OCALMONTH)Calendar Year (OCALYEAR)
Unit	Sales Quantity Unit (OD_UQTY)Currency (OCURRENCY)

Table 11.10 Dimensions for Sales Actual and Plan MultiProvider

11 Embedded Environment

Key Figures	Description	
0D_QTY	Quantity	
ZCTAMT_GC	Cost Amount	
ZSLAMT_GC	Sales Amount	

 Table 11.11
 Key Figures for Sales Actual and Plan MultiProvider

We have now successfully developed the data models in SAP BW to support the creation of an embedded environment.

11.4 Summary

In this chapter, we introduced you to an embedded environment. We also introduced you to a case study that will be used to define requirements for building an embedded application for planning. We developed data models that will be used to build a planning application. In the next chapter, we will design an application using the SAP BW-IP.

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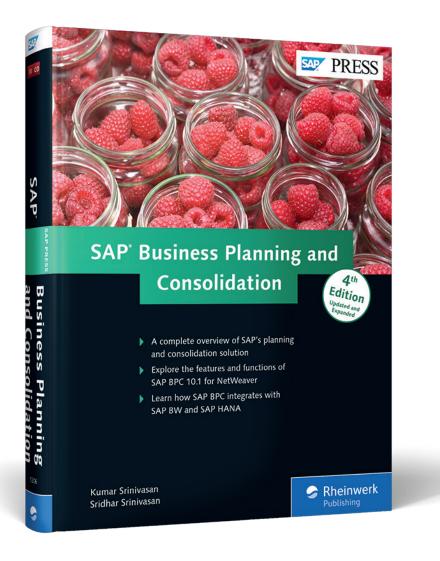
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