Banking company accesses all its data with one tool

Zions Bancorporation simplifies BI and reduces costs with Toad™ Data Point.

Headquartered in Salt Lake City, Utah, Zions Bancorporation is a bank holding company that operates more than 500 full-service banking offices in 10 western states. With $47 billion in assets and approximately 10,670 employees, it is one of the 40 largest banking companies in the United States.

Zions Bancorporation needed a single tool that would enable its data professionals to understand, query, and report on data from all its diverse database platforms. The company found Quest had the right solution.

USING MULTIPLE TOOLS INCREASES LICENSING EXPENSES AND REDUCES PRODUCTIVITY.

Zions Bancorporation relies on a centralized data warehouse and a number of other databases to house loan information, deposit records, and other critical operational data. Zions also utilizes SAP® Business Objects® (BO) and business intelligence for end-user access to this data.

Zions Bancorporation stores its business data on a variety of platforms, including Oracle®, SQL Server®, MySQL® and DB2®. This poses a particular challenge to the company's data professionals. "My duties include management of the BO servers, user provisioning, development of universes and reports," said James McGregor, business intelligence administrator of Zions Bancorporation. "I also assist other departments in the corporation with the application of business intelligence on their data sources."

To access and report on this data, McGregor and other Zions data professionals relied on built-in tools for each database platform, which cost them time and productivity. Moreover, Zions was dissatisfied with the quality of the tools. "The built-in tools we were using for MySQL and DB2 just didn't have the rich feature set that you get with a commercial application," said McGregor. In particular, the company wanted to be able to easily export data from query results. Zions Bancorporation needed a single tool that

BUSINESS NEED

Zions Bancorporation required a single solution for connecting to a variety of database platforms to reduce licensing costs, increase efficiency and simplify data analysis.

SOLUTION

With Toad Data Point, Zions Bancorporation easily accessed all their diverse database platforms, saving time and money.

BENEFITS

- Simplified data analysis by eliminating the need to learn and use multiple, complex tools.
- Eliminated the financial burden of licensing and maintenance costs for separate tools for each database platform.
- Increased productivity by 33 percent.

SOLUTIONS FEATURED

- Information management

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>
> *James McGregor, Business Intelligence Administrator,*
> *Zions Bancorporation*

could work with all its database systems — and one that was designed specifically for its employees working with data.

A SINGLE SOLUTION SIMPLIFIES ACCESS TO ANY DATA SOURCE.

Zions Bancorporation found that Toad Data Point delivered all the functionality it needed in a tool designed just for data-focused professionals. Toad Data Point enables IT and business professionals to quickly access, understand, and report on data across multiple database platforms. With this one tool, users can connect directly to and query any database, including Oracle, SQL Server, DB2, Sybase®, Microsoft® Excel®, and Access®; understand data structures and relationships; join data across all platforms; and easily export data and publish reports.

A FAMILIAR AND INTUITIVE INTERFACE ELIMINATES THE NEED FOR EXTENSIVE TRAINING.

Since Zions Bancorporation was already a satisfied Toad for Oracle customer, adopting Toad Data Point was an easy choice. And because the IT staff was already experienced with Toad for Oracle, adopting Toad Data Point involved practically no learning curve or additional training. "It was an easy transition from Toad for Oracle to Toad Data Point," reported McGregor. "It was similar enough to Toad for Oracle that I was able to navigate my way around easily."

POWERFUL FUNCTIONALITY ELIMINATES THE NEED FOR PLATFORM-SPECIFIC TOOLS.

Toad Data Point has proven to be just the solution that Zions Bancorporation needed, effectively replacing the hodge-podge of platform-specific tools its data professionals had struggled with. "When I moved to Toad Data Point, I went back and uninstalled all the other tools — I just didn't need them anymore," said McGregor.

SWITCHING TO A SINGLE SOLUTION BOOSTS PRODUCTIVITY.

The multiplatform capabilities of Toad Data Point have also enabled Zions Bancorporation's data professionals to be more efficient, improving their productivity by an estimated 33 percent. "I need to write queries against all our different database platforms," explained McGregor. "Toad Data Point saves me a lot of time because I'm not hopping around to different tools. I just open Toad Data Point in the morning and I don't have to ever leave it."

FAST AND EASY DATA EXPORTING SAVES HOURS.

Because Toad Data Point is designed specifically for IT and business data professionals, it delivers exactly the features that Zions Bancorporation needs, saving IT staff time every day. "Toad Data Point has been really well thought out as far as IT/business analyst-centric features," said McGregor. "For example, exporting data is extremely fast and easy using the tool. When I read a query, I can just right-click on the grid and my export functions are right there. It can't get any easier than that."

AN EASY-TO-USE WIZARD AUTOMATES DATA IMPORTING.

Importing data has proven equally easy. "I needed to get some Excel information into a database table," stated McGregor. "I thought I would have to dump the Excel file to a text file and use SQL Loader® or something else to get it into the database — a very manual process. But I discovered that Toad Data Point has a really slick import wizard that makes that process extremely easy. It saved me at least three hours of work, just on that one occasion."

ABOUT ZIONS BANCORPORATION

The history of Zions Bancorporation dates to 1873, when Zion's Savings Bank and Trust Company was incorporated. After several mergers and acquisitions, the name of the company was changed in 1965 to Zions Bancorporation. During the 1960s and 1970s, Zions grew into a major statewide banking system by acquiring a number of community banks around Utah and opening de novo offices. Today, Zions Bancorporation operates more than 500 full-service banking offices in ten western states. With $47 billion in assets and approximately 10,670 employees, it is one of the 40 largest banking companies in the United States and a member of both the S&P 500 Index and the NASDAQ Financial 100 Index. For more information, visit www.zionsbancorporation.com.

ABOUT QUEST®

Quest helps our customers reduce tedious administration tasks so they can focus on the innovation necessary for their businesses to grow. Quest solutions are scalable, affordable and simple to use, and they deliver unmatched efficiency and productivity. Combined with Quest's invitation to the global community to be a part of its innovation, as well as our firm commitment to ensuring customer satisfaction, Quest will continue to accelerate the delivery of the most comprehensive solutions for Azure cloud management, SaaS, security, workforce mobility and data-driven insight.

TECHNOLOGY AT WORK

SOFTWARE
Toad Data Point

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