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INTERSPORT

"Thanks to the tool SNP DPM, we have gained far more flexibility to test developments with productive data."

Lars-Eric Pusch, Head of IT

No More System Copies: Test Data at the Touch of a Button

About INTERSPORT Deutschland

INTERSPORT Deutschland is an international sporting goods retailer founded in 1956 in Heilbronn. In 2018, over 900 Intersport retailers throughout Germany sold 2.85 billion euros in sporting goods. INTERSPORT Deutschland is one of the founding members of the IIC-Intersport International Corporation GmbH with headquarters in Bern. More than 5,500 specialist retailers in 43 countries operate under the umbrella of the IIC. Together with its retail subsidiary "The Athlete's Foot," the IIC generates revenues of around 11.6 billion euros.

The Challenge

In the past, INTERSPORT created test data using system copies, which led to long runtimes and many inconsistencies in the test data. In addition, runtimes when using the IBM I-Series DB400 database were particularly long because a large database with three to four terabytes was used in each case. Furthermore, SAP Basis employees performed a great deal of pre- and postprocessing work, such as interface adjustments, logical system conversion (BDLS run), adjustments to authorizations, and transportation.

The IBM I-Series database only allowed for a system copy runtime of around 36 hours. Besides that, there were major problems with data inconsistencies during the system copy process, resulting in unusable data.

INTERSPORT used to hire lots of external consultants, meaning that its knowledge was not centralized. As a result, it established a permanent IT team to work on improving procedures and business processes. In addition, valid test data was required for a release upgrade. This is why the company took an interest in SNP Data Provisioning & Masking (DPM).

The Solution

INTERSPORT now uses the software SNP DPM for a total of two systems: an ERP incl. SAP Retail and a CRM. As for SAP Solution Manager, SNP provides INTERSPORT with support that covers issues such as the roadmap for Solution Manager 7.2, system checks and general configurations.

The main advantage of SNP DPM is its universal applicability to all databases. Moreover, INTERSPORT needed to create consistent test data and avoid pre- and post-processing – all of which was made possible by SNP DPM.

INTERSPORT previously created test data the standard way via the SAP system copy process. But SNP DPM now allows Intersport to transfer master data and transaction data from source to target systems without the usual time and effort. The software solution has also improved data consistency, enhanced test quality and significantly reduced runtimes compared with system copies. The INTERSPORT department in question now has the agility to create individual test cases via an object-based transfer, enabling it to react to specific test cases.

SNP delivered the software via transport requests and an installation checklist. The introduction to the software took only four days, with participants learning the theoretical knowledge during a two-day training course. Following this, an SNP consultant helped to set up the relevant scenarios.

Key Facts

Project type: Test data management

Duration (from order placement until go-live): The introduction to the software took only four days.

Scope: Filling test systems with valid test data, preventing inconsistencies, avoiding pre- and post-processing.

Number of users: 500

Affected countries: Germany