

Kistler utilizes B2Win and BQT from NAZDAQ to clean data in their Baan systems

The Company

Kistler offers a comprehensive range of sensors and systems for engine development, automotive engineering, plastics and metal processing, installation technology and biomechanics.



The Exercise

Kistler has four independent Baan Systems in Switzerland, USA, Japan and Germany. The IT departments perform several tasks with Baan report programming, according to users' requests. In addition, they hire external programmers who help greatly. However, they had to spend large amounts of money to achieve these solutions.

During the difficult economics in the year 2009 the IT department had to cut in expenses. While they had used NAZDAQ's B2Win for years before, they only used it to create simple Excel sheets, especially in the finance department and IT.

According to Martin Cajoos, Head of Corporate IT, *"I must admit that we never read the documentation clearly and we were happy when the printout ended with an Excel. Then I attended a NAZDAQ Webinar where Baan Query Tool (BQT) was explained, and during this Webinar I recognized that B2Win is much stronger than expected. We discovered how to pre-format Excels, apply Formulas, integrate Excel-Grouping, and use templates. I did also not know about floating header before."*

The Solution

Kistler is using B2Win now in almost all departments, in order to put Baan reports into Excel. Baan Query Tool (BQT) is used mostly in IT to create fast and easy reports. In addition, they have a new project where they have to gather data together from all the Baan systems and consolidate it. BQT has been a great help because they can take out every data they want. BQT runs fast, even with more complex multi-table queries.

Since they also have to perform large data cleanup, they can simply extract data into Excel. The users can modify the data in Excel and they can import it back using Exchange. According to Mr. Cajoos, *"This technique saves man-weeks of work, because the users do not have to go through many Baan sessions, record by record. "*

The Result

With all these capabilities in B2Win, Kistler IT personal in USA, Japan and Germany are now able to change/format reports without hiring external consultants.

Last weeks, as an example, they had to create a report showing the sales of a group of items, compare the sales price with the internal cost price, and bring all of them into Excel. With the BQT function "wide report" and "B2Win" as an output device, it was done in less than 15 minutes!

We asked Mr. Cajoos that based on their prior experience, how did they find the support given to them by NAZDAQ?

"NAZDAQ has excellent support. If in case of a question or a problem, an e-mail response from NAZDAQ reaches us mostly in less than one hour, during our working hours. The solution they would provide will solve our problems in most cases. If we have ideas on how to improve the software, NAZDAQ listens to us and tries to find a solution in a new release of the software. One of the problems we had with Baan reports in general and Baan Query Tool in particular is that these reports are limited to 255 chars per line. In order to overcome this limitation, a new feature was added to BQT (wide reports) that when used would not put any limit on the width of the report".

We also asked what they think about NAZDAQ solutions in relation to its pricing.

"If I compare our savings in time and external consulting efforts against the moderate pricing from NAZDAQ, it is really worth to use the tools from NAZDAQ."