



NPrinting White Paper



NPrinting VIZUBI
QlikView reporting done right

Introduction A fortune 500 company with a global QlikView footprint needed to streamline reporting and distribution for scheduled and ad hoc static report distribution. This need arose from several factors including:

- time wasted and errors generated through the use of a manual cut and paste process;
- the need for standardization;
- the need to be able to easily pass on knowledge about the reporting methodology and processes.

“The amazing technical support that the NPrinting team provided was the key to being able to resolve issues quickly”

The Environment Working with a fortune 500 client who has QlikView implemented and a number of business users who require consistent reports delivered to them. The old methodology was to use a combination of Business Object reports and manually generated QlikView dumps to Excel.

This was very time consuming and inconsistent. Due to the complexity of the data all the reporting from one tool (QlikView) and standardized views were required to provide business consistency.

The first step was to “automate” the reports as much as possible by creating charts and QlikView reports using macros. This solution reduced the time needed from 3 or 4 days a month to 1 day a month. However it still required training a person to run the reports and then providing back up (training another person). The total time was less of an issue than the reports that needed to be manually managed multiple times a week leading to user errors and inconsistencies.

The Problem QlikView 11 has limited report capabilities for filtering and cycling and does not “publish” reports. QlikView PDF distributor only publishes pdf and is not integrated with MS office. Macros which publish to Excel are hard to maintain and set up.

The client needed the ability to filter, and cycle on multiple parameters and then deliver reports by email and/or publish reports to different distribution lists. This needed to happen with minimum budget impact and quickly.

The need to generate reports manually was having a negative impact on analysis and development of new data sources. There were also issues with consistency and the availability of people to run reports.



The Solution The client chose a three prong approach.

Tool:

- NPrinting was selected for its ability to publish in Excel, send email, and a full set of scheduling capabilities.

“Set up time for new reports in Excel is hours instead of days for first set up and minutes instead of hours to make changes”

- The software license cost was 1/3 the estimated price of the equivalent QlikView software which does not include MS Office integration (QlikView PDF distributor). The amazing technical support that the NPrinting team provided was key to being able to resolve issues quickly, reduce learning time and complete the project.
- Where: Reports were developed to be accessible for manual pulls in QV, published to a SharePoint site and e-mailed to those customers who required it. This allowed us to provide the client with the greatest flexibility in publishing information.

Human Resources:

- Temporary report writer was hired to focus on reports and develop templates, standards and a consistent look and feel.
- Due to the ease of learning QV and NPrinting she was able to build professional looking reports in less than a week.
- When we discovered that we were pushing some of the limits of NPrinting they were able to provide us with solutions that we could implement (in the form of macros) that enabled forward movement on the project.

The Result

- Over 50 reports from 5 different QlikView files generated monthly/quarterly with supporting infrastructure are delivered to over 100 users. Because of the ease of setting up reports the scope of reporting was increased to meet business needs without impacting current resources.
- MS office integration replaced the needs for Macros.
- Set up time for new reports in Excel is hours instead of days for first set up and minutes instead of hours to make changes.
- This makes them maintainable; with changing business needs the ability to quickly modify reports is very important.
- A documented system with training.
- Integrated manual reports in QlikView that aligned with the published reports (for analysis)
- A SharePoint site developed for the reports and documentation
- E-mailed reports for those that needed them.
- 8 man-hours per week of error prone manual report generation have been completely replaced with an automatic system that takes less than 1 man-hour per quarter to maintain.
- With increased MS office integration there are plans to expand the current reporting program.



The Cost

- Less than \$7500 in software costs including maintenance for the first year with a 20% ongoing annual support and maintenance charge.
- 2.5 months of a temporary report writer with prior experience in MS office, 2 years of computer science.
- Lead consultant provided support for priorities and tasks (5 hours a week). Internal employee provided feedback and business knowledge (5 hours a week).

Key Learning's

- Good software support is the key to implementing quickly. Knowing that questions are answered same day means that you can get significant help on the learning curve.
- Having a 3 person team provided the right mix of skills.
- Lead developer for general information on the data sets/ QVW files, project deliverables, and project management.
- Report writer (due to the short nature of the assignment the report writer did not fully understand the data sets)
- Business partner who could speak for the needs of the user and work with the report writer to make the system relevant and user friendly.

Next Steps

- A second phase of the project is planned which includes building additional reports in Excel as well as PowerPoint.
- Replacing manual reports into PowerPoint for groups that are currently spending days per quarter generating data stacks.
- Building "Excel" dashboards for senior managers

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NPrinting software allows QlikView users to easily generate and distribute reports in Office and HTML formats to many users through various channels. More than 400 companies worldwide use the NPrinting software to distribute reports to hundreds of thousands of users.



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