

What is a BW Workspace?



Applies to

SAP NetWeaver Business Warehouse 7.30 (BW7.30) SP05 and SAP NetWeaver Business Warehouse Accelerator 7.20 (BWA7.20)/HANA 1.0 running as a database for SAP NetWeaver BW 7.3 SP05. For more information visit the [Enterprise Data Warehousing Homepage](#)

Summary

This article introduces a series of articles on BW Workspaces. It provides the reader with an insight in this new functionality and also gives tips and recommendations on using the functions in the user's daily work.

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Silvia Bratz joined SAP 12 years ago and began working as a technical SAP consultant for Business Intelligence. Today, she is a member of the BWA and Data Management team.

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Klaus Nagel joined SAP 10 years ago and started as a Developer in the BW team. He now holds the position of a Development Manager and leads the BWA and Data Management team.

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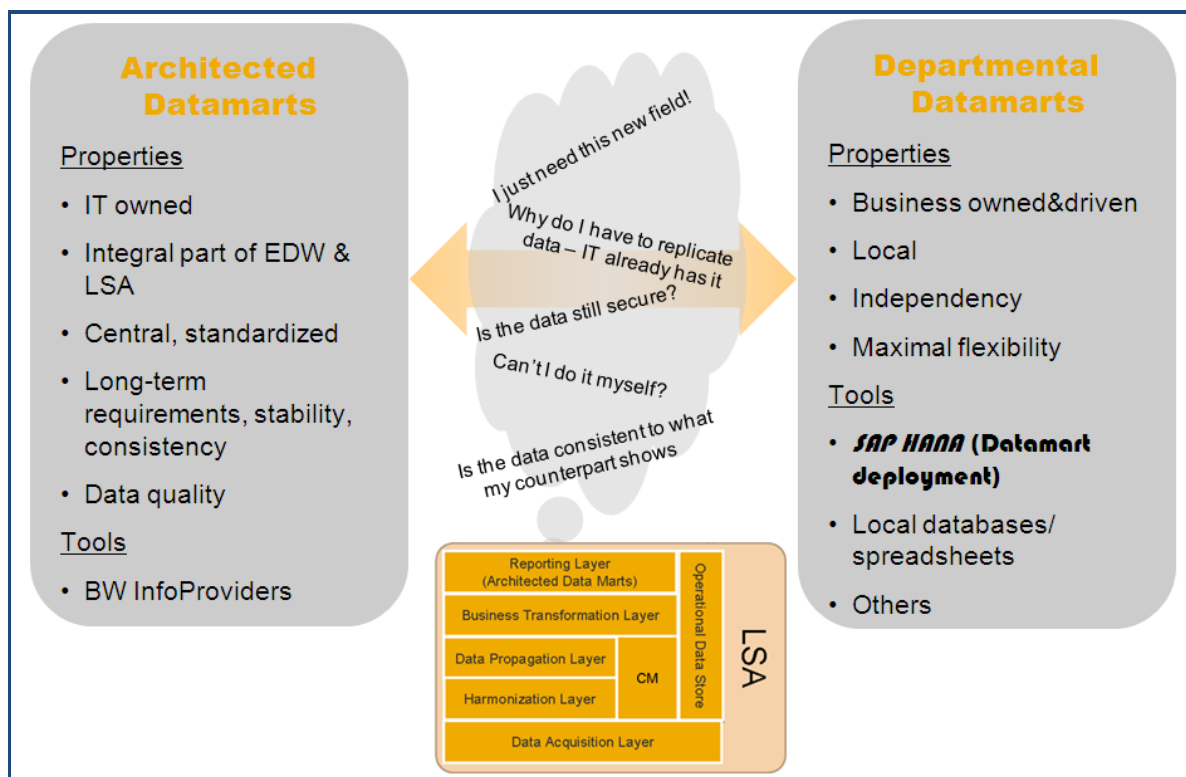
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Motivation

BW Workspaces address a specific gap often encountered in data warehousing implementation projects; the conflict between the central IT department and the business department requirements.

IT has to maintain a centrally governed space with data models (central data with centrally defined semantics on that data), is bound by service level agreements as well as by compliance rules and aims to keep the data in the data containers consistent. This means that IT cannot react spontaneously to requests to change data or to add new data.

The business department needs to act in an agile way in its day-to-day business. For example, a marketing department meets today and wants to initiate a marketing campaign in a few weeks time. In order to monitor the data for the campaign, the marketing department wants to set up an InfoCube to track customer reactions, for example. The business department approaches the IT department with this request and is told that a new InfoCube could be deployed in two months time at the earliest. This is the conflict that we mean.



Architected versus departmental data marts

Solution

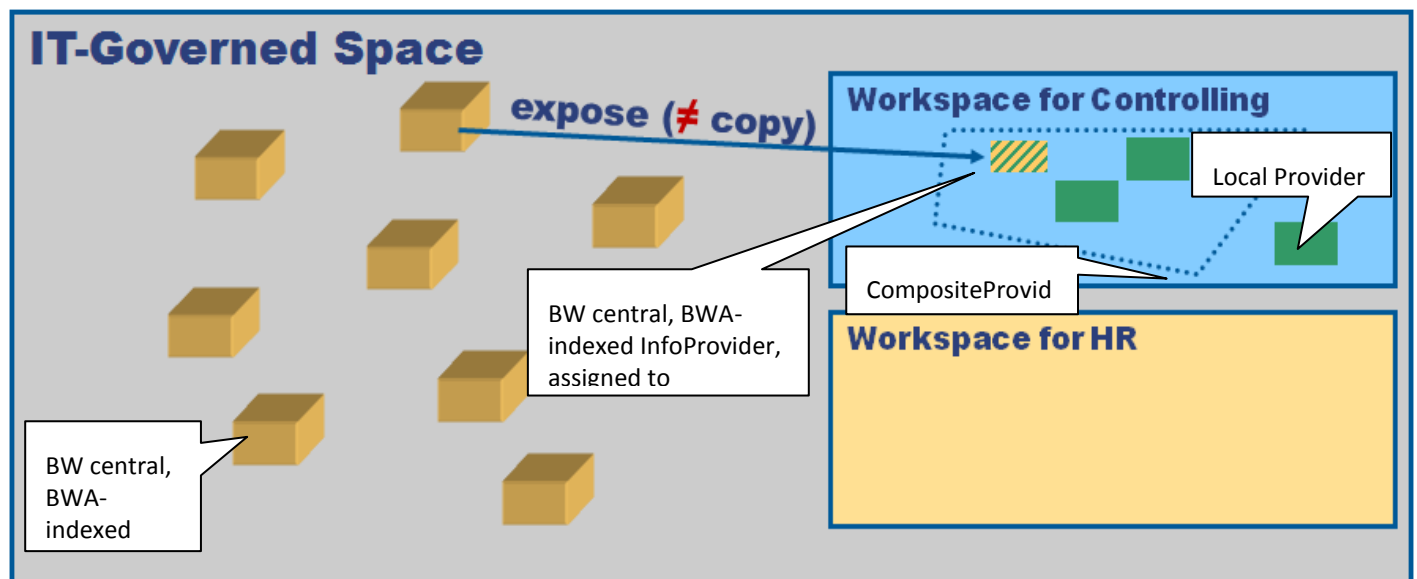
This conflict can be solved by setting up a BW Workspace for the department (e.g. marketing, human resources, controlling etc.) in the SAP NetWeaver Business Warehouse that can react quickly to new and changing requirements.

A BW Workspace is a kind of 'small sandbox' which IT defines. IT sets the boundaries, IT sets the amount of resources that a BW Workspace can consume and exposes some of the central data models to the BW Workspace (data of the models and their related semantics). The BW Workspace exposes the central data in a logical fashion only. The data is not copied over into the BW Workspace, which means that no data replication is needed.

The goal is to enable the Key Business Users to use this functionality in a dedicated and separated environment, which is deeply embedded and integrated in the existing BW landscape. The BW Workspaces bridge the gap between the architected and the departmental data marts. Therefore, Workspaces are integrated, independent and, as the usage of the SAP Business Warehouse Accelerator is mandatory, they are completely in-memory.

What happens afterwards inside the BW Workspace is in the hands of the Business department.

However, BW Workspaces is an important functionality for the Key Business User who knows which data he/she wants to combine and what to achieve with the joined data. Therefore, the Business department also needs a basic understanding on the common join-types like UNION, INNER or LEFT OUTER JOIN.



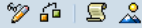
Workspace – IT governed space

Tools

Maintenance


In the Workspace Maintenance, the Business Warehouse Administrator creates Workspaces, defines the limits for each Workspace and assign data (Central BWA indexes or Analytic Indexes in the Business Warehouse) to the Workspace. It is the central maintenance tool for Workspaces for the IT department. The Workspaces can also be structured in a folder tree where mass maintenance options are available (Transaction RSWSPW).

Display Workspace



Workspace:

Description:

Object Status:  Active

Last changed by: BRATZS Changed On: 05.08.2011 08:12:58

Settings




Central Provider

Local Provider

CompositeProvider

Users



General Settings

Expiry Date	<input type="text" value="31.08.2011"/>		26 Days
Prefix for Workspace Objects	<input type="text" value="SB_"/>		
Contact 1	<input type="text" value="BRATZS"/>		
Contact 2	<input type="text" value="SCHAEFERR"/>		

Settings for Central Provider

MultiProvider	<input type="text" value="WSP_SAL_M"/>
Description	<input type="text" value="Sales Analysis"/>

Settings for Local Provider

Maximum Memory	<input type="text" value="300"/>	MB		124,6 MB
Maximum Number of Analytical Indexes	<input type="text" value="200"/>			121

Save Uploaded Data

Settings for CompositeProvider

Creation of Master Data allowed

Join Columns non unique allowed

Workspace Folder

Folder	<input type="text" value="SB"/>
Description	<input type="text" value="SB Demo Workspace"/>

Transaction **RSWSP** (single **maintenance**) in SAP NetWeaver Business Warehouse

Designer

The BW Workspace Designer is a tool that allows the business department to work with the BW Workspaces. In this design environment, the Key Business User can upload own data, e.g. from a file (CSV or Excel), a query result or data from a BW DataSource. These locally uploaded models can be easily combined with centrally exposed models in a CompositeProvider via UNION and JOIN combinations.

The BW Workspace Designer runs in a browser and can also be embedded into the SAP Portal. This means that there is no need to install extra software on the office PC. You simply need to start the URL in the browser.

SAP Business Client Log Off

Workspace Designer

Workspace Designer > My Workspace

Change CompositeProvider "Demo US sales"

Workspace: Demo workspace for US region

1 Select Provider | 2 Model CompositeProvider | 3 Edit Fields | 4 Query Properties | 5 Check and Save | 6 Confirmation

Previous | Next | Save Draft | Check | Repair CompositeProvider | Display Data

Description	Connection Type	Info	Details
Multiprovider: Sales Analysis			Details of the MultiProvider
CustomerRanking ABC	Inner Join		Details for Links Generate Proposal
ProductStatus stock	Left Outer Join		Details for Links Generate Proposal
SalesTeam	Union		Details for Links Generate Proposal

Table View | Graphical View

Display: CompositeProvider | Displayed Providers: 4 / 4 | Zoom: 100 % | Settings | Navigator | Print Graphic

Sales Analysis (9 nodes): Calendar Year/Month, Calendar year, Country Version, Customer Home Country, Customer ID, Customer Industry Segment, Product, Product Group, Sales Channel, Amount Sold, Net Sales, Plan Sales.

Demo US sales (13 nodes): Calendar Year/Month, Calendar year, Country Version, Customer Home Country, Customer ID, Customer Industry Segment, Product, Product Group, Rating, Sales Channel, SalesRep, Status, Team, Amount Sold, Net Sales, Plan Sales.

SalesTeam (Union) (3 nodes): Customer, SalesRep.

CustomerRanking ABC (Inner...): Customer, Rating.

ProductStatus stock (Left Ou...): Product, Status.

Done | Trusted sites | Protected Mode: On | 100%

BW Workspace **Designer** running in SAP NetWeaver Business Client

Related Content

<http://www.sdn.sap.com/irj/sdn/bwa>

For more information visit the [Enterprise Data Warehousing Homepage](#)

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