

# **Black Diamond Group**

# "PowerOLAP<sup>®</sup> Has Paid For Itself 10x Over" One Click and A Full Company Report in Minutes

With the right solution for the job—**PowerOLAP's PowerAnalytics for SAP Business One**—Black Diamond Group, a fast-growing supplier of remote workforce accommodation, modular buildings and energy services that operates throughout Canada and the U.S., has **significantly cut both the time and cost** required to access key financials.

"PowerOLAP has allowed us to **automate our monthly management reporting to make it better, faster and more accurate.** We are giving our executives and division managers the information they need to **make better business decisions**," says Robert Sheasgreen, Manager of Information Services at Black Diamond Group.



## Black Diamond Significantly Cuts Cost and Time Required for Key Financials

Black Diamond Group provides innovative solutions using modular buildings, support equipment and surface rental assets to a varied range of customers—in the oil and gas industry, resource development, general construction, retail and many others. Owing to successful strategies initiated to meet the demands of the strong natural resources market it serves, Black Diamond Group has achieved dynamic growth over the past couple of years. And yet, even as the company has continued to grow, Black Diamond has been able to reduce the time and cost to access and act upon its key financials via its use of PowerAnalytics for SAP Business One.

# Better Business Decisions, via Standard and Ad Hoc Reports

Not long ago, however, Black Diamond found itself in the all-toocommon position that beleaguers many companies: a reporting system that took over a day just to run, using a combination of a report-writer, spreadsheets, and a lot of hands-on reconciliation: "Before PowerOLAP our reporting process was very manual. At any one time, it could take over a day to run out reports—just as a first step, followed by trying to piece things together. Our closing cycle used to take several days after month end to finalize, which included hours of overtime," Sheasgreen noted. With so much time gathering and clerking data, ultimately in spreadsheets, it was often found to be difficult to dig into the numbers for the purpose of understanding how the business was performing because of these time restrictions.

"With one click, a multi-tabbed, graphicenabled report for the entire company **and it takes less than 5 minutes.** 

With our financial reporting application alone the ROI on **PowerOLAP has paid for itself** 10 times over."



Black Diamond's move to SAP Business One provided Sheasgreen and Black Diamond colleagues with the opportunity to utilize PowerAnalytics for SAP Business One: the product is a "connector" to PowerOLAP that automatically integrates data from the SAP Business One general ledger for the creation of multidimensional "cubes," which contain the full financial information for standard reporting. As well, PowerAnalytics enables users to create unlimited ad hoc reports and perform Business Intelligence analyses—all through the familiar Excel spreadsheet.

"Users can easily create 'slices' of the data they need, when they need it," Sheasgreen adds, which enables user-empowered, valuable analytical explorations throughout the data set.

#### "With our financial reporting application alone the ROI on PowerOLAP is such that the product has paid for itself 10 times over"

"Previously, "Sheasgreen noted, "with multiple databases, the reports that we created to generate our P&Ls were complex and hard to manage." PowerAnalytics was able to address this issue via its consolidation capabilities—the product automatically generates a consolidated Master Account structure across multiple companies in SAP Business One, as well as provides the ability to map accounts as needed from any sub-company account. **"Our multi-tabbed, graphicenabled report for the entire company takes less than 5 minutes.** As for the month-end reports, we are now doing it in a few days—given staff input and adjustments—and with a lot less overtime for the accounting staff."

## A Custom User-Built Revenue Forecasting Model

Now Black Diamond is using PowerOLAP for more than financial reporting. Having attended a PowerOLAP training class and mastered many aspects of the product's "accessible model-building" capabilities, Sheasgreen created a Revenue Forecasting solution: "We have also incorporated a forecasting model into PowerOLAP which merges into our monthly executive reports. While currently still centralized within the finance department we will be moving this down to the branch and divisional level shortly, which we will anticipate will save us even more time."

Looking ahead, Sheasgreen foresees a more widely dispersed, dynamically responsive system with PowerOLAP at the core. Another way to add to the product's already impressive ROI at this impressively successful company!

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About PARIS Technologies International, Inc.

PARIS Technologies International, Inc., Doylestown, Pennsylvania USA, is an intelligent solutions technology leader, featuring advanced, intuitive and cost-effective OLAP and Business Intelligence technologies. PARIS's solutions allow users to plan, analyze and report—online, via Microsoft Excel and the Web—from enterprise and external data for business-critical relationships and insight. For more information: www.paristech.com.

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"Users can easily create 'slices' of the data they need, when they need it," enabling user-empowered exploration throughout the data.

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