

Northwest Door is a leading producer of high quality, high value residential and commercial doors and equipment. The manufacturer recently experienced a spike of growth expanding their company to include nine separate plants in nine different locations around the country. This is how their need for a centralized business intelligence resource became clear.

Challenge

Nine plants on nine separate databases also means nine plant managers who have their own individual reporting preferences and ways of measuring success. This

was fast becoming a problem for Northwest Door executives to follow business trends.

With each of these plant managers asking for custom reports to meet individual preferences, Northwest Door's executives were trying to compare disparate business intelligence reports between plants that couldn't be compared.

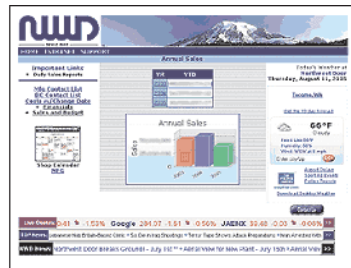
On top of that, their IT developers each had a favorite method of creating reports using different reporting tools, which meant that even if the reports themselves were comparing identical data, the

differing formats led to non-uniform reporting.

And that was becoming a major BI problem. Creating a universal and uniform view for users and executives to access, like an executive dashboard, seemed to be the best solution. But, their IT department had no Java or Web experience to speak of. So how would they go about it?

Solution

Using mrc's m-Power, with just a 3-day training course under their belt, NWD's IT department created a Java-based executive dashboard



Northwest Door's new executive dashboard

that incorporated robust permission-based security, showing only data pertinent to each user.

Value

With no prior Java experience, Jean Patterson and her IT team delivered a Java-based executive dashboard, with all of the bells and whistles they desired in just twelve weeks of planning and development.