

SWEDISH ARMED FORCES USE BUSINESSOBJECTS™ XI SOLUTIONS FOR DECISION SUPPORT ACROSS WIDE FRONTS

"A modern IT support we achieve using BusinessObjects™ applications for financial and operational follow-up helps the Swedish Armed Forces to manage and use its resources in the best possible way."

Carl Franke, Administration, TELLUS, Swedish Armed Forces



Industry

Defense

Business Process

Operations, planning, forecasting

Challenge

Swedish Armed Forces required a decision support system for result reporting and detailed follow-up for unit commanders.

Why Business Objects?

Business Objects reporting simplifies work with complex analyses of finance and operations.

Business Objects Products and Services

BusinessObjects™ XI Release 2

BusinessObjects Web Intelligence®

CHALLENGE

Over the years, Swedish Armed Forces has evolved from being strictly an invasion force to a modern, rapid-defense force. Today, Swedish Armed Forces is creating mission-oriented units to bring peace to conflict areas around the world.

For optimum effectiveness, Swedish Armed Forces must be flexible. Constant changes combined with a limited defense budget require financial precision and effective resource use. The defense agency's missions are defined by precise requirements for goals and results. Missions are averaged out annually among military units, schools, and centers. Each unit is responsible for utilizing resources to achieve set goals.

In the 1990s, Swedish Armed Forces realized the need for better follow-up for its missions. The result was TELLUS, a combination of applications for the input of forecasts and reports. Products from Business Objects, an SAP company, were implemented for analysis and reporting. Today, TELLUS is a user-friendly, Web-based decision support system designed to handle budgeting, reporting, and control. TELLUS is used at a baseline level by unit commanders, and also at an overall group level.



"To enable Swedish Armed Forces to improve its work in managing resources, operational evaluation, analyses, and reporting, we needed a common tool for gathering and handling information," says Carl Franke, the person responsible for the administration of TELLUS within the Swedish Armed Forces. "We wanted a decision support system that could gather result reports and forecasts for all units. One requirement was that everyone should have the same data for decision-making to evaluate in their analyses."

APPROACH

TELLUS is based on several self-developed applications for results reporting and forecasting, combined with BusinessObjects™ Web Intelligence® software for query and analyses and BusinessObjects XI Release 2 solutions for performance management.

Initially, Swedish Armed Forces developed a joint data bank for information from existing systems within the conscription service, finance, budget, and personnel systems. One application was developed for units, as well as one for group level, enabling forecasts and result/outcome observations at all levels. The data bank was connected to BusinessObjects for reporting and analysis.

RESULTS

The decision support system makes it easier for us to work with goal and performance management at all levels," says Franke. "It is easier to produce and deliver both financial prognoses and result and outcome reports. This gives us data with superior quality as a starting point in our management. It is easier for those in managerial positions at all levels to control and evaluate their finances and operations."



BusinessObjects makes it possible for everyone in managerial positions to perform complex analyses of their operations and finances. The decision support system improves the prerequisites for Swedish Armed Forces to reallocate resources more effectively among the different levels. Mission feedback to ground level is also greatly improved. "To carry out complex analyses effortlessly at all levels reduces risks and increases conditions for us to become more accurate in our management," says Franke.

The Armed Forces have plans for a common financial model in which there is one IT system to manage and run the whole Swedish Armed Forces as one financial unit. Since the Business Objects decision support system has worked well for those units connected, Swedish Armed Forces decided to migrate to BusinessObjects XI Release 2, resulting in further improvements in system functionality and simplified production, which in turn increases the system's life cycle. Furthermore, the new functionality increases the possibilities of providing the whole organization with an even more effective decision support system.

Franke concludes, "The modern IT support we achieve using BusinessObjects applications for financial and operational follow-up helps the Swedish Armed Forces to manage and use its resources in the best possible way."

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