

ACI Consult gets traffic under control with QlikView

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Riccardo Colicchia, Executive Director, ACI Consult

With the help of Global Net, a partner of QlikView Italy that specializes in consulting for the public sector, ACI Consult has chosen to use QlikView's leading in-memory business analysis suite to manage the innovative ACITRAFF® traffic analysis data in real time.

ACI Consult, a member of the Automobile Club d'Italia (ACI) group, was originally founded to handle ACI operations in the area of transport engineer-



ing. Since 2003, the company has been responsible for designing, developing and creating innovative traffic-control services, regional and environmental services, urban furnishings and low-impact technologies.

ACI Consult identifies critical issues, arranges for advanced multi-purpose technologies and provides government agencies with solutions that save energy.

Among its more innovative initiatives, ACI Consult has been involved in ACITRAFF, a project intended to provide a great many regional bodies with targeted traffic reports in order to analyze traffic patterns and plan infrastructure projects.

ACITRAFF monitors traffic flows and uses sensors positioned along the main roadways in order to gather data on the number of vehicles, their speed, their size and traffic congestion, so as to provide accurate, up-to-date traffic information.

The ACITRAFF architecture is comprised of peripherals, including active and passive optical sensors, that communicate with one or more data-processing centers using a variety of communication networks (phone, cable, radio, GSM, GPRS, etc.). The system gathers data on an ongoing basis and sends it to a central database, which is then used for studies and subsequent traffic planning.

In order to better organize and manage the great quantities of data that the system gathers in real time, ACI Consult needed business intelligence software that could rapidly collect all of the data and provide both a full analysis and accurate results both simply and quickly. These needs are met fully by QlikView, with the inclusion of calculations and charts based on ACI Consult's extensive experience in the field.

Solution Overview

ACI Consult

ACI Consult handles operations in the area of transport engineering and designs, develops, and creates innovative traffic-control services, regional and environmental services, urban furnishings and low-impact technologies

Industry

Education & Non-Profits

Function

Operations

Geography

Italy

Challenges

- Accurately monitor and analyze traffic patterns
- Compile data from passive and active optical sensors and satellite data centers
- Organize, manage and store the recorded data in a usable fashion

Solution

ACI Consult deployed QlikView to a handful of users. With QlikView, ACI Consult can now access traffic data, analyze patterns by nearly any factor and estimate roadway wear or pollution levels. With QlikView Server, ACI Consult can appropriately manage the large data volume and maintain high performance levels.

Benefits

- Successfully analyzed traffic data according to specific factors
- Interpreted traffic data over various time frames
- Leveraged data to improve traffic and transport conditions

Data Source Systems

Application: ACITRAFF

QlikTech Partner

QlikView Italy, Global Net



QlikView's strengths include QlikTech's patented innovative technology, which makes it possible to create a natively multi-dimensional, high-capacity, in-memory associative database that is highly efficient. Therefore, unlike with more conventional OLAP analyses, it is unnecessary to define aggregations, selections, hierarchies or inquiry paths in advance.

Taking advantage of the company's enabling technologies and years of experience in the transport industry, a specific application was created that uses the basic data gathered by the sensors and analyzes processes. It aggregates this data in order to present a variety of charts and tables to the user, which can then be used to meet any research need in a simple, intuitive manner.

"ACI Consult's business has been growing rapidly, making the maximization of efficiency in traffic analysis – which had thus far been done using manual controls and calculations – one of our top priorities," said Riccardo Colicchia, executive director for ACI Consult. "The

flexibility and ease of use of QlikView, as a tool used to generate reports and, in particular, to validate and analyze data, is proving to be of absolute importance to our business."

The system, which includes a specially-designed interface and customizations developed by ACI Consult, makes it possible to monitor traffic flows and to analyze vast quantities of data, such as the total and average number of vehicles, average speeds by day and by night and the level of traffic congestion. The system also makes it possible to conduct analyses by type of vehicle, to estimate traffic pollution levels and the degree of roadway wear and tear, and to estimate the commercial value of each section of roadway.

QlikView's interactive analysis makes it easy to do research with a mouse and visual "drag & drill," a navigation technique without hierarchical or size limitations. It is also possible to interactively define and change presentation objects and algorithms, which are recalculated "on the fly" by the powerful interactive



calculation engine. Finally, all analyses are parameter-based, so users can either research phenomena based on time segments that range from 15 minutes to a full year or choose from daily, weekly and monthly analyses.

"Having extensive experience with the traffic issues that regional, provincial and municipal governments deal with on a daily basis, ACI Consult is a solid, reliable partner for government bodies increasingly focused on the quality of life of their citizenry," concluded Massimo San Giuseppe, chairman of QlikView Italy. "Therefore, we are proud that the QlikView innovation is an enabling factor in solutions such as ACITRAFF that help serve the public."

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