Bring Frigo
www.bring.com

About Bring Frigo
For more than 60 years, Bring Frigo (www.bring.se) has offered special logistics solutions for transportation and warehouse management. Based in the Nordic region, Bring has more than 2,000 employees world-wide, 1,000 trailers, 660 distribution vehicles and 240,000 square meters of warehouse capacity. With more than $ 1 billion in revenues, the corporation is a true global leader.

Why DecidoKompetensor?
When Bring Frigo switched to Microsoft Dynamics NAV, they began working with DecidoKompetensor as their sub-contractor, then as their main contractor.

"We really appreciated the work that DecidoKompetensor was doing for us with NAV. Therefore, we decided to switch to DecidoKompetensor as our main contractor," says Fredrik Lundgren. "We trust DecidoKompetensor, so when they presented the BI360 solution, which had all the features we were looking for in a budgeting system, there was no doubt we wanted to expand our partnership to include this area too.

Bring Frigo simplifies their Budget Process with BI360

In 2010, Bring Frigo decided to acquire a new budgeting solution, as their existing budget process was time consuming, complicated and had considerable risks for user mistakes and formula errors. "It was way too cumbersome so we had to do something about it," says Frederik Lundgren, VP of Finance at Bring Frigo.

In 2011, Bring Frigo selected the Microsoft Dynamics-compatible BI360 solution and went with partner DecidoKompetensor.

The Situation
Bring Frigo had a complicated and resource draining budgeting process. Each country and business area still had their own budget models in locally managed Excel spreadsheets. They had the same structure, but with individual differences in background data and statistical calculations. These files were then sent from each respective manager to a corporate budget manager, who then gathered and linked the files and consolidated everything into a global budget.

For the budget manager, this meant deciphering and assembling a large number of Excel files and versions. This was not only time consuming, but came with major risks for error and mistakes, as the files were shipped between different locations and people. Furthermore, any change to the budget model had to be incorporated into every spreadsheet because each country and location had their own version.

"It was a lot of work and required numerous hours of preparation and because of all the adjustments and changes happening in the local budget models, I never knew if I had the latest version," says Pia Huhta, budget manager at Bring Frigo.

The Challenge
Bring Frigo had three main requirements for their new budget system. The most important requirement was an Excel user interface to ensure that everyone could work in a familiar environment.

"We couldn't require the same level of budgeting skills from local business managers as we do from our central finance department. Therefore, it had to be simple and easy to use," says Fredrik Lundgren.

The second major requirement for Bring Frigo was to be able to re-use some of the content from the old budget models, as there was a lot of valuable logic that had been developed over the years. The third requirement was complete version control to eliminate the macros and other complexities in the old budget model that led to our high-risk environment business units.

It was important to speed up and control the process itself, yet enable various unique sub-models to comply with localized requirements in the different

"We faced a major challenge since we purchased BI360 very late, giving us only three months until the start of our budgeting process," says Fredrik Lundgren.

The Solution

DecidoKompetensor has worked with Bring Frigo for five years and the teams worked towards a global ERP solution for the Bring group of companies. About three years ago, they started the Microsoft Dynamics NAV project, and today it is live and used by and Bring Frigo, Bring Cargo and Bring Express.

"When I heard that Bring Frigo was looking for a new budgeting system, I quickly established that BI360 would be the right solution. It is a very flexible and powerful tool and integrates with NAV," says Marcus Claesson, DecidoKompetensor's account manager for Bring. "With BI360, there was a strong synergy between the preexisting work with NAV as well as all the research and labor that Bring Frigo had put into their manual Excel models over the years,"Marcus adds.

Marcus Langell is a business intelligence consultant at DecidoKompetensor, and he explains that BI360 is a reporting and budgeting solution that, among other things, integrates with Microsoft Dynamics NAV & Dynamics AX.

He also notes its easy-to-use, Excel-based interface as one of its key strengths.

"End users are used to it. All data entry takes place in Excel, but the main difference is that it is secure and all data is saved into the central BI360 SQL Server database. There is only one single template per model instead of the numerous hardcoded spreadsheets that companies are used to from a manual Excel process," adds Marcus Langell.

The Result

One of the outcomes of the BI360 implementation is that Bring Frigo's budget process has become simpler, more secure and more time efficient. "In the past, I had to start the budget preparation before the summer for the next year's budgets to get everything ready. With BI360 this process has been shortened significantly," says Pia Huhta.

Fredrik Lundgren explains that they have saved a lot of time with BI360, both at corporate and at the local business units. Instead of countless hours consolidating all 50 budget models to finalize the financial statements, BI360 streamlines everything with the push a button to get the reports. It's all done centrally in a simplified, single process.

"We have received a lot of positive feedback from our personnel – in particular, the controllers. Today they have a totally different level of control, and can stay updated on the status of the budget throughout the entire process," says Fredrik Lundgren. "We have a business with high expectations, and BI360 has fulfilled them all."

Before this year's budget process, Bring Frigo, together with their BI360 partner DecidoKompetensor, have made additional improvements to their BI360 model, such as automated integration to payroll and their production system. Other improvements include central input of budget variables as well as global assumptions to enable cost controls related to inflation, and price- and salary increases.

In 2011, BI360 was implemented in the Swedish-run division. This year, the rollout has been expanded from one company to five companies in four countries. Additionally, Bring will expand its use of BI360 to include forecasting throughout its worldwide group of companies.

"We have formalized Bring Frigos accumulated knowledge into the configuration of the BI360 solution, and the result was a process which is now much simpler, more secure and faster"

Marcus Claesson,
DecidoKompetensor Account
Manager at Bring

Many Benefits with BI360

• The budget end user works in a familiar environment (Excel).
• All data is stored in a central Microsoft SQL Server database.
• Less preparation time for the budget manager.
• Easier to make changes and adjustments during the budget process.
• Elimination of file distribution between business units reduces risk for wrong or lost data.
• An administrator can design input forms directly in Excel with no technical expertise and with automatic updates if there are changes.
• It is not necessary to deal with large numbers of Excel files to consolidate the budget. BI360 will read from the database and any of the business dimensions and attributes can be used in the reports.

Self-Service Business Intelligence

bi360

- Reporting
- Planning
- Collaboration
- Dashboard
- Data Warehouse