BlackBox Migrations, LLC

BlackBox Migrations, LLC, doing business as BlackBox Partners ("BlackBox"), is a Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) that offers solutions to industry and government. BlackBox offers solutions that fit practical business needs:

- **Project Management**
- **Database Management**
- **Professional Training**
- **Value Added Reselling**

BlackBox, operating out of offices in Northern Virginia and Houston, serves the market segments of those regions: Oil & Gas, Telecommunications, and Government.

Business Intelligence Strategy

Implementing Data Warehousing in an organization requires meticulous planning, clear communication with executive sponsors, and experienced professionals guiding the implementation so as to avoid typical pitfalls that are encountered frequently in BI/DW initiatives.

• Defining the BI Roadmap

We begin all DW projects by defining an overall BI Strategy, capturing the Vision of the organization, aligning this vision with the mission statement of the client, communicating the BI methodology to the development team, and defining the Maturity Roadmap.

• Prioritization & Planning

Any organization has a number of source systems and targeted datasets intended for eventual DW consumption. We lay out the implementation Roadmap, prioritize source systems, deliver an "as-is" and "to-be" architectures, perform Gap analysis, and lay out short, medium and long term goals for the development team. This aligns with Project Portfolio Management and always provides a clear vision of where the team is heading.

• Development Methodologies

DW and BI can adhere to any of the available development methodologies, and defining target methodologies and training staff in any knowledge gaps is an important part of succeeding. Waterfall, Rad/Jad, Rup or Agile can all be used to deliver BI/DW projects, depending on the project-specific factors..

• Metadata Management /Data Governance

Enterprise-wide Master Data Management and Data Governance within an organization is vital to maintaining the Corporate Data dictionary and ensuring data conformance.

• Architecture Methodologies

The two leading schools of thought in Data Warehousing are the Inmon method and the Kimball method. Each has pros and cons to implementation, and hybrid approaches can be addressed that incorporate parts of both approaches. Newer architecture theories (Hub and Spoke, Hybrids, DW 2.0, Federated data) are considered and implemented for customers who have non-traditional needs.

• What is an ODS?

The Operational Data Store (ODS) has always been a contentious part of DW environments. What is it? What problem does it solve? Not all DW implementations need and ODS, but those that do can benefit from one greatly.

• Dimensional Data Modeling

Create a bus matrix of reference data and deliver a dimensional data model of facts and dimensions to deliver large amounts of data quickly. Incorporate conformed dimensions, define Type I, Type II and hybrid dimensions, and define the service bus.

• Extending the Star Schema

Design and implement summary fact tables, aggregates, or cubes to provide superior reporting performance. Design Data Marts to simplify the warehouse presentation layer, increase performance and enhance the user experience.

• Extraction, Transformation & Loading ("ETL") Architecture

Design an end to end ETL strategy that ensures data integrity, performance, data quality/system assurance, type I/II dimensional load reporting, and ease of monitoring. Incorporate staging areas, consolidated data warehouse schemas, or ODS as needed. Incorporate rules engines to apply organizational compliance at the ETL level.

• Dashboarding and Visualizations

Dashboards are becoming the preferred method for delivering critical information quickly to executives and managers alike. We specialize in designing and delivering dashboards using Stephen Few-inspired visualization and layout. Performance Management Dashboards, Balanced Scorecards, data access with drill up/drill down capabilities, trending, heat maps and situational awareness are all features delivered to your desktop.

• Data "Anytime, Anywhere"

Design BI architectures to deliver data to multiple platforms at multiple times. Web, Phone, Tablet or desktop. Design dashboards that are portable and transfer to management presentations seamlessly.