Microsoft Business Intelligence

Microsoft Business Intelligence on SAP NetWeaver data

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ALTERATE

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SAP BI Landscape

- Requirement:
  - Reporting and analysis on data held in SAP transactional systems (e.g. mySAP ERP / R/3)
- Multiple vendor solutions:
  - SAP NetWeaver Business Intelligence
  - Microsoft SQL Server
  - Other BI vendor solutions:
    - Business Objects
    - Cognos

SAP BI Choice

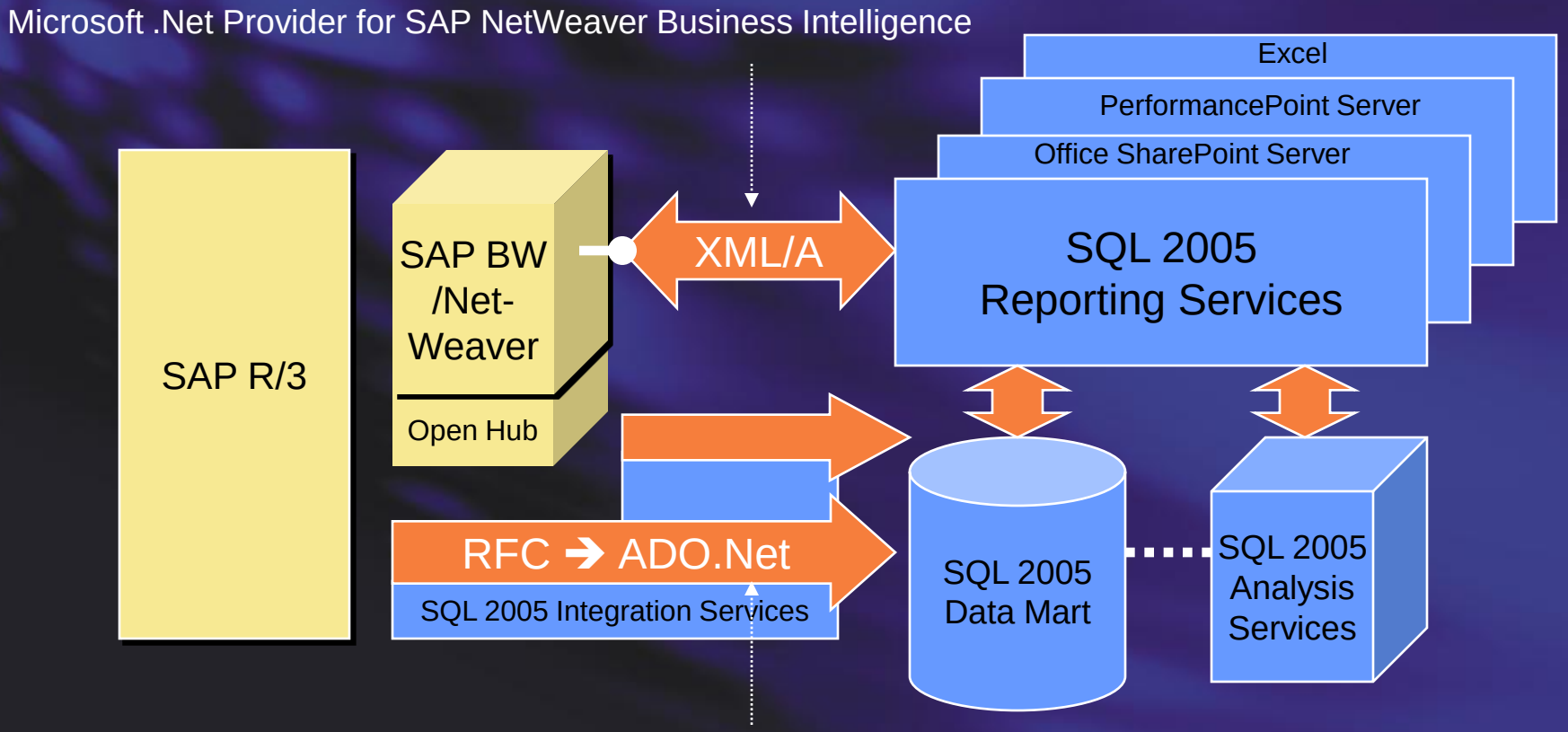
- 1. Choose the SAP solution
  - Pros
    - Integrated with SAP mySAP / R/3
    - Who knows SAP data better than SAP?
    - Pre-defined business content
    - Single vendor transaction processing and business intelligence solution
  - Cons
    - Questionable performance and scalability
    - Difficult to integrate non-SAP data
    - Difficult to customize and extend business content

SAP BI Choice

- 2. Choose a Microsoft solution
  - Pros
    - Leverage SAP BW business content and R/3 integration
    - Flexible free-form reporting on SAP BW
    - Enables integration of non-SAP data
    - Deployment using market leading OLAP server
    - Fexibility, through deployment options
  - Cons
    - Some limitations in different scenarios (see solution scenarios)

Solution Architecture

Microsoft SQL Server 2005 BI solution

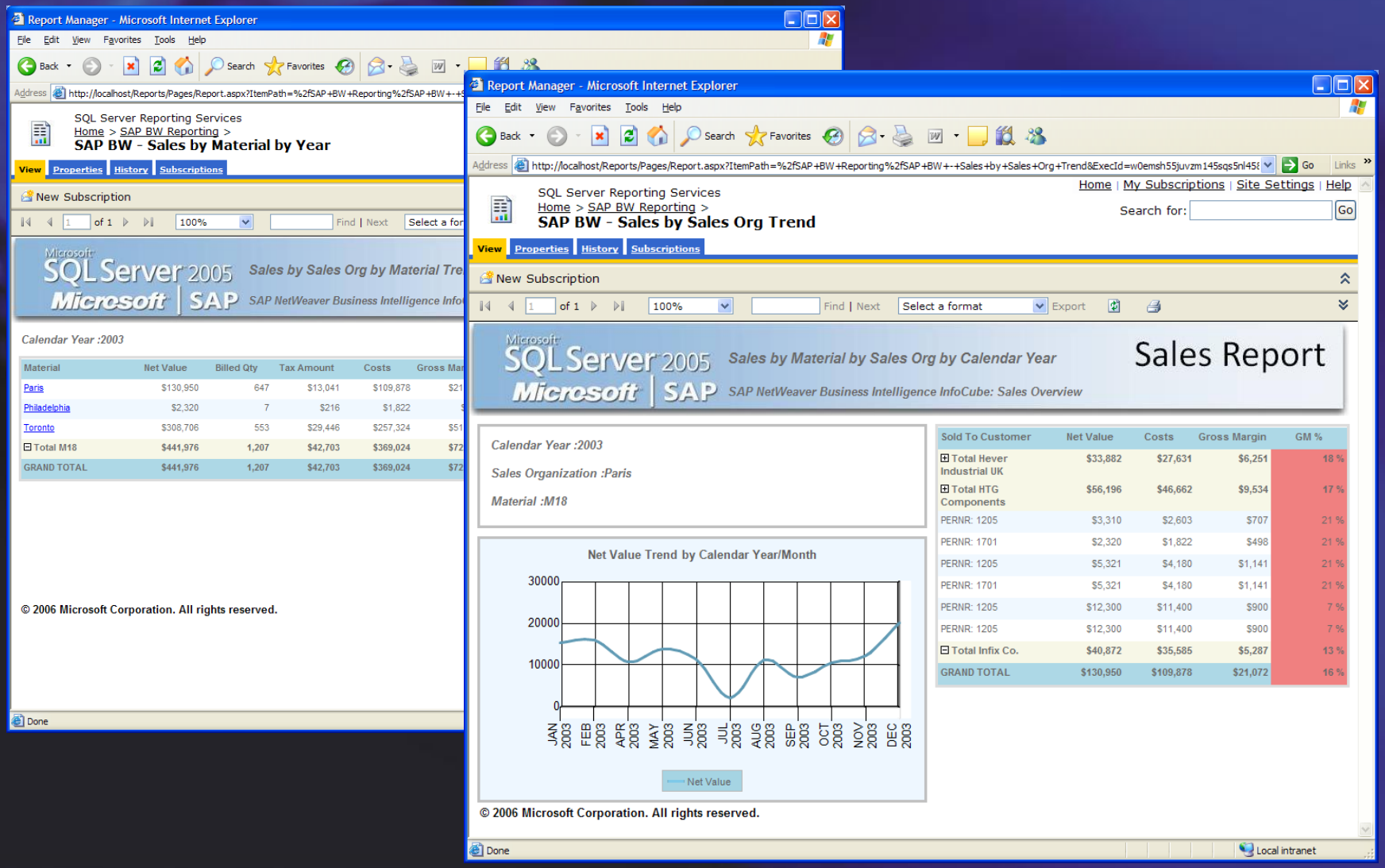


Solution Scenario 1

Embrace BW

- Overview:
  - Reporting Services as a client tool for SAP BW, using Microsoft .Net Provider for SAP NetWeaver Business Intelligence
- Issues addressed:
  - SAP BW reporting
  - Uses SAP security (no additional layer)
- Known issues:
  - Provides support for InfoCubes, QueryCubes and Multiproviders only. ODS objects can be exposed through QueryCubes.

Solution Scenario 1



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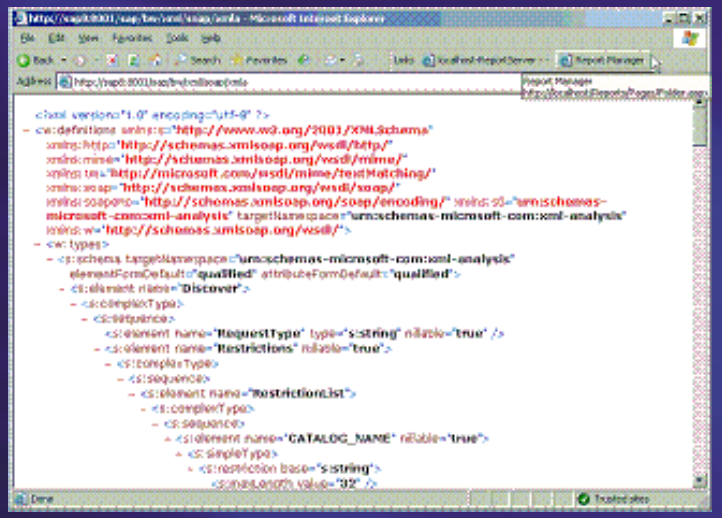
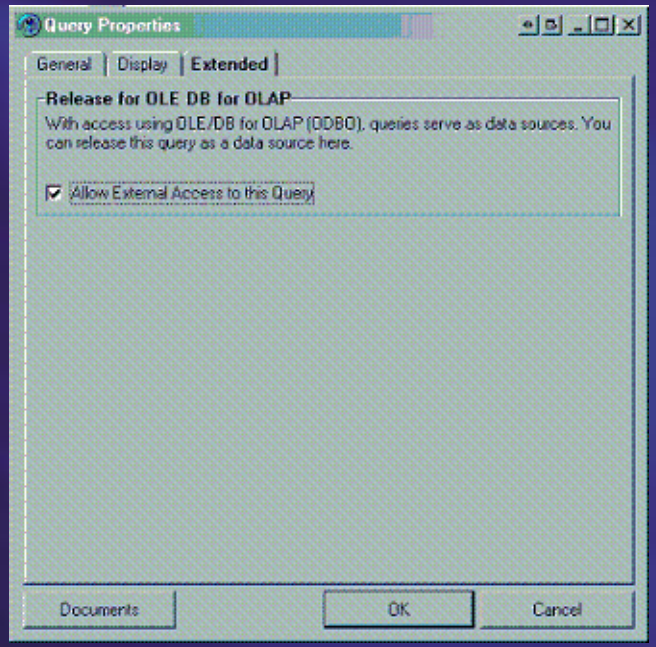
Solution Scenario 1
– Tips and Tricks

- Test the SAP BW XML/A Provider
  - Use Internet Explorer to open the XML/A provider's URL
  - Succes look like…



Solution Scenario 1
– Tips and Tricks

- Enabling a QueryCube for XML/A Access
  - In BEx Query Designer open the Query Properties dialog box and click the Extended tab
  - Select : Allow External Access to this Query



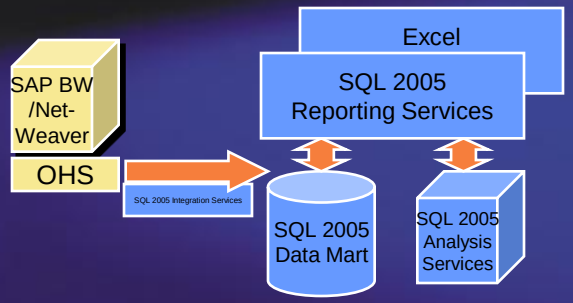
Solution Scenario 1
– Tips and Tricks

- Variables
  - Only in QueryCubes
  - Similar to the parameter feature of Analysis Services 2005
  - Populate Report Parameter Values by creating a new dataset

Solution Scenario 1
– Tips and Tricks

- Properties
  - Additional properties for key figures
    - VALUE (Default)
    - FORMATTED_VALUE
    - FORMAT_STRING
    - BACK_COLOR
    - FORE_COLOR
  - Additional properties for dimensions
    - MEMBER_CAPTION (Default)
    - MEMBER_UNIQUE_NAME
  - Syntax: Fields!*FieldName*.*PropertyName*

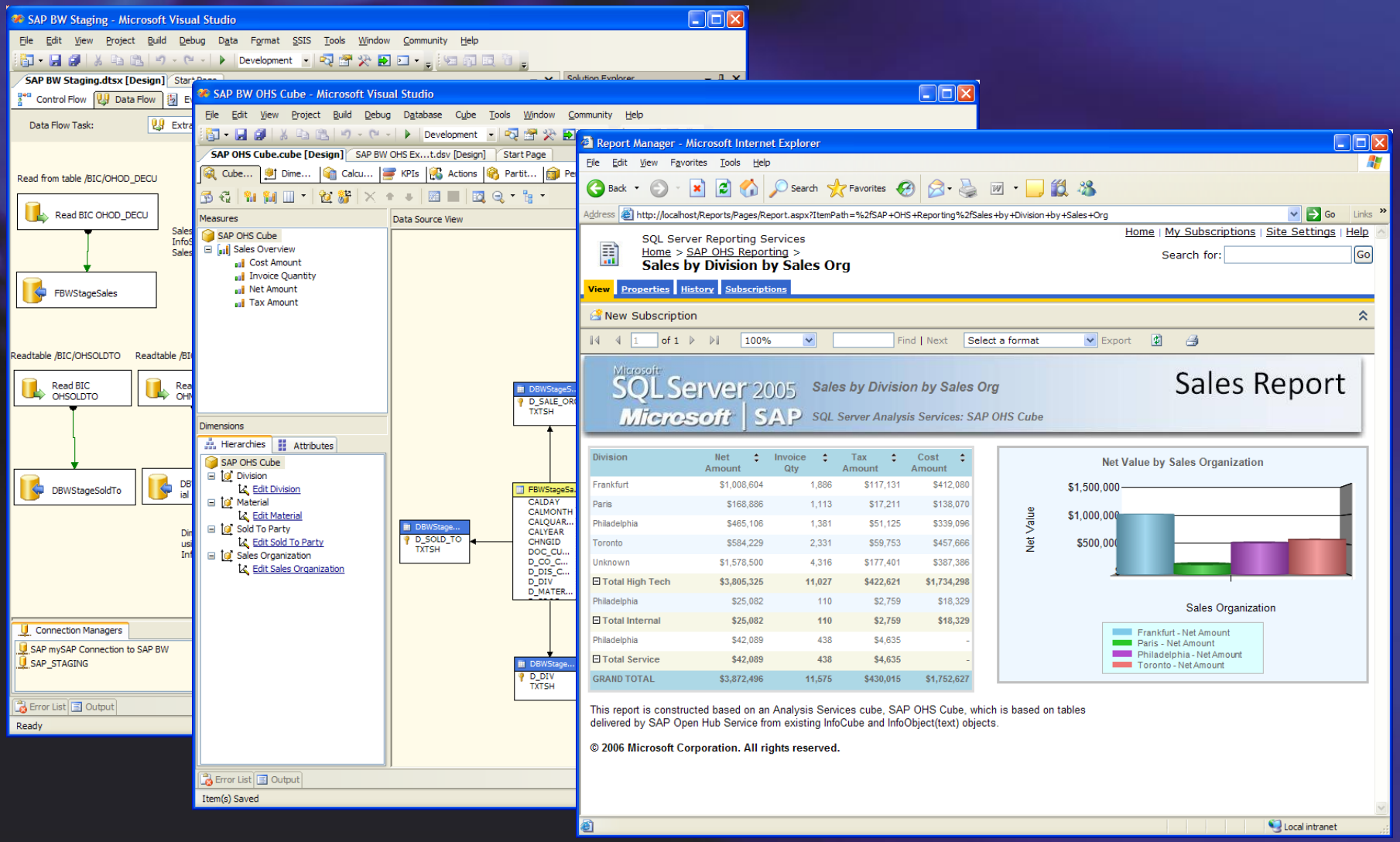
Solution Scenario 2



Use BW but feed data into other EDW

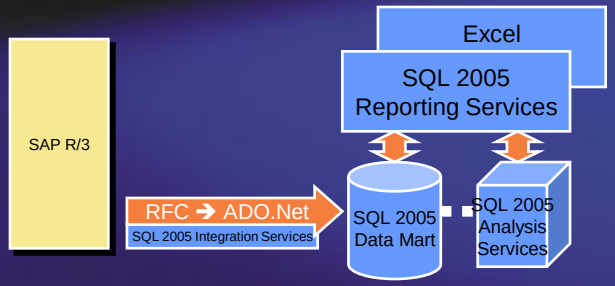
- Overview:
  - Use SAP Open Hub Service (OHS) to extract data into SQL Server 2005, from where Analysis Services and Reporting Services are used for analysis and reporting
- Issues addressed:
  - SAP BW reporting (re-use of business content)
  - Flexibility to incorporate non-SAP data sources
  - MOLAP technology - better performance and scalability
- Known issues:
  - OHS does not support extraction of BW hierarchies; need to use ABAP report
  - SAP security applied only at time of export; need to maintain security in Analysis Services
  - Customer needs to purchase SAP OHS license

Solution scenario 2 - demo



Solution Scenario 3

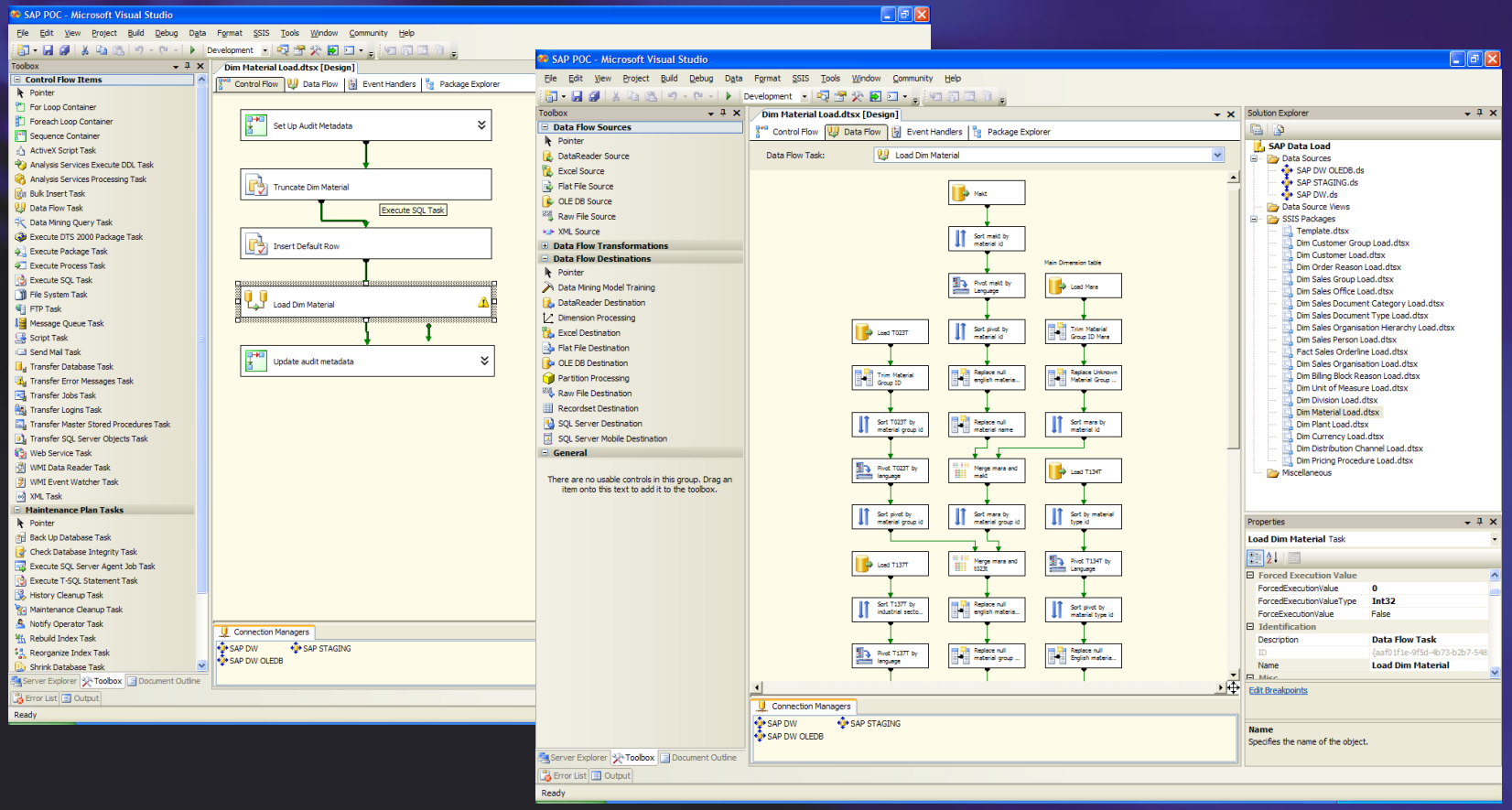
ETL data from transaction DB (SAP)



- Overview:
  - Extraction of data directly from SAP R/3 using Integration Services and the Microsoft .Net Provider for SAP mySAP Business Suite into a SQL Server 2005 data mart, where Analysis Services and Reporting Services are used to deliver an analysis and reporting solution
- Issues addressed:
  - Alternative solution to SAP BW (no SAP BW license required)
  - Flexibility to incorporate non-SAP data sources
  - More productive ETL / Cube development environment
- Known issues:
  - Direct access to SAP R/3 tables is not recommended
  - SAP do not support a “non BW” BI solution
  - No access to SAP BW business content
  - SAP security applied only at time of export; need to maintain security in Analysis Services

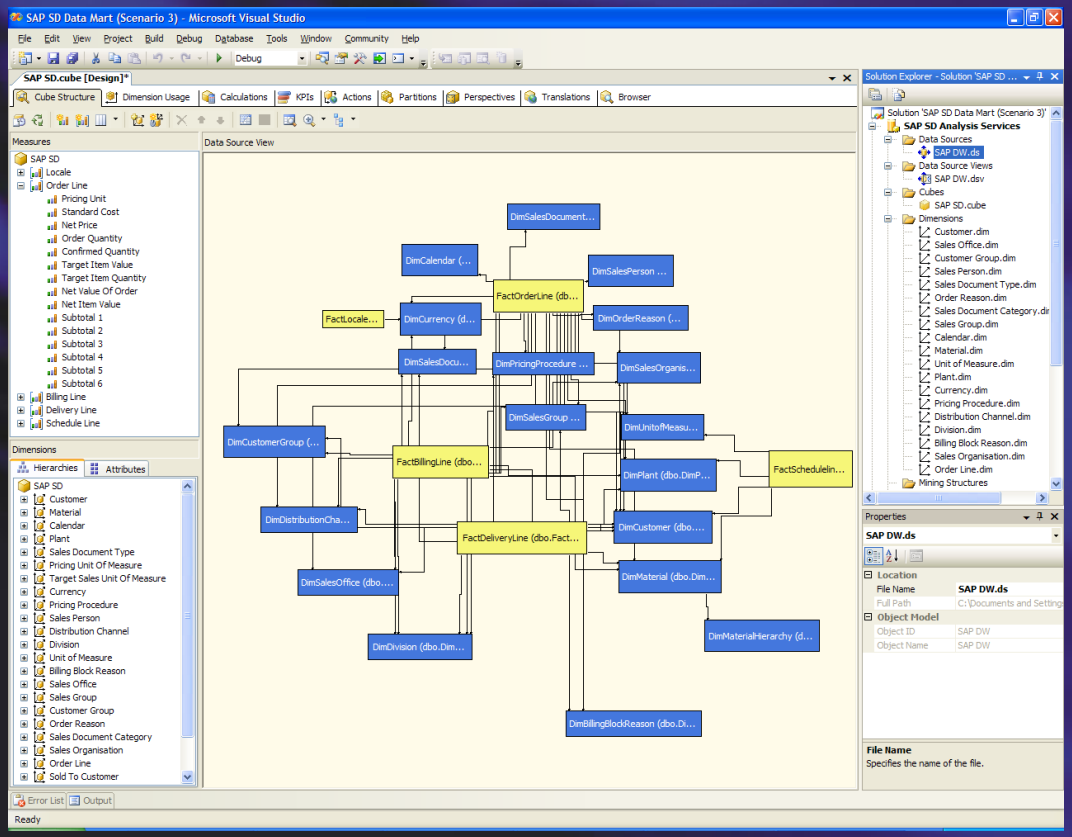
Solution scenario 3

- Integration Services - Extraction, Transformation and Loading



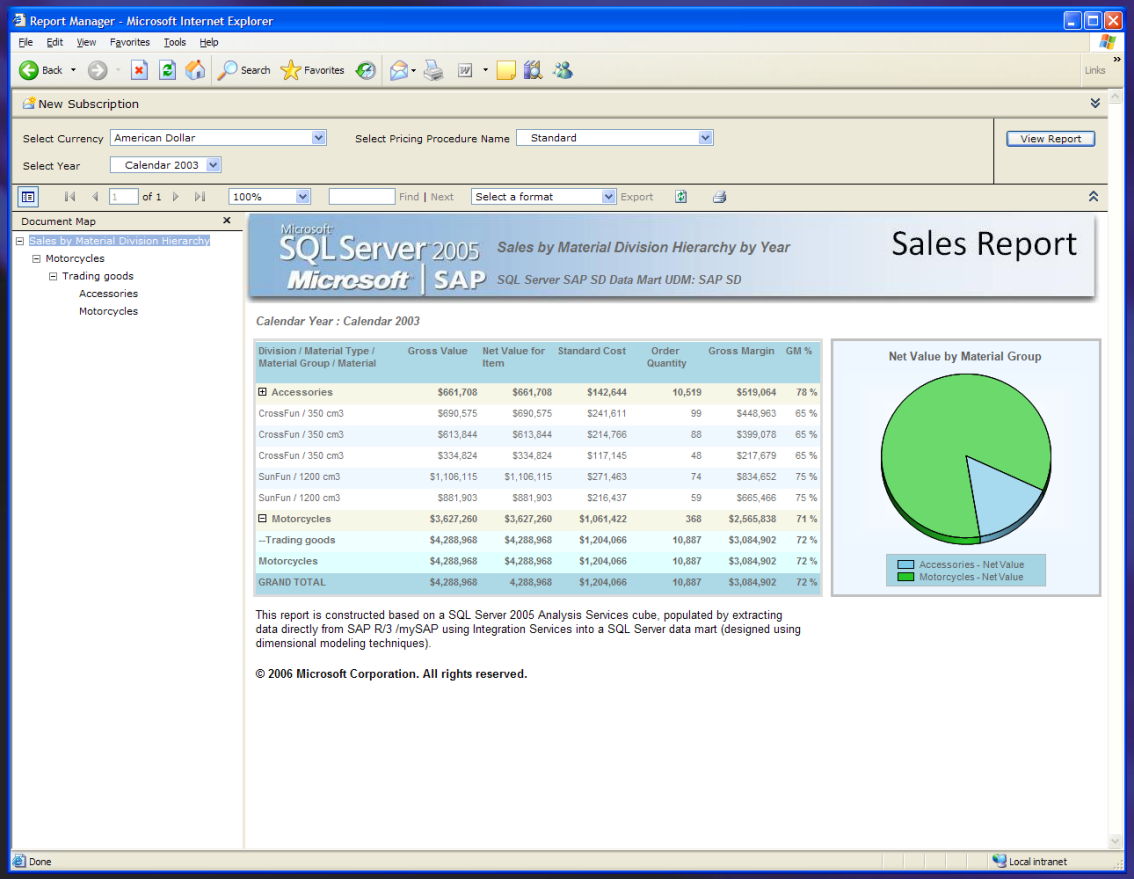
Solution scenario 3

- Analysis Services – Unified Dimensional Model



Solution scenario 3

- Reporting Services – Enterprise Reporting



Solution Summary

- Flexible deployment options based on customer requirements
- Any customer may implement all scenarios
- Microsoft extends the SAP NetWeaver platform by following
  - Greater reporting flexibility and features
  - MOLAP technology - better performance and scalability
  - Multi-language support
  - More productive ETL / Cube development environment
  - Better integration with .Net development environment and other Microsoft products (e.g. SharePoint, PerformancePoint Server)