



"Double-Take Share gives us many advantages as a company, allowing us to make decisions quickly with shared, real-time data when we need to."

Xavier Majem, IT Manager, Grupo Uriach

Business Profile

Company Name:
Grupo J. Uriach

Headquarters:
Barcelona (Palau de Plegamans),
Spain

Industry:
Pharmaceuticals

Employees:
850

Business Environment:

- One of the leading pharmaceutical companies in the Spanish and European market
- Founded more than 160 years ago
- Launched original medicines in more than 50 countries
- Dedicated to improving health and quality of life

Implementation Team:
Grupo Burke (Spain)

Vision Solutions Products:
Double-Take Share

Critical Issue

Grupo Uriach needed a solution that would enable more than 200 employees to share critical business information in real-time without interrupting important transaction processing.

Results

- Real-time data replication between the main production platform and data warehouse server.
- Immediate employee access and sharing of current business data.
- Ability to make rapid information queries without interrupting the rest of the system.
- Quicker, better-informed business decisions.

Technologies

- Double-Take Share
- IBM® System i™ platform
- Microsoft® SQL platform

Business Challenge

More than 160 years ago Grupo Uriach was founded as a small family-owned company in Barcelona, Spain. Today it is considered one of the most important pharmaceutical companies in the Spanish and European markets with a presence in more than 50 countries.

Every night, Grupo Uriach would download more than 20 gigabytes of important business data from its IBM System i environment to a Microsoft SQL server so it could be accessed by administration, sales and production planning department employees. With only one update every 24 hours, the business data was often outdated, making it difficult to make well-informed business decisions.

According to Xavier Majem, Grupo Uriach's IT Manager, "It was absolutely necessary to improve response time and have all this data in real-time."



Solution

Grupo Uriach employees needed to share critical global business data including accounting entries, manufacturing orders, purchase orders, stock, client and supplier invoices and other information regarding clients, suppliers, articles and manufacturing structures.

Their solution was to use Vision Solution's Double-Take Share, which makes information available to the people who need it, when they need it. It provides real-time, on-demand access to data between any applications, regardless of database format or operating system.

According to Xavier Majem, one of the biggest benefits of Double-Take Share is that users can make rapid information queries without affecting the performance of the System i server. It all happens independently of the transaction system's processing capacity.

"We had been using this process for a while, and we wanted to refine it by adding functionality that we didn't have before, specifically real-time downloads in order to obtain data warehouse information in real-time," said Majem.

There are more than 200 individuals, primarily belonging to the administration, sales and production planning departments, that can now access current business data in real-time thanks to Double-Take Share. It's a dramatic improvement compared to the old system.

"Before we only had one nighttime download, and it was huge," said Majem. "It was a nighttime batch process. But now we have continuous access to treasury, factory production, stock and inventory data in real-time," he said.

With respect to implementation, Grupo Uriach was very pleased with the expertise and professionalism of the company Burke España.

In summary, Majem concludes, "Double-Take Share is a powerful product that works very well for us, and requires little day-to-day attention."



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