



The city of Potsdam uses BI by BOARD to manage and analyze the investments and maintenance measures for its public green and traffic areas

Branch of Industry (or sector)

Public administration: state capital

Scope of application

Investment controlling and planning, performance controlling, data entry, reporting

Pre-system

proDoppik, MS Excel

Technology platform

BOARD

Implementation and consulting

Official partner of BOARD
AIOS Solutions

The state capital of Potsdam (federal state of Brandenburg, Germany) uses a BI platform based on BOARD for investment controlling and planning, budget controlling and for reporting.

Significant time savings and a better overview of available budget resources are just a few of the benefits resulting from the introduction of BI.

About Potsdam

Potsdam is not only the state capital. With 153,000 citizens in 56 districts it is also the most heavily populated city in the province of

Brandenburg. Potsdam is well known as former residential city of Prussia with its numerous unique castles and parks.

The administrative department for Potsdam's public green and traffic areas (parks and traffic areas commission) is responsible for the city's largest investment budget of around 15 million euro per year. In addition to the construction and maintenance of the transport infrastructure, the responsibility of the department includes the maintenance of green areas, parks, playgrounds, cemeteries and road traffic facilities.

The Challenge

A centralized solution for managing investment and maintenance measures

The project's target was to create a platform for the management of all investment and maintenance measures for the department of public green and traffic areas. Prior to the introduction of BOARD, there was no central software solution for these tasks. Thus, the monitoring of the individual investment measures was in some cases done manually i.e. on paper by the responsible employees.

A prompt survey of all measures and hence of the use of the above-mentioned budgetary resources could only be made with great difficulty. Now, all measures are centrally recorded in a database and managed as well as analyzed with BOARD.

The BOARD Solution

Customized and workflow driven BI solution for public administration

AIOS Solutions, a long-standing BOARD implementation partner, created several workflow-controlled input areas in BOARD, such as for:

- Planning of investment measures according to costs and public specifics, such as budget, budgetary surplus, excess / unscheduled expenditures, spending freeze
- Planning of public contracts according to the contract period, project manager, company, type of public procurement, product, account, investment measures, supplements, etc.

- Recording of invoice data according to reason for designated use/reference, order, due date, etc.
- Forecast of additional costs per investment measure.

In addition, an interface to the financial accounting software H&H was set up to import individual bookings into BOARD. Planning data can now be integrated and compared with the detailed current data from the accounting system in a timely manner.



The department staff can now quickly and comfortably keep track of the available budgetary resources and, if necessary, can use the available funds more efficiently. For this purpose, several standard reports, consisting of tables and graphical elements, were implemented in BOARD. Those enable the user to carry out dynamic analyses for example according to responsibilities, products, accounts or "Deckungskreis" (a term used in German public

administration to describe a budget item reallocation pool – accounts with joint coverage allowing transfer of budget items in among them in case of excess in one of them).

The management of the investment measures will be designed more efficiently in BOARD, as in particular the additional or supplementary volumes of individual orders should be considered particularly critically.

The different types of commissioning in public procurement, in particular the free awarding of contracts (i.e. orders are commissioned without an invitation to tender), can be quickly and clearly analyzed and evaluated thanks to BOARD. By recording all orders in BOARD, the complex statistics for the Court of Auditors (General Accounting Office) or the procurement committee can be created on demand at any time.

Furthermore, the new system allows the evaluation of the designated use of orders, for example to evaluate the total amount of all measures such as for road restorations or for the redesign of playgrounds.

Project control is carried out directly in BOARD for all measures. Among other things, the status of a measure currently in progress can be determined at a glance such as planning, tendering, execution, acceptance stage or within warranty time for instance.

The city of Potsdam plans to implement BOARD also in other areas of its administration.

The Customer Benefits

Dedicated BI platform brings time saving & gain in analytical ability

In the past, all measures were managed by the individual divisions in a decentralized manner using MS Excel.

Evaluations of all data were only possible with huge manual efforts.

A platform for recording and managing all measures was implemented using BOARD. This enables the department to take more time for analyzing the data and to work on its actual tasks.

A further advantage is that with BOARD an extendible platform was introduced, with which the city can also handle the controlling of finance, allocation and participation.

"For the first time, we are now able to evaluate all projects at the touch of a button by using BOARD. Surplus or deficits of projects are recognized at an early stage. As a result, budgetary resources can be used more efficiently in the future."

Thomas Schenke, Head of Administration and Finance Management Division, State Capital of Potsdam