
Industry: Insurance

Solution: XDM

Initial Situation

The customer is a large insurance company with more than 5000 employees at over 150 locations. They use several DBMS (e.g. Oracle, MS SQL and Db2/IMS), which process more than 10 petabytes of data. The customer's applications are self-developed solutions. A total of 200 employees are affected by the provision of test data and are divided into 3 different areas. Two of these are divided into 7 teams. The aim of the customer was to set up test environments for each of the teams during the night. This process should select 1000 contracts from the source environment containing 80.000 contracts. In addition, it should be possible for the employees to place their respective test data orders by 5pm. The test environment should then be set up overnight and the data should be available to the employees at 7am. For these reasons the insurance company was looking for a solution that would replace their in-house tool.

Approach

The related data had to be taken from 600 different tables. The generation and embedding of the data takes place in 28 recipient tables and currently takes 20 minutes.

During the implementation of the TDM suite, it was found that many developer groups wanted to access the same data in the target environment and therefore often got in each others way.

In addition, a change in the test data management procedures was required. Due to the introduction of agile development, existing processes also had to be newly implemented. This resulted in a total of 300 tables in Db2 and 180 tables in Oracle. Another challenge was the exact selection of the test data. The selection ran through several source databases and required the RIs to be defined.

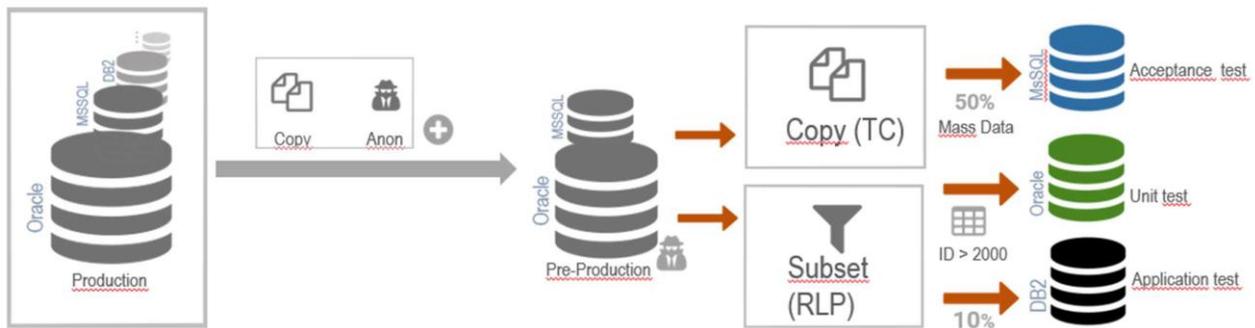
By implementing the TDM suite, 500 data records are now selected from different areas and made available in the target environment. The Data Shop (Web Portal) provided by UBS Hainer enables testers and developers to request test data independently. There is a limit of 50 test cases per developer. If this limit is exceeded the execution is postponed until the night or rejected immediately.

A total of approximately 40 different tasks were stored in the TDM Suite, which can be executed by the user.

The automated provision of test data also greatly reduces the customers personnel costs. Furthermore, the TDM Suite also includes the anonymisation of large databases by accessing certain modification rules. The anonymisation takes place during the copy process. This affects, for example, the surname, first name, address, account number, telephone number, etc.

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In order to get an overview of the provisioning processes the suite also provides reports on the test data management procedures, which the customer archives.

In addition the customer uses a process at the beginning that „freezes“ the data and structure. This is in case an application fails in a later step. With this procedure the user can store different versions and access them if necessary.

Within the company there are currently 3 people responsible for test data provision (e.g. setting up tasks and administration).

By using the TDM Suite from UBS Hainer, the insurance company replaced their in-house tool.

Outlook

In the future they would like that manual test data in the form csv files can be added to selected contracts. This should simplify how to edit and create manual test data. This is implemented by setting up the Data Shop. It is also planned to use the available REST API to integrate XDM into the existing processes.