



TDWI ONSITE EDUCATION

INDUSTRY:

Banking

COURSES:

TDWI Dimensional Data Modeling Primer (one day, offered twice) Advanced Dimensional Modeling: Techniques for Practitioners (two days)

CHALLENGES:

Develop BI roadmap. Build needed skill sets outside of Center of Excellence

KEYS TO SUCCESS:

Bring together business and technical personnel to develop a shared understanding of BI processes. Establish consistent technical capabilities both inside and outside of the center of excellence.

OUTCOMES:

Built a shared understanding of best practices among business and technical personnel. Established technical skills among team members distributed through company.

A European bank made a significant investment in a BI software platform and created a BI center of excellence to oversee the delivery of resulting solutions. As the group was small, most of the implementation work would be carried out by resources from various business areas. The team needed to develop a plan for solution delivery and build technical skills among resources that were not part of their department.

As part of their strategy, the team chose TDWI Onsite courses that addressed the perspective of two distinct audiences. The first course focused on the process of gathering requirements and was directed toward representatives of the various business areas. This course helped people across the business understand how to express business needs and provided insight into the subsequent development process.

The second course was geared toward technical personnel representing various business areas. This advanced course addressed the underlying information architecture, emphasizing how it unfolds from business requirements and how it impacts the development process in a technical sense. It delivered comprehensive coverage of star schema design—going beyond the fundamental principles of dimensional design—and offered an extended set of techniques to address real-world complexity and dimensional intricacy.

The TDWI program successfully met the original objective of building technical competencies across business areas, aided by the common vocabulary and understanding of best practices developed through shared experience. The courses had the added benefit of bringing together business and technical personnel and helping them better understand each other's perspective on the overall process. In addition, when the course instructor returned for further consulting to help teams develop BI roadmaps, the time spent was all the more valuable thanks to the shared foundation built by the coursework.