My attempt at this is to provide what a CEO is really going to be looking at when evaluating solutions, which is cost. Most companies just want to get it done for the most reasonable price and at the same time provide stability and scalability with business demands.

The two different types of Business Intelligence Systems that I picked are SQL Server 2008 R2 and Oracle Business Intelligence Enterprise Edition 11g. Both are great software, but Oracle will always be much better for large corporations and SQL Server will always be better for a smaller corporation.

Oracle has a cost of $295,000.00 according to this (Oracle, 2009). Getting it running right from the start due to coding implementation for programs does cost a lot, but it doesn’t have any year-to-year cost other than hiring employees to run Oracle software. Oracle also doesn’t make you pay per person for software to implement code and for the database itself. Many think that it will cost more to get Oracle software running than it will to buy SQL Server for BI and implement a system for it.

Secondly, according to Microsoft, a SQL Server datacenter package according to (Microsoft, 2009) cost $54,990.00 for the license and $13,748.00 for their software assurance. However to code many other programs you will also have to use other software that only they provide which will cost approximately $3500 per user. A software license must be assigned to a certain person. So a setup free for SQL Server Datacenter would be a minimum price of $72,238.00 in software alone. This would be great for a small corporation, but if it’s a large corporation and you have 50 people in a it department that needs the software that is $175,000. That doesn’t seem to cheep verses free software forever. If the company grows and you have Microsoft that means the cost grows.

With Oracle it’s a onetime price. Many programmers will tell you that you really can’t compare Oracle with SQL Server, because they are on two very different levels. In my opinion Oracle out shines SQL server. In this I compared practical prices for a large company verses a small company. Where I work we have 137 licenses of SQL Server studio enterprise edition so 50 which I explained above is very practical for any company and the price of $3500.00 is also in the link that I referenced in the cited area. My recommendation for every large corporation is to go with Oracle software for practical pricing issues.

References

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