

## Bring Frigo simplifies their Budget Process with Solver

**Bring Frigo** is a global leader in special logistics solutions for transportation and warehouse management, with more than 2,000 employees worldwide and over \$1 billion in revenues. Despite their industry leadership, their budgeting process was time-consuming, complicated, and prone to user mistakes and formula errors.

**INDUSTRY**

Logistics

**ERP**

Microsoft Dynamics NAV

“We have received a lot of positive feedback from our personnel – in particular, the controllers. Today they have a totally different level of control, and can stay updated on the status of the budget throughout the entire process. We have a business with high expectations, and Solver has fulfilled them all.”

–Fredrik Lundgren, VP of Finance Analysis

### THE CHALLENGE

Each country and business area maintained their own budget models in locally managed Excel spreadsheets. While they had the same structure, each had individual differences in background data and statistical calculations. These files were then sent to a corporate budget manager who had to gather, link, and consolidate everything into a global budget. The process came with major risks for errors and mistakes as files were shipped between different locations and people. Any change to the budget model had to be incorporated into every spreadsheet since each country and location had their own version.



### THE SOLUTION

In 2010, Bring Frigo decided to acquire a new budgeting solution. They had three main requirements: an Excel user interface to ensure everyone could work in a familiar environment, the ability to reuse valuable logic from old budget models, and complete version control to eliminate the macros and complexities that led to their high-risk environment.

“We couldn’t require the same level of budgeting skills from local business managers as we do from our central finance department. Therefore, it had to be simple and easy to use,” says Fredrik Lundgren.

Bring Frigo selected Solver in 2011 and worked with partner DecidoKompetensor, who they already trusted from their Microsoft Dynamics NAV implementation. The Excel-based interface was a key strength, allowing all data entry to take place in Excel while securely saving everything to a central Solver SQL Server database.



“When I heard that Bring Frigo was looking for a new budgeting system, I quickly established that Solver would be the right solution,” says Marcus Claesson, DecidoKompetensor’s account manager. “With Solver, there was a strong synergy between the preexisting work with NAV as well as all the research and labor that Bring Frigo had put into their manual Excel models over the years.”

## THE RESULTS

Bring Frigo’s budget process has become simpler, more secure, and more time efficient. “In the past, I had to start the budget preparation before the summer for the next year’s budgets to get everything ready. With Solver this process has been shortened significantly,” says Pia Huhta.



The company has saved considerable time both at corporate and local business units. Instead of countless hours consolidating all 50 budget models to finalize financial statements, Solver streamlines everything with the push of a button. Controllers now have a totally different level of control and can stay updated on budget status throughout the entire process. Before the most recent budget process, Bring Frigo worked with DecidoKompetensor to make additional improvements to their Solver model, including automated integration to payroll and production systems, central input of budget variables, and global assumptions to enable cost controls related to inflation, price, and salary increases.

## SUMMARY

Solver was initially implemented in 2011 in the Swedish-run division. The success led to expansion from one company to five companies in four countries. Bring Frigo plans to further expand its use of Solver to include forecasting throughout its worldwide group of companies.

The implementation has transformed a fragmented, error-prone process into a streamlined, centralized system that gives the organization confidence in their budgets and significantly reduces preparation time. The familiar Excel interface combined with powerful centralized control has made Solver a solution that meets the high expectations of this global logistics leader.

