

The Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission Selected InetSoft's BI Tool to Analyze and Report on Massive Amounts of Data



Summary

The Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSFMC) PIT Tag Information System (PTAGIS) project is funded by the electrical rate payers in the Pacific Northwest, as part of the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Fish and Wildlife Program. In this system, a Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tag is injected into each fish with the latest in Radio Frequency Identification technology. A PIT-tagged fish is uniquely identified and then monitored throughout its entire lifecycle as it migrates to and from the Pacific Ocean back to its original spawning grounds.

PTAGIS monitors fish migrations through the Federal Columbia River Power System and provides valuable research information to help ensure the restoration of declining salmon and steelhead populations. During their migration, a variety of monitoring devices, stationary and hand-held, record large volumes of data which are automatically uploaded to the PTAGIS database every three hours.

The Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission researched several reporting options before evaluating and selecting InetSoft's Style Report™ Enterprise Edition software. Style Report's 100% Java and open-standards platform easily interfaced with the broad range of platforms used by the Commission and provided the user-friendly web-based interface needed for rapid report development.

Problem/Challenge

Formed by Congress more than 50 years ago, the PSMFC's primary goal is to promote and support policies and actions to conserve, develop, and manage fishery resources in California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Alaska. They accomplish this through coordinating research activities, monitoring fishing activities, and facilitating a wide variety of projects, working to collect data and maintain databases on salmon, steelhead and other marine fish for fishery managers and the fishing industry. The Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), a government contractor, won the RFP to manage and implement the PTAGIS web-based reporting project for PSMFC.

There were many challenges on this project, but a primary consideration was how PSMFC reports were to be accessed, delivered and used across their disparate user base. Users access PTAGIS from remote locations and a wide variety of platforms including Windows PC, Apple Macintosh, Sun Solaris, Linux and others. SAIC evaluated several commercial reporting solutions from large name vendors, but selected InetSoft Style Report™ Enterprise Edition software because of its flexibility, extensibility, and ease-of-use.

Solution/Requirement

PTAGIS uses an Open Source Ingres enterprise database which supports Java connectivity; making integration with InetSoft's Java-based BI software seamless. Because of Style Report's zero-client, web-based interface, the solution did not require any additional software to be loaded on users' computers, and because of its click & select, drag & drop user interface, the system is proving to be extremely intuitive for to their wide variety of users.

The ad-hoc User Interface is also particularly easy to use, and allows users to quickly and easily build and customize queries and send reports from any browser. Not only can users more rapidly build the reports they need, but they are able to deliver reports in a wide variety of formats including Microsoft Excel, Adobe PDF, and CSV. The visualization capabilities are also very important to PSMFC. Users can now visually monitor trend data in a variety of graph or chart types, and drill down to the details as needed.

Customer Value

Through Style Report's easy-to-use, zero-client web-based reporting platform, InetSoft delivers a considerable advantage for the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission. PTAGIS users can now log in to their data collection systems to access vital information or run reports, whether in their office or in the field. They can monitor migration and other trends in near real-time using at-a-glance graphical summary charts, and drill down to the actual source data as needed. The results are:

- PTAGIS users save time and enhance their results by exporting reports (in formats that include Microsoft Excel and Adobe PDF), saving them to their laptop, emailing to other fisheries, or printing hard copies to support their research in the field.
- Style Report software has allowed PTAGIS to attain user efficiencies through a standardized user interface, while providing customized information access and rapid report creation for high-level efficiency-focused data.
- PSMFC has improved response efficiencies using charts and graphs to monitor historical or near real-time data to detect migration trends, tagging inconsistencies, and fish health anomalies -- with drill down to specific species, hatcheries, dates and times.

For more information on InetSoft's Style Report software, please visit www.inetsoft.com.