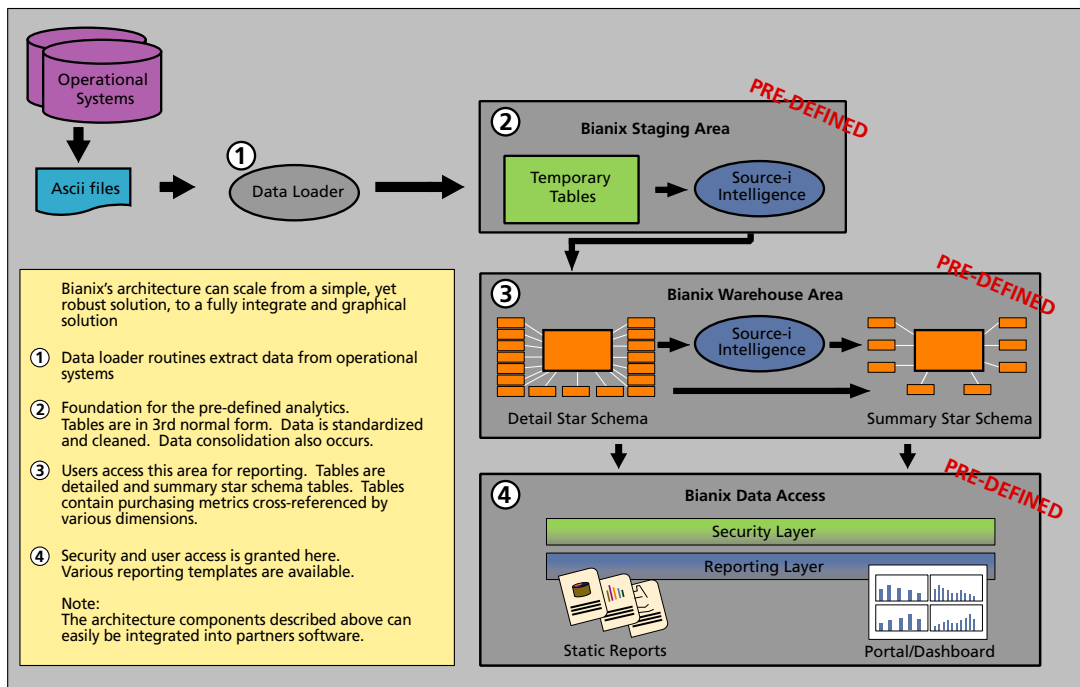


Architecture for Source-i (Procurement Analysis)

Bianix's Source-i architecture seamlessly integrates, with minimal implementation, into various operational systems while at the same time not replacing nor interfering with them.



1 Data loader routines are responsible for collecting daily transactional data from various operational systems. The collection intervals, or delta loads are specific to the customers' requirements and extract data accordingly. The data is extracted from a wide range of operational systems; from Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP), Supply Chain Management (SCM), legacy systems and others. Understanding the table structures in Bianix's data staging area makes the extraction exercise much simpler.

2 The data staging area acts as the entry point to the pre-defined analytics driven out of the solution. This area is separate to the customer's operational system and does not interfere with the daily operations of the organization. This area contains table structures in 3rd normal form with data from the customer's operational systems. This data, for the most part is standardized, and cleaned in this area. In some cases it can be simple cleaning of data while in other cases it may involve consolidating data from a series of operational systems.

3 The warehouse area is where the users perform their reporting and analysis. These tables contain purchasing metrics and industry benchmarks that are cross-referenced with various dimensions. The table structures are modeled using the latest dimension modeling techniques (i.e. conformed dimensions, summary tables) that provide fast and easy access to the information from a number of different access tools. Bianix has a set of detailed tables (star schema) for operational reporting and a set of summary tables (star schema) for aggregated calculations. The data is separated between the set of tables dependent on key performance indicators and business metrics.

4 Bianix's data access area is comprised of a security layer and a pre-defined reporting layer. Security is a major concern for Bianix and addressed thoroughly through many layers of architecture - from the database level through to the reporting layer. The reporting layer allows the customer to assign user profiles for data access - thereby only given the user what they need. The reporting templates provided with the solution are those common to procurement and inventory departments and even specific to the customer's vertical.

Please note: each component described above can be integrated into an end-to-end technology solution provided through Bianix's partner software. Lastly, Bianix's solution is even database agnostic - from Oracle and SQL Server to Informix and others. The above architecture is bundled into database schemas and is easily transferable across database platforms.

Optimizing Every Link In The Supply Chain

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