# NTT DATA

Relies on **ER/Studio**® for database collaboration and design quality

# Overview

NTT DATA Corporation is a leading IT services provider and global innovation partner headquartered in Tokyo, with business operations in over 40 countries. Its services range from systems development and consulting to outsourcing. For some time, NTT DATA has been using ER/Studio as the preferred tool for TERASOLUNA, its open systems development strategy/environment.

**NTT DATA**

# Challenge

As a development project progresses through different phases, demands for database design tools change, explains Mr. Kenji Tanabe, Manager, Center for Applied Software Engineering, NTT DATA Corporation. "At the peak of a large development project, multiple team members will split up the database design to work, increasing the number of licenses required. However, the number of people actually using the database design tool at any given time during the development project is quite small. Flexibility is key in responding to such fluctuating demand,"

Licenses are typically used for about half a year. Unused licenses are collected and used at other sites. In cases where license packages are purchased for each site, each department has to submit its own purchase applications, conclude a license agreement, and await delivery before the site can begin using the product, Mr. Tanabe explains. "Then, after the project ends, it is often the case that the departments do not effectively use the product anymore."

Quality in database design is critical, he adds. "You need to be especially careful about the quality of modeling and design processes. If the business logic changes, the database design needs to be redone. This is where the potential for mistakes crops up if you proceed with manual procedures. We wanted to make more effective use of the tools we had."

## CHALLENGES

- Ensuring quality of design processes

- Inconsistent license requirements

- Lack of flexibility

## APPLICATIONS

- Systems development

## TOOLS USED

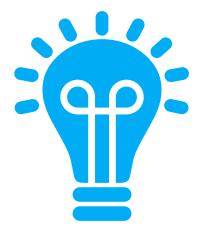- ER/Studio comprehensive group license agreement

# Solution

In 2010 NTT DATA opted to sign a comprehensive license agreement for 1,000 licenses of the ER/Studio database design tool to deploy with its group companies. At the same time, it also implemented a dedicated server to manage the licenses over a network, making the tool available to group company development sites when and where needed.

Part of the reason for NTT DATA's decision to go ahead with this large scale implementation of ER/Studio is its emphasis on promoting innovation in systems development. ER/Studio is regarded as the preferred tool for TERASOLUNA, the comprehensive solution used by NTT DATA for open systems development. TERASOLUNA integrates development processes, development environments (frameworks, development support tools), and support. Within this solution, work analysis and processes related to the creation of data models are especially important.

"We have a lot of experience using ER/Studio at NTT DATA, and our development sites expressed strong interest in continuing to use it," Mr. Tanabe. "We did an in-house study to determine the scale of use and concluded we'd need 1,000 licenses."

The comprehensive license agreement allows the company to pool access to licenses so development sites can download ER/Studio to their own development sites when and where needed, without having to worry about purchasing applications and other procedures.

"This has helped promote use of ER/Studio throughout the group," Mr. Tanabe says. "ER/Studio is also used as a practice tool in data modeling training run by NTT DATA for group company employees."

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– Mr. Kenji Tanabe, Manager, Center for Applied Software Engineering, NTT DATA Corporation

# Results

In addition to the workstation license and designated user license restricted for use by the purchaser alone, IDERA offers network licenses for license management servers. Implementing this system with NTT DATA has made ER/Studio available on demand. "In short, it made it possible to address development site needs immediately," Mr. Tanabe says.

After implementing network-managed licenses, startup was accelerated, he adds. "We can make ER/Studio available for use the same day."

In the future Mr. Tanabe hopes to expand the use of ER/Studio with all of NTT DATA's group companies. "I want them to know more about it."

Some projects do not have budgets to purchase database design tools, so continue to make do with Excel spreadsheet software macros as a way to generate database definitions, he explains. "Leveraging a dedicated tool like ER/Studio improves both database design quality and the reliability of database operations. And it makes it easy to share design work among multiple team members. I really hope we can all take full advantage of this tool."

"Database administrators (DBAs) are few and far between," he adds. "I hope promoting use of this tool will improve productivity and quality."

## RESULTS

- On-demand availability at development sites

- Flexible, scalable response to meet the requirements of each development project phase

- Ability to share design work with multiple team members

- Accelerated startup for new projects