

The View from Above: Transforming Synergy's Business Warehousing with Sierra Digital



A Sierra Digital Case Study on how they transformed a utility leader's Business Warehousing strategy and why the right assessment partner changes everything.

When Western Australia's energy provider Synergy needed to strategically transform their Business Warehousing (BW) environment, they partnered with Sierra Digital—an SAP preferred partner. What followed wasn't just a technical evaluation; it was a strategic roadmap that transformed Synergy's approach to business intelligence and data warehousing.

By leveraging Sierra Digital's specialized assessment methodology, Synergy gained unprecedented clarity on their path to SAP Datasphere, positioning them for enhanced analytics capabilities and operational efficiency in their essential utility operations with:

Sierra Digital's SAP-endorsed assessment methodology that provided strategic clarity for Synergy's Business Warehousing transformation The critical partnership between SAP and Sierra that delivered unique advantages to clients

The visualization approach that transformed technical complexity into actionable business intelligence

The most valuable business transformations don't just modernize technology—they unlock strategic insights that drive operational excellence.

Meet the Customer: The Utility Giant at a Crossroads

Synergy isn't just any energy company—it's the backbone of Western Australia's power infrastructure, with a yearly revenue of \$3.5 billion, responsible for keeping the lights on for over a million customers across the region. For this critical utility provider, Business Warehousing isn't just about data storage—it's the foundation for operational intelligence that ensures reliable service delivery.

But like many established utility organizations, Synergy had reached a strategic inflection point with their SAP Business Warehousing environment:



Their substantial 3-5TB SAP BW 7.5 system required significant maintenance resources



Multiple platforms including BW on HANA and Azure created data management challenges



Native HANA modeling alongside a HANA sidecar approach added complexity



Strategic uncertainty about migrating to SAP Datasphere hampered digital transformation

As Michael Liebreich, Advisory Board Chairman at Bloomberg New Energy Finance, puts it:

"Utilities need to reinvent how they serve customers. There are emerging technologies to support a grid business construct centered on a new service proposition for energy customers. We sit and we wait for a miracle. No, a miracle is an opportunity and a miracle requires hard work."

For Synergy's leadership, the Business Warehousing modernization question wasn't just technical it was strategic. How could they transform their data environment to enhance decision-making while ensuring continuous operational excellence?

The Strategic Assessment: BW to Datasphere Migration Path

This is where Sierra Digital's approach departed radically from conventional consulting. Rather than starting with generic recommendations, Sierra deployed their specialized InFocus SAP Datasphere Readiness Assessment—a methodology co-developed with SAP specifically for Business Warehousing modernization.

Why this approach was revolutionary:

SAP-Endorsed Assessment

Sierra Digital applied their proprietary assessment tool that SAP has officially promoted for mass adoption of the RISE program, providing Synergy with insights based on best practices across the SAP ecosystem.

Business Data Cloud (BDC) Capability Alignment

The assessment specifically evaluated how SAP's Business Data Cloud capabilities could be leveraged to transform Synergy's BW environment without disrupting critical utility operations.

Business Warehousing Optimization

Sierra's methodology identified opportunities to streamline Synergy's complex BW landscape, highlighting paths to consolidation and enhanced analytics capabilities.

Strategic Visualization

Sierra Digital transformed abstract BW object relationships into intuitive visual formats that clearly illustrated migration complexities and dependencies.

For Synergy's leadership team, this approach delivered something precious: clarity in the face of complexity and confidence to move forward with transformation.

From Assessment to Implementation: The Business Impact

Sierra's engagement with Synergy delivered tangible business outcomes through a multi-faceted approach:



Executive-Level Clarity

A readout session to translate technical BW assessment findings into business-focused insights, enabling leadership to understand the strategic business implications of their Datasphere migration.



Visual Intelligence Through SAP Analytics Cloud

A custom dashboard in SAP Analytics Cloud transformed complex assessment data into intuitive visualizations, making migration impacts clear to all stakeholders.



Comprehensive Migration Documentation

The detailed report provided both strategic direction and practical implementation guidance, creating a blueprint for Business Warehousing transformation.

Most importantly, Sierra's assessment created the foundation for successful implementation by providing:

- Clear business-driven prioritization strategy that focused resources on high-value components
- Comprehensive risk mitigation approach to ensure continuous service delivery throughout migration
- Detailed implementation timeline designed to minimize operational disruption for Synergy's customers
- A seamless handoff to implementation partner TCS, maintaining business continuity

The result: Synergy moved confidently from assessment to implementation with a comprehensive understanding of their Business Warehousing transformation journey to SAP Datasphere, avoiding business operation disruptions.

Results That Speak Volumes

The impact of Sierra Digital's engagement transcended typical consulting outcomes:

From Paralysis to Action

What had been an overwhelming maze of technology decisions became a clear, prioritized roadmap with specific business outcomes attached to each initiative.

Resource Optimization

Clear visibility into high-value systems allowed Synergy to focus investments where they would deliver the greatest business impact rather than spreading resources too thin.

Risk Transformed to Opportunity

By identifying potential challenges before implementation began, Synergy could proactively address issues, turning potential risks into opportunities for process improvement.

Implementation Acceleration

Armed with Sierra Digital's strategic assessment, Synergy successfully engaged TCS as their implementation partner with complete confidence in their transformation direction.

Most importantly, Synergy moved from assessment to implementation with something precious: the certainty that their technology transformation would deliver measurable business results.

The Big Picture for **Business Leaders**

The Synergy case reveals critical insights for any organization seeking to maximize returns on technology investments:



Assessment Brilliance Pays Dividends

Organizations that invest in strategic assessment before implementation consistently achieve faster results with fewer disruptions and higher ROI.

Visualization Unlocks Understanding

Translating complex technology relationships into visual formats dramatically accelerates decision-making and alignment across the organization.

Partner Selection Is Destiny

Sierra's unique position as SAP's preferred assessment partner provided insights and capabilities that transformed Synergy's approach to modernization.

Business Focus Delivers Results

By maintaining relentless focus on business outcomes rather than technology features, Sierra's approach ensured that every recommendation tied directly to operational improvement.

Information Unification Creates Power

Creating a single source of truth across previously disconnected systems unlocks hidden value through improved decision-making and operational efficiency.

Transform Your Business Information Strategy

Is your organization struggling to extract full value from your heterogeneous applications? Sierra Digital's automated and proprietary assessment approach can provide the clarity and direction needed to transform information from a cost center into a strategic asset.

As SAP CEO Christian Klein emphasizes: "Together, we can reinvent how industries run by connecting intelligent enterprises into an industry-wide business network."

Sierra Digital's preferred partnership with SAP makes this vision achievable for organizations like yours.



Next Steps

Click to join our upcoming Thought Leadership Roundtable

The ROI of Data Transformation: Beyond Technical Migration Strategic Advantage in the Digital Economy

June 12th, 11:30am Central Time

Don't Just Migrate Your Data – Transform Your Business

Request Your Priority Assessment: Experience a hands-on workshop where Sierra's experts demonstrate how our assessment reveals hidden value in your current environment.

Download Our Whitepaper: Access our detailed guide on The Cost of Delaying Data Modernization for the Intelligent Enterprise.

Connect with us! Contact Sierra Digital today to discuss which option best fits your organization's transformation goals.

https://sierradigitalinc.com/contact/call +1 713-747-9693

Why Sierra Digital's Approach Changes Everything

What separates Sierra Digital from typical technology consultants is their unique combination of business insight and SAP expertise:

Deep Energy Sector Knowledge: Headquartered in Houston, Sierra Digital has cultivated extensive experience with major energy companies, bringing industry-specific insights to utility clients like Synergy.

Preferred SAP Partnership: As SAP's preferred partner for data assessment and a member of the SAP AppHaus Network, Sierra brings capabilities other consultants simply cannot access. As Senthil Kumar, Chairman & CEO of Sierra Digital explains: "At Sierra, our goal is to simplify, extend, and enhance SAP technology as a means of optimizing its value."

Real-World Expertise Beyond Buzzwords: Sierra brings proven expertise in Fit-to-Standard, Clean Core, BTP-driven integration, federated data (BDC), and Gen AI (Joule, Agent Framework, Predictive Analytics)—delivering solutions that work in the real world, not just in demos.

Proprietary Assessment Tools: Sierra has developed proprietary assessment methodologies for both code and data—tools that SAP has officially promoted for mass adoption of the RISE program, making Sierra uniquely qualified to guide complex Business Warehousing transformations.

For Synergy, this combination of capabilities transformed a potential technology headache into a strategic business advantage.

About Sierra Digital

Sierra Digital connects enterprise users to revolutionary technologies that simplify, enhance, and extend business value without the time, cost, or risk of traditional development cycles. With major development centers on four continents, Sierra is SAP's preferred partner for data assessment, providing quick business advantages through their SAP-certified methodology. The company has successfully delivered transformative solutions across utilities, oil & gas, chemicals, manufacturing, retail, and public sector organizations worldwide.

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