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Data warehouse

Definition

A data warehouse is a central data storage for managing structured data.

DMBoK2

Data Warehousing describes the operational extract, cleansing, transformation, con-trol, and load processes that maintain the data in a data warehouse so that it can be used by BI. The data warehousing process focuses on enabling an integrated and his-torical business context on operational data by enforcing business rules and maintain-ing appropriate business data relationships. Also includes processes that interact with Metadata repositories.

DDDM

- An integrated, centralized decision support database and the related soft-ware programs used to collect, cleanse, transform, and store data from a variety of operational sources to support Business Intelligence. A Data Warehouse may also include dependent data marts. (DAMA-DMBOK Guide, 1st edition, pg. 197.)
- A subject oriented, integrated, time variant, and non-volatile collection of summary and detailed historical data used to support the strategic deci-sion-making processes for the corporation. ("What is a Data Ware-house?" W.H. Inmon, Prism, Volume 1, Number 1, 1995)
- A copy of transaction data specifically structured for query and analysis. (Ralph Kimball, The Data Warehouse Toolkit, pg. 310.)

Note

A data warehouse makes it easy to store and manage large amounts of data, and to run complex queries against the data.

Relation

Data warehouse	is child of	data	storage
Data warehouse	has subset	data	mart

Reference

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All, DMBoK2, DDDM

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