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Industry

Financial Services

Profile

Sicredi, comprised of 108 different credit unions, is the biggest credit union in Brazil. As a cooperative system, Sicredi offers financial solutions to increase income and contribute to improving the quality of life of its members and society. Sicredi has more than 5 million associates spread across almost every state of Brazil, who participate in its business decision-making process. Overall, the union has more than \$31 billion in assets and an employee base of more than 30 thousand.



Sicredi Enables Data Democratization and Self-Service with the Denodo Platform

To improve the flow of data throughout the organization, Sicredi consolidated data from disparate, siloed data systems and made a unified data view readily available to data analysts and other data consumers, saving precious time on data preparation and data engineering. In doing so, Sicredi has also enabled data democratization, made data governance a reality, and introduced data self-service.

Business Need

Sicredi, formed by 108 credit unions, has a large number of data systems and platforms that make up the backbone of its IT infrastructure. Each individual credit union, besides wanting to ensure that it was serving unique data needs for informed decision-making, also wanted to improve its time-to-market. Most data needs at Sicredi are fulfilled through dashboards, reports, and offline files, all of which is leveraged by data analysts to generate insights. Due to the siloed nature of these data assets, data analysts have been relying on extract, transform, and load (ETL) processes to consolidate data from different data systems, including a data warehouse, a data lake (on AWS), and several sandboxes, to create local data repositories, which takes a lot of data analyst time and requires additional storage systems. Most of the organization's data was stored in the data warehouse and data lake, which delivered dashboards and reports to business intelligence and analytics applications.

Sicredi needed an integrated data platform that could scale at demand and promote both data democratization and self-service for data and analytics, without the need to replicate data. Sicredi also wanted to implement data governance throughout the organization.

The Solution

Sicredi deployed the Denodo Platform, which uses data virtualization to create a logical data layer that consolidates data from the data warehouse, data lake, flat files (CSV/XLS), web services (internal and external), and other sources. Since the Sicredi data warehouse is located on-premises and contains most of the data, the company decided to implement the Denodo Platform on-premises. This was the first step in the process to create a unified and integrated view of data for users.

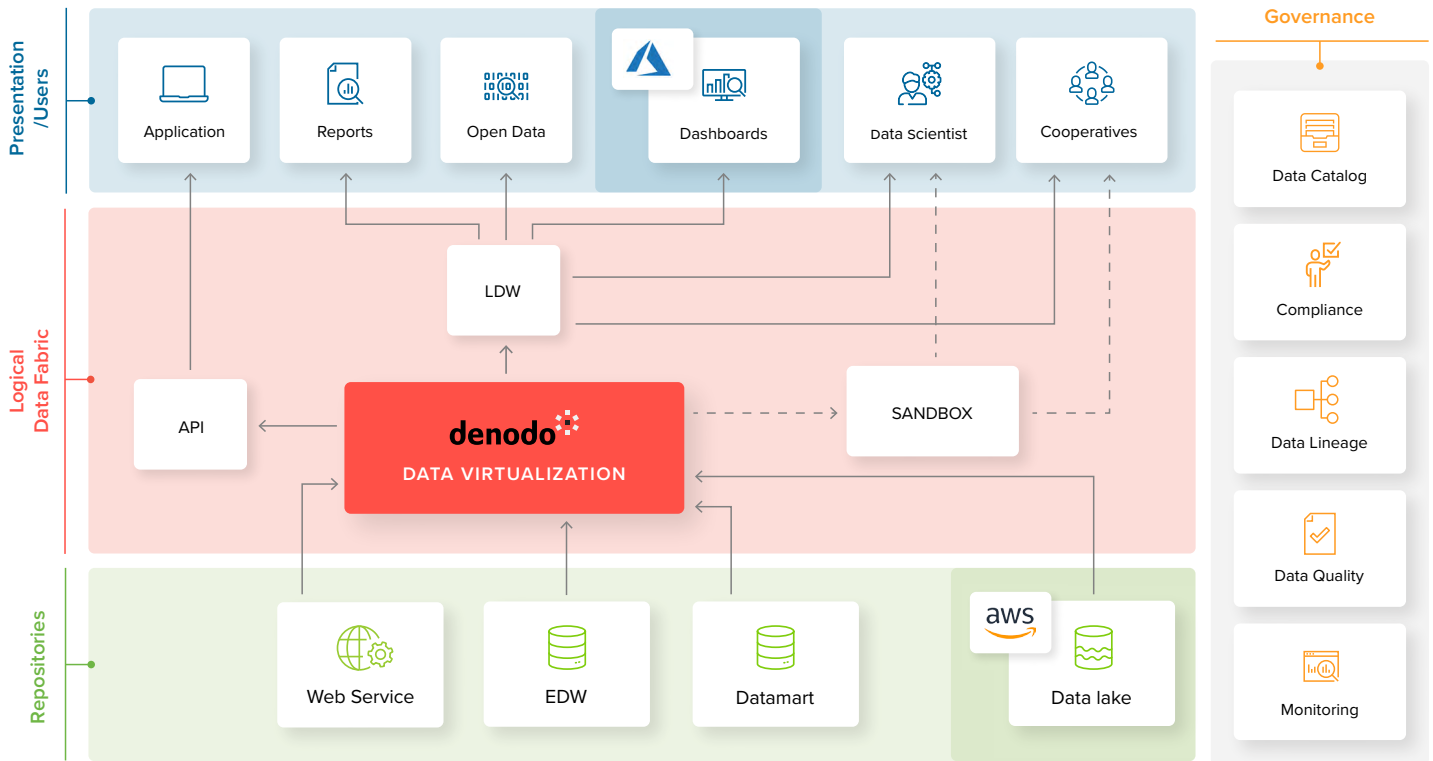
The diagram on the next page shows an overview of the modern data architecture at Sicredi, with the Denodo Platform serving as a logical data fabric (LDF), consolidating data from disparate sources and making it available to consuming applications. In the long run, the LDF is expected to be the main data source for reports and dashboards, as well as for data delivery, through APIs, to several internal and partner applications. Additionally, Sicredi is leveraging the Denodo Platform's data catalog to tag all data with business terms so that users can easily find the relevant data for themselves. The Denodo Platform has been instrumental not only in monitoring, but also in analyzing data traceability through its data lineage features, as well as in creating data-quality validations.



"Sicredi is building a unified view of enterprise data spread across 108 credit unions. The Denodo Platform's logical data layer has enabled faster data delivery, self-service analytics, data governance, and is one of the key enabler for data democratization at Sicredi"

- Aislan Kleemann, Senior Data Architect at Sicredi

Figure1: The Blueprint of Sicredi's modern data architecture, with the Denodo Platform serving as a logical data fabric, consolidating data from disparate sources and making it available to consuming applications. The Denodo Platform is also enabling data governance at Sicredi through its data cataloging, data lineage, and monitoring capabilities.



Benefits:



Faster data delivery: With a logical data fabric (LDF) and a single data source for data consumers, BI teams are delivering data faster, bypassing the resource- and time-intensive ETL processes. The data delivery time is expected to be reduced by around 50-70% within the first year of the implementation of the Denodo Platform, enabling business users to focus their time on data analysis rather than data preparation.



Data democratization: The Denodo Platform's data catalog capabilities for helping users to find, understand, use, and manage relevant data assets, has been critical in realizing the goal of data democratization at Sicredi. The Denodo Platform's extensive out-of-the-box data adapters and support for various APIs and web protocols have enabled users to connect their favorite tools to the LDF with a minimum of effort, including Power BI, Excel, and several Notebooks. The Denodo Platform has also made it possible to build integrations with other internal and partner applications. Currently, Sicredi is testing integrations through the Denodo Platform's API with a few RPA (robotic process automation) applications.



Data governance: Sicredi is centralizing many data governance tasks on the Denodo Platform, including database access management, through which only users with the right privileges can access the platform, ensuring that users only see the data that they are entitled to see. This has become crucial in helping Sicredi to meet the regulatory challenge of Brazil's Lei Geral de Proteção de Dados (LGPD), which is similar to the Global Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

