

Decommissioning of NLS Implementation for SAP BI



Applies to

NLS (SAND), SAP BIW 3.5, SAP NetWeaver 7.0. For more information, visit the [Business Intelligence homepage](#).

Summary

This document talks about decommissioning of NLS implementation for SAP BI.

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Author Bio



Nilesh Ahir has completed his masters in Software System from BITS Pilani. He has total 4+ years of SAP experience. He is currently working with IBM India as SAP NW BI Application consultant. Prior to this he was working with Intel India. He has experience in ABAP, BW3.5 / BI7.0 and Data mining. He has worked on other non-SAP technologies like TIBCO and web services.



Anand has completed his graduation in Mechanical Engineering from RVCE Bangalore. He has total 3+ years of SAP experience. He has been working as SAP NW BI Application consultant for IBM India for last one year. Prior to this he was working with Infosys Bangalore. He has experience in BW3.5 / BI7.0. He has worked on other non-SAP technologies like CAD-CAM. He has sound knowledge and experience in Manufacturing Industry and he has expertise in procurement area.

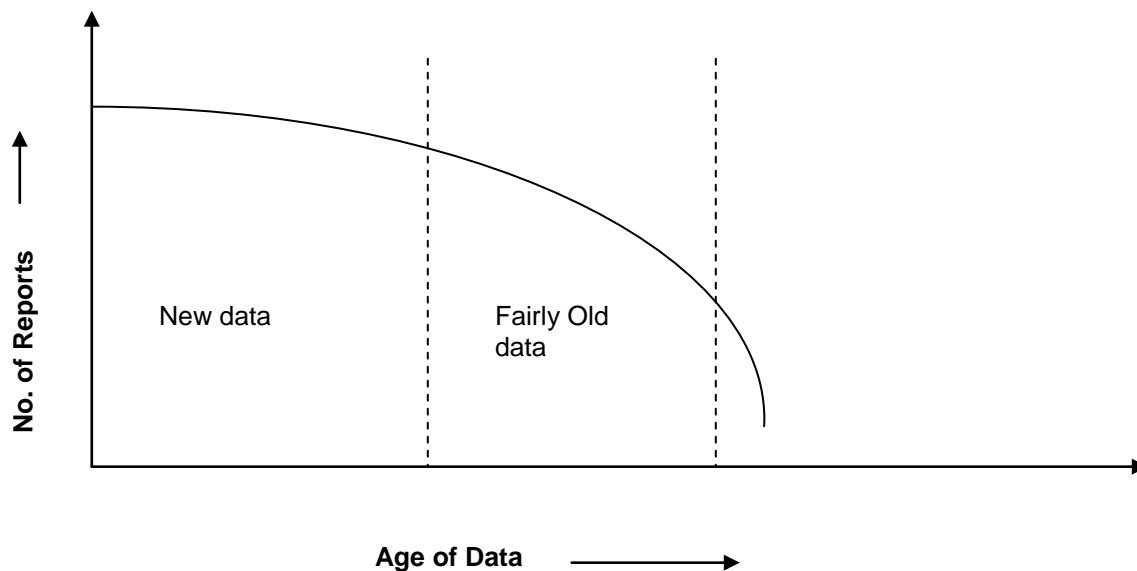
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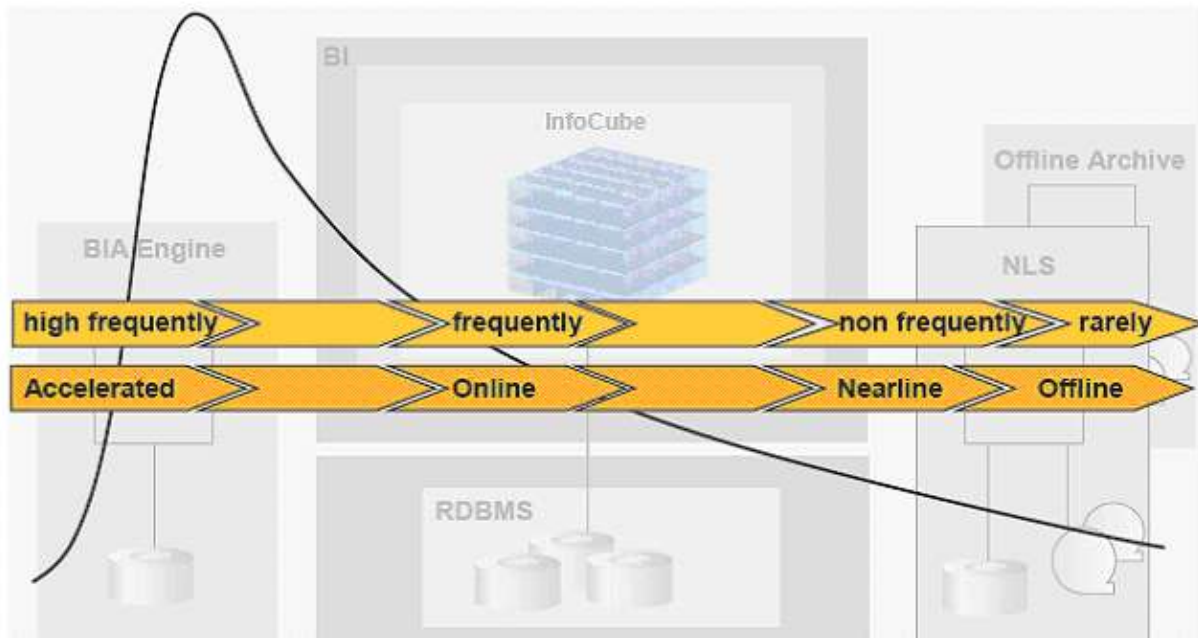
Introduction

NLS stands for Near on-line storage (e.g. SAND). This is used for improving the performance of SAP BW/BI system by archiving the fairly old data. In data warehousing world, we design data warehouse for storing historic data for 5-10 years. But it is found that most of reports uses fairly new data for generating output and number of reports become lesser and lesser as data becomes old. So SAP come up with solution called Archiving. In traditional archiving method, we are purging out the old data from data warehouse into flat files or tapes. When we need this old data, we have to load this again from flat files or tapes into SAP system so that it will be available for reporting.

This method works well for new data and very old data, but not for the fairly old data that is required for reporting but not that frequently. If we keep this fairly old data set in data warehouse, it reduces the performance of system. Also query performance goes down as OLAP processor has to process larger chunk of data resides in data warehouse. If we archive this data in external storage device, then we have to load it back to data warehouse again and again which is time consuming and cumbersome process.



Therefore SAND Technologies and SAP come up with New solution using NLS concept. Here we are archiving fairly old data to SAND system. Thus this will reduce the bottleneck of data warehouse and increase its performance. At the same time, if we required this data for reporting then we do not have to reload this data into data warehouse. SAP provides way to access data resides in data warehouse and SAND system seamlessly and this will be transparent to end user.



Categorizing Information According to Importance:

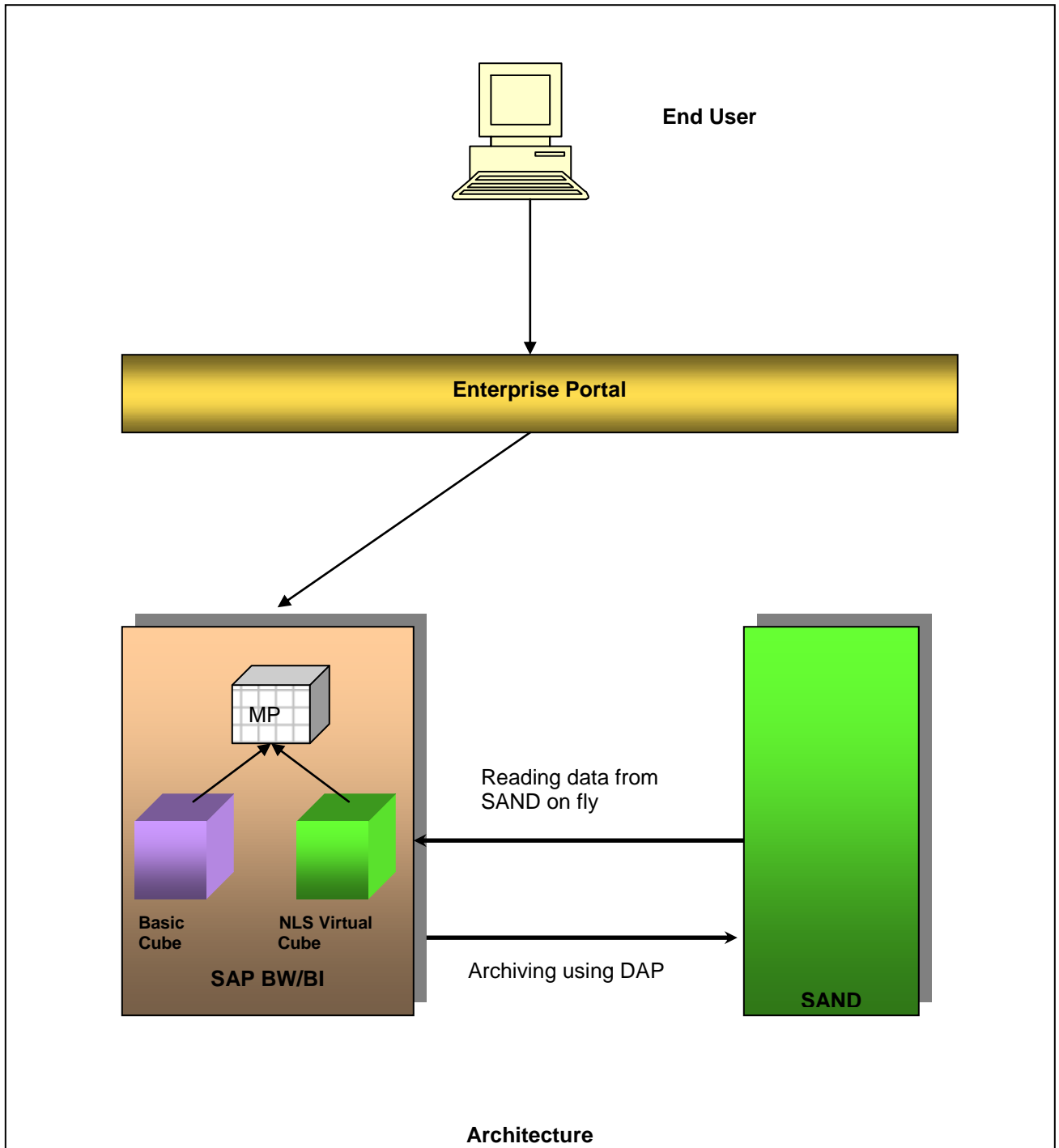
	Online Database	Near-Line Storage	Classic Archive
Frequently read / changed data	✓		
Rarely read data	✓	✓	
Very rarely read data	✓	✓	✓

Decommissioning of NLS implementation for SAP BI

In BW / BI system reports are getting generated from Info providers. Info providers are broadly classified as physical info providers and Logical info providers.

If in your BW/BI architecture, you are generating reports from logical info provider for example Multi provider which is based on physical info providers (basic info cubes and ODS/DSO) for which you have implemented the NLS archiving.

Decommissioning means withdrawing the functionality. You will come across such kind of requirements due to incorrect implementation of NLS for SAP BI, Archiving no more required, performance issues or if it has been implemented where it is not required.



Main Objects used in NLS Archiving and Reporting

As per the architecture, following objects are used for NLS archiving and reporting.

- Multi Provider
- NLS Remote Cubes
- Data Archiving Process Chains
- Data Archiving Profile (DAP)

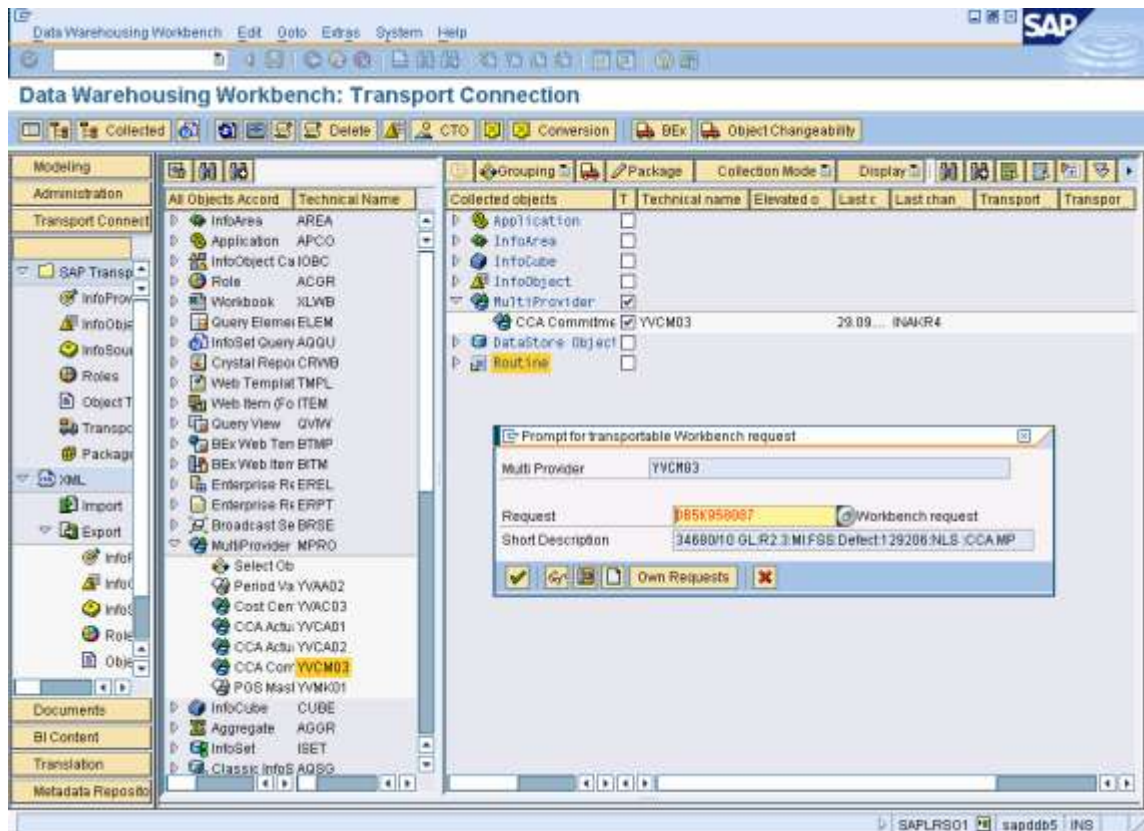
Above objects need to be deleted from system and their deletion image should be captured in change request to decommission the NLS implementation.

For Queries and other reporting objects, should be untouched, as they will still useful for normal reporting i.e. Getting data from only BI system.

Step by Step guide

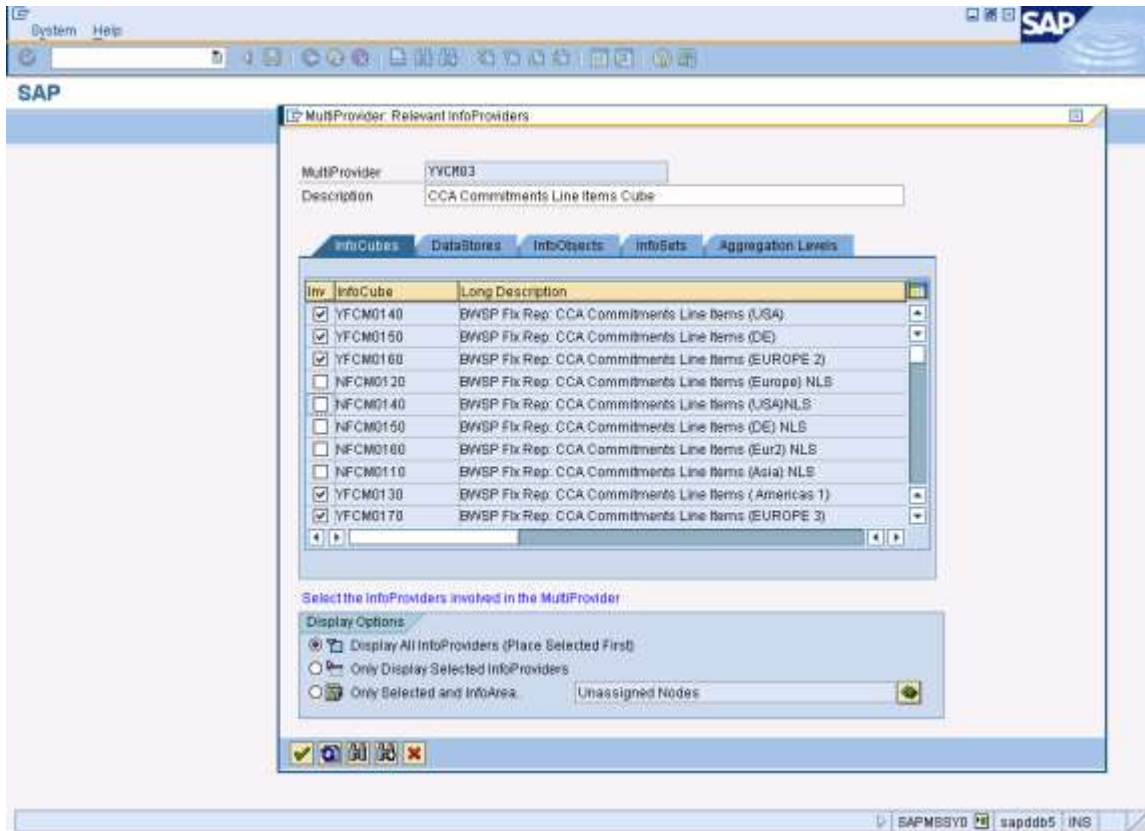
1. Prerequisites for NLS decommissioning

- Check SAP BI - NLS SAND connection – it should be up and running
- Reload entire archived data back to SAP BI from NLS SAND
- Collect the relevant objects before deleting anything



2. Remove NLS Remote cubes from multi provider

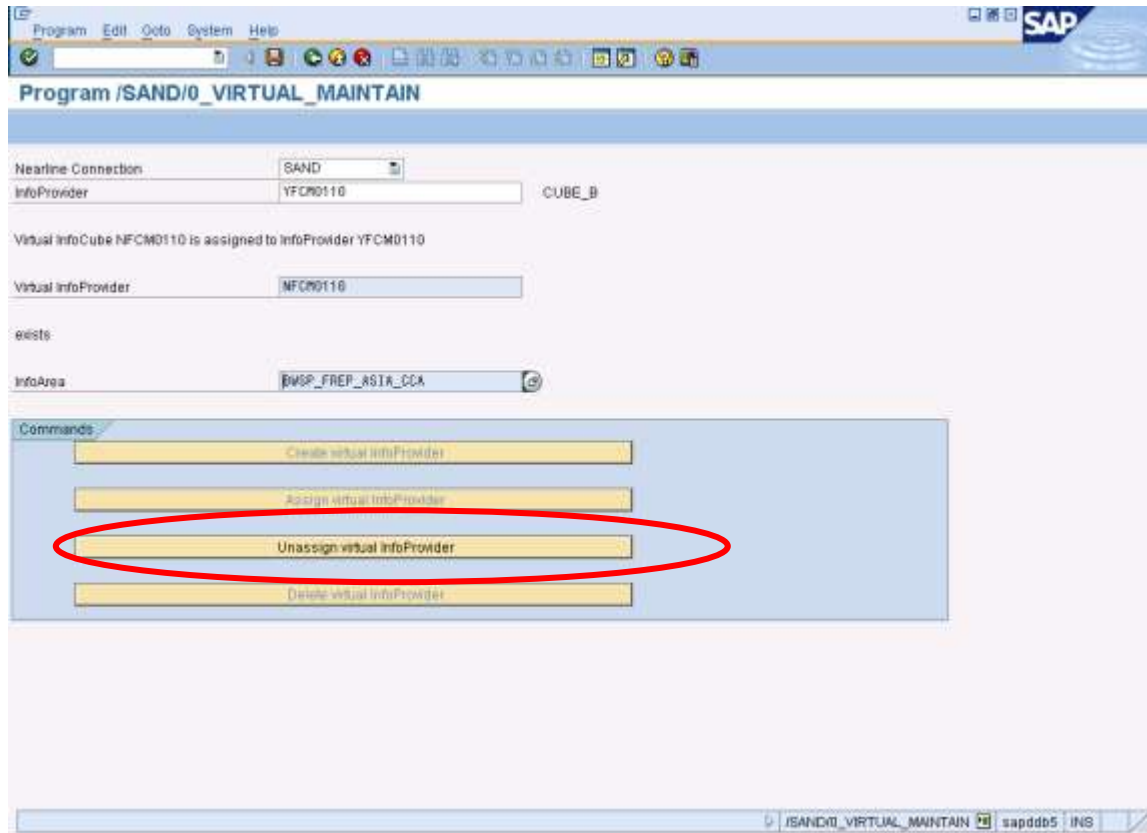
Remove all NLS Remote cubes from multi provider using RSA1 transaction, identification and key figure selection will automatically removed.



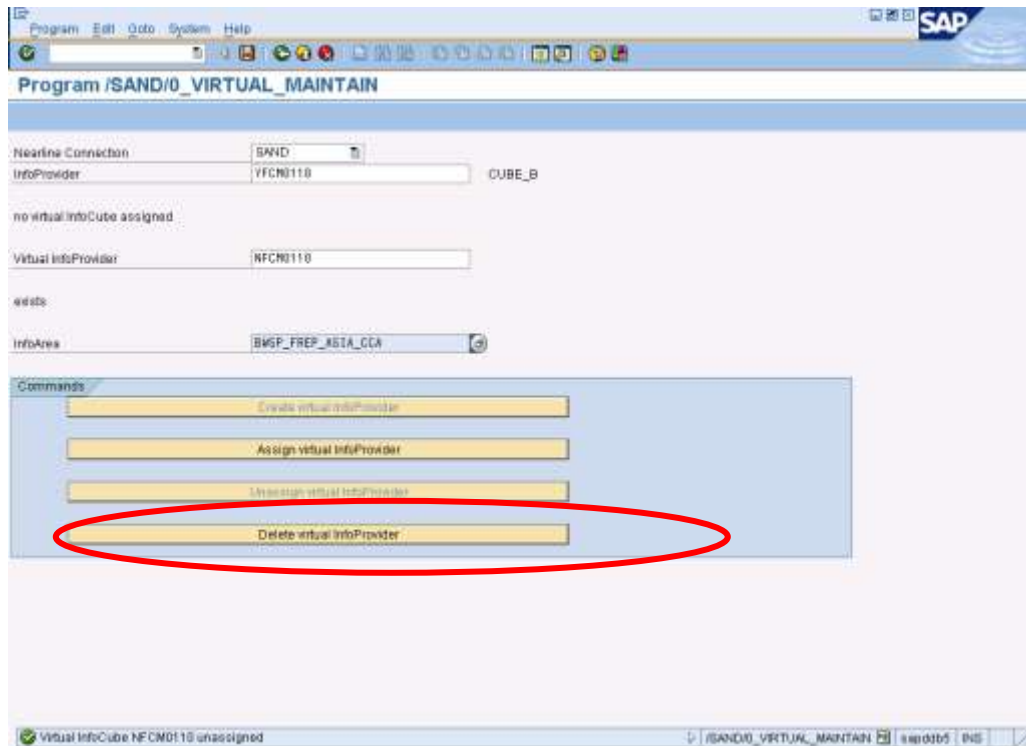
3. Detach NLS remote cubes from corresponding DAP

Use SAP program **"/SAND/0_VIRTUAL_MAINTAIN"** to detach NLS remote cubes from corresponding DAP. It is a two-step process.

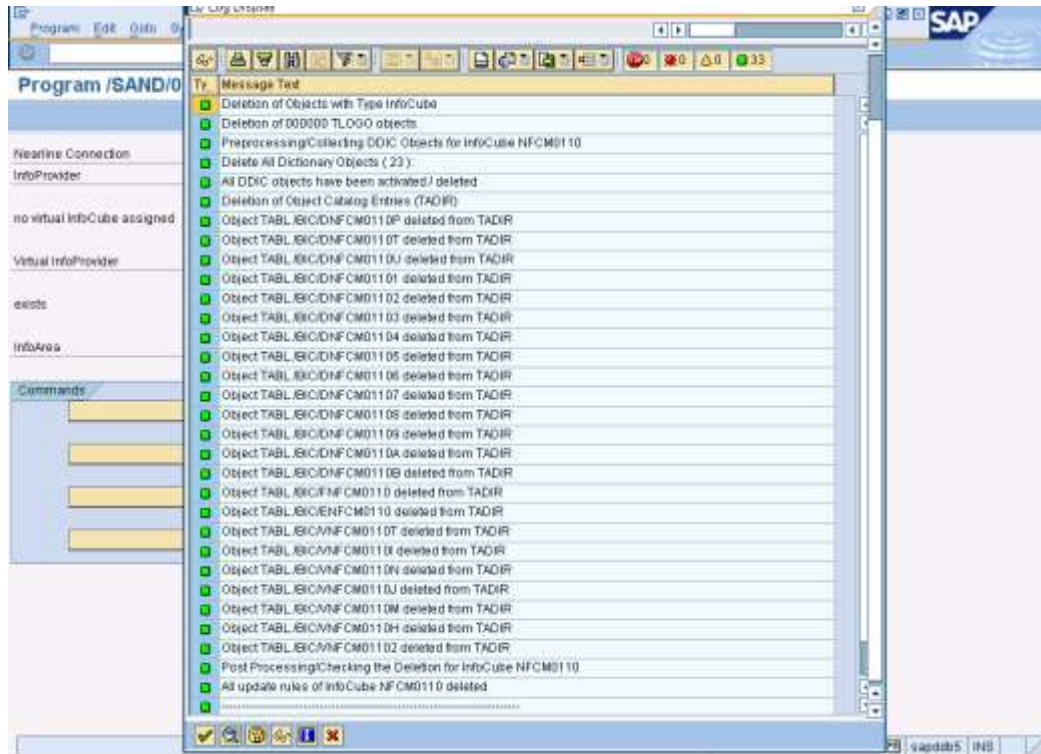
- i. Unassigned NLS virtual info provider



ii. Delete NLS virtual info provider

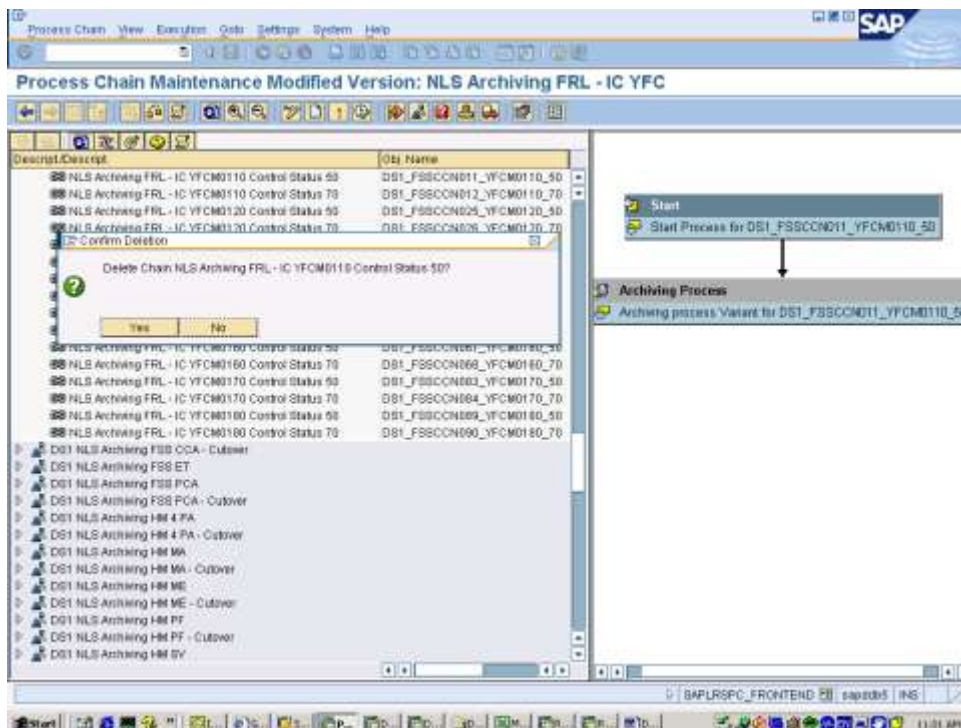


You will get following log on successful deletion of NLS virtual Info provider.

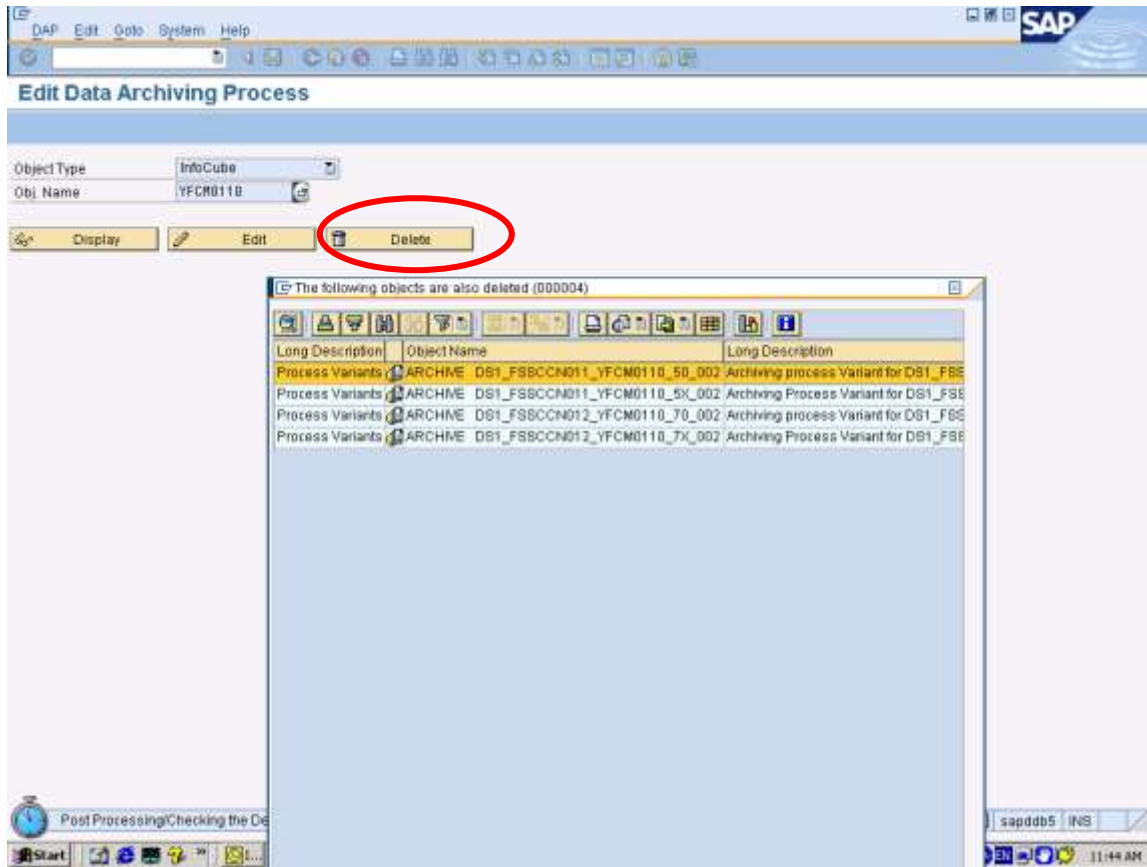


4. Delete process chains

Use transaction RSPC1 and delete the Process chains used for Archiving



You will get following message, select type TRIGGER so that start process type of your process chain to get deleted when deletion of Process chain is going on.



6. Steps to be followed before transports

- i. Check SAP BI - NLS SAND connection – it should be up and running
- ii. Reload entire archived data back.
- iii. Freeze the Archiving process chain for relevant objects / no archiving at the time of Decommissioning.

Related Content

[SAND website](#)

[SAP BI Archiving](#)

[NLS \(SAND\) implementation for SAP BI FAQs](#)

[BI Reporting with NLS \(SAND\)](#)

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