

# IBM Cognos 8 Business Intelligence data integration for SAP R/3

## Extend the Value of your SAP®

IBM Cognos 8 Business Intelligence data integration for SAP R/3 provides a complete solution for accessing, extracting, and transforming SAP R/3 data for your BI environment:

**Streamlined Integration and Delivery**—extract, merge, and deliver all SAP R/3 data and metadata in your working language for use in data warehouses, data marts, and analytic applications.

**Consistent Organizational View**—integrate all of your information for better reporting and analysis across the organization.

**Increased Operational Efficiency**—eliminate the need to generate ABAP to access R/3 data, freeing up valuable IT resources.

**Existing Security**—leverages the SAP R/3 security environment to ensure confidence in extracted data.

### A complete solution

By extending the data integration capability within IBM Cognos 8 BI to the SAP R/3 data source, you can extract SAP R/3 data to consolidate and transform disparate data sources.

This data can then be loaded into an enterprise data warehouse, dimensional data marts, or other delivery structures, extending the data sources available to the Cognos solution. SAP data can be easily integrated for use with IBM Cognos 8 BI and enterprise planning capabilities.

### A solid architecture

Cognos data integration for SAP R/3 provides an open SQL interface for accessing SAP R/3 data by going through the SAP Application Layer. It is the only way to access all of the tables within SAP. SQL code entered into the Cognos data integration platform is interpreted and resolved using pre-built, out-of-the-box ABAP functions. Data extraction, merging, transformation, and dimensional management are optimized to deliver dimensional data warehouses that are ready for business reporting and analysis. Cognos data integration for SAP R/3 delivers dimensional data warehouses from your SAP R/3 applications in the shortest possible time.

### Key components of IBM Cognos 8 BI data integration for SAP R/3

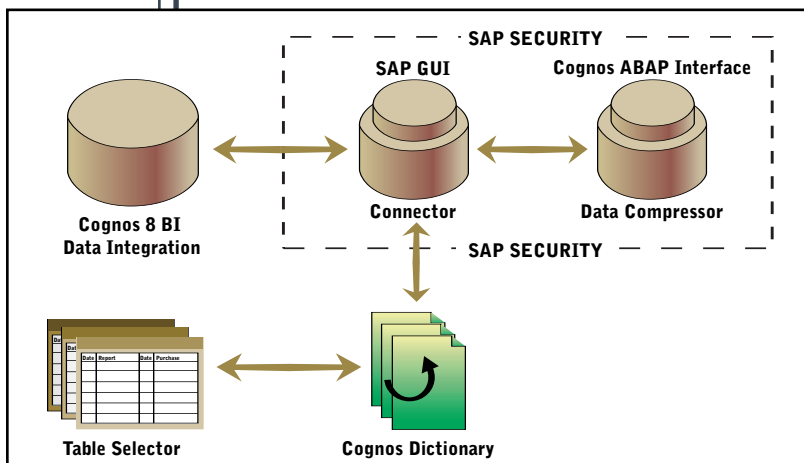
The platform has the following components:

- The IBM Cognos 8 BI data integration for SAP R/3 application.
- A Cognos dictionary and table utility allowing application developers to view R/3 tables and columns with descriptive names in the language of your choice.
- Cognos ABAP Programs that reside on the SAP server.

### Benefits for it

**Access R/3 within a Familiar Environment:** Work within the IBM Cognos 8 BI data integration framework for easy SAP R/3 data extraction.

**Proven solution for Multi-Platform Support:** Data integration for SAP R/3 supports all SAP modules and has been tested against SAP R/3 4.6 and 4.7. It also supports a range of platforms including Windows NT, HP-UX, AIX, and Solaris.



**Support for Unicode:** IT can interact with data and metadata that contains multiple, simultaneous locales so global organizations can integrate SAP R/3 data from all locations. Non-Unicode environments are also supported for organizations that are migrating their SAP R/3 applications.

**Easy to Use, Maintain, and Install:** Starting data integration for SAP R/3 only requires simple SQL coding. You don't need complex scripts or ABAP expertise to access rule-based SAP data. With few components, it is easy to install and run.

**Fast Extraction:** Universal data access (UDA) determines table joins for three different SAP table types—transparent, pool, and cluster—and then pushes them to the database. The capability includes a compression utility to automatically compress data from the application server and decompress it at the data integration server to minimize network traffic and accelerate the extraction process.

**Dependable Security:** All components reside within the SAP security environment and work within the R/3 security model. Users experience the same, reliable security they expect from SAP.

### **Cognos and SAP—a history of success**

As a certified mySAP.com Software Partner, Cognos, an IBM company, is one of SAP's key business intelligence partners. Cognos was the first mySAP BI partner to establish its own Competency Center at the SAP PartnerPort in Walldorf, Germany. On-site engineering and consulting resources ensure tight product integration and the best possible customer support. SAP tests Cognos products internally with all scheduled SAP R/3 releases during development.

### **Web-based deployment**

IBM Cognos 8 BI uses a zero-footprint, Web-based deployment model. This helps reduce the administrative burden on IT while improving user adoption. With centralized deployment and administration, IT does not have to install and manage client desktop software, minimizing deployment and maintenance costs.

This open, Web standards-based environment is built on the proven IBM Cognos ReportNet® architecture. This design allows organizations to take full advantage of their existing IT infrastructure and skill investments. The reach of the Web means users can easily access and distribute their BI data from anywhere in the organization with continuous availability.

IBM Cognos 8 BI is built on a single, native Web services architecture for maximum flexibility. It works with your existing application and Web servers, portals, browsers, enterprise applications, platforms, databases, and security models. It supports Windows, UNIX, and Linux operating systems in uniform and mixed platform deployments. A single, fully documented API allows developers and IT users to customize, integrate, and rebrand the reporting interface to suit their organization.

Designed for enterprise-level deployment, IBM Cognos 8 BI offers proven scalability to hundreds of thousands of users through an N-tiered, multi-server, multi-threaded architecture. This design provides full failover recovery and dynamic load balancing.

### **Better performance management**

IBM Cognos 8 BI is the only solution that provides complete BI functionality in one product, on a single, proven architecture. It delivers seamless reporting, analysis, scorecarding, dashboards, and event management. This simplifies your IT environment and the way everyone works with information. The result is high user adoption, better decisions, and greater agility across the organization. IBM Cognos 8 BI is the clear choice for BI standardization and a cornerstone of better performance management.

### **Technical specifications**

- Cognos Data Manager 8.1
- SAPGUI - for SAP Network Interface
- SAP R/3 on one of the following platforms: Windows NT, HPUX, AIX, and Solaris

### **About Cognos, an IBM company**

Cognos, an IBM company, is the world leader in business intelligence and performance management solutions. It provides world-class enterprise planning and BI software and services to help companies plan, understand and manage financial and operational performance. Cognos was acquired by IBM in February 2008. For more information, visit <http://www.cognos.com>.