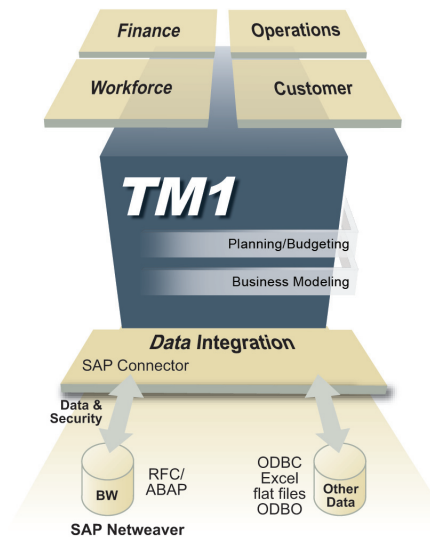


IBM Cognos TM1 for use with SAP NetWeaver® Business Warehouse

Overview

Numerous organizations rely on various tools and resources to store massive data volumes in SAP NetWeaver® Business Warehouse. Unfortunately, the stored data is not readily accessible for rapid, sophisticated analysis. So, many organizations turn to IBM Cognos TM1, with its powerful analytic and reporting capabilities, to help them manage their business performance. TM1 easily accesses and organizes data from Business Warehouse, enabling users to evaluate current and past performance, perform what-if analytics in real time, track variations in revenues and expenses, follow customer trends, uncover hidden cost drivers, and respond quickly to economic or competitive change.



IBM Cognos TM1 uses native protocols such as SAP RFC and ABAP programs to efficiently transfer data and security information into TM1 and provide write-back capability to SAP BW.

Financial and business managers today want greater analytical ability to manage their business performance. They want to view and analyze data—to track variations in revenues and expenses, follow customer trends, uncover hidden cost drivers, and respond to economic or competitive change—whenever the need arises. But such abilities typically lie beyond the reach of transactional ERP systems and the rudimentary business performance tools they typically provide.

Many leading companies entrust critical analytical tasks to IBM Cognos® TM1, the ad-hoc analytics and scenario modeling solution that extends and complements transactional operations performed by ERP or other in-place systems. TM1 software can easily access data from SAP NetWeaver Business Warehouse (or other systems) and organize complex business information, so you can evaluate current and past performance and perform what-if analytics in real time to consider future scenarios.

Embrace, enhance, and extend investments in SAP applications with IBM Cognos TM1

Because TM1 consolidates information from disparate systems, you can load corporate and source data for analysis during key business cycles without negatively affecting response levels. It offers performance management and optimization to link your analytics with planning, budgeting, forecasting, and reporting processes. TM1 is a proven solution that complements and enhances your ERP systems, saving time and expense across your organization while providing timely access to the users that need it most.

How TM1 Complements Your Investment in SAP NetWeaver Business Warehouse

IBM Cognos TM1 offers a number of features that embrace, enhance, and extend your investment in Business Warehouse. TM1 transforms critical data into actionable information. It enables fast, accurate reporting, supports better business decisions, and lowers your external IT costs.

Because you've invested significant time and money in your ERP systems and have likely invested time, effort and training in the SAP Netweaver Business Warehouse, you need TM1 to give business users ready access to data for ad-hoc analysis and scenario modeling to support timely, effective decision-making. The flexibility of TM1 lets you quickly and easily build and implement applications to help users meet their business goals through more streamlined, more efficient processes.

- **Fast Load/Calculation Times.** IBM Cognos TM1 features memory-based, multi-dimensional cube architecture. The OLAP engine driving TM1 solutions yields excellent response times. And, with multiple memory-based cubes, data is more rapidly searched, modified, and restructured than with a single-cube, disc-based structure.
- **Business Modeling.** With critical information being sourced from SAP NetWeaver Business Warehouse, TM1 enables users to quickly create powerful business models. Using data stored within the Business Warehouse, finance and business users alike can rapidly build fast, accurate models for tasks such as performance management, what-if analysis, and risk assessment.
- **Fastest Implementation.** IBM Cognos TM1 implements rapidly: According to a recent survey, TM1 had the fastest implementation time among major vendors, with 57 percent of projects going live within 3 months. Faster implementation means that you achieve business results more quickly and thoroughly.
- **Flexible Data Analysis.** IBM Cognos TM1 offers great flexibility for data analysis. You can quickly build dynamic, multi-dimensional models (applications) with little training and no IT assistance,

You can meet a given information need and quickly build additional operational and financial applications as required. Implementations by more than 3,000 customers have demonstrated TM1 flexibility in modeling unique business structures, products, periods, cost centers, or other dimensions—especially with complex and dynamic data sets.

- **Fast Data Loads and In-Memory On-the-Fly Calculations.** Because IBM Cognos TM1 can quickly manipulate vast data sets in memory, calculations are always up to date—you won't have to precalculate consolidations and derive values before you can view the data.
- **Powerful and Flexible User Interface.** IBM Cognos TM1 is a proven solution for quickly creating ad hoc and scenario-driven content from data residing within Business Warehouse. The TM1 Microsoft® Excel®- or Web-browser interfaces provide easy-to-use tools that require little or no training. Reports can be created in Excel, then published with a single click using e-mail or the Web—no IT help, no programming knowledge, and no Web experience required. Users can see and interact with reports using browsers like Internet Explorer or FireFox, and—regardless of location or interface—can access analytics information, view and

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share reports over the Web, or enter data for budgeting, planning, forecasting, and what-if analysis.

- **Pull Data from Business Warehouse and Write Back with Ease.**

IBM Cognos TM1 provides a separately licensed module for accessing data from SAP NetWeaver Business Warehouse. The TM1 Connector enables you to pull data and security information from Business Warehouse InfoCube into TM1 quickly and efficiently. Using native ABAP code, data is packaged and sent via an RFC (remote function call) to TM1. You can also write back data into an ODS table in Business Warehouse for subsequent processing, pull InfoCube data back into TM1 for sophisticated budgeting, planning, forecasting, or what-if analysis, then write back a final budget or forecast to the Business Warehouse.

- **Easy Integration with Other External Data.**

In some organizations, critical data can be excluded from the data warehouse, either because it has been overlooked or because new systems are being added faster than integration can take place. But IBM Cognos TM1 can easily combine data from multiple heterogeneous sources including the Business Warehouse.

TM1 is a natural, intuitive environment for bringing disparate data sources into a single, easy-to-use reporting structure. TM1 has a purpose-built connector to SAP NetWeaver Business Warehouse to retrieve data and metadata, and it can build and populate cubes. (The in-memory OLAP of TM1 can also be extended as a data source for IBM Cognos 8 BI.)

There are other benefits to embracing, enhancing and extending your investment in SAP applications with IBM Cognos TM1:

- TM1 reads from a secure 64-bit in-memory cache which accelerates user response times, especially for complex queries and scenario modeling. This capability helps you realize the inherent value of your investment in data residing within Business Warehouse by improving time to decision and reducing your reliance on specialized IT resources.
- TM1 requires no pre-calculation, saving you hours per day in decision support activities. (Pre-calculation typically requires a much larger database, greater query time, and more hardware.)

- With TM1, your organization will require lower overhead, especially for training, IT specialists, infrastructure, and so on.
- TM1 enables ad hoc changes and decisions—real-world, instant response. Independent testing has shown that TM1 provides sub-second response times for hundreds of concurrent users, reinforcing its ability to support enterprise-wide business and operational performance management applications.

**About IBM Cognos BI
and Performance Management:**

IBM Cognos business intelligence (BI) and performance management solutions deliver world-leading enterprise planning, consolidation and BI software, support and services to help companies plan, understand and manage financial and operational performance. IBM Cognos solutions bring together technology, analytical applications, best practices, and a broad network of partners to give customers an open, adaptive and complete performance solution. Over 23,000 customers in more than 135 countries around the world choose IBM Cognos solutions.

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