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## Highlights

- Validated IBM Cognos BI model design to support business requirements.
  - Optimized performance, scalability, and security.
  - Streamlined maintenance and administration of IBM Cognos BI models.
  - Reduced risk and higher user adoption.
  - Proven practices with knowledge transfer to your team.
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# IBM Cognos BI Model Design Review Service

## Considerations

To accommodate evolving business needs, organizations rely on their IBM Cognos Framework Manager (FM) and Transformer models as the backbone of their IBM Cognos BI implementation. Well designed models ensure optimal performance, efficiency and user acceptance of the IBM Cognos BI solution. Some questions that often arise include:

- Are the IBM Cognos Framework Manager and Transformer models designed to allow for effective report development?
- Is the data “packaged” for effective analytics that meet our business needs?
- Are the models designed to handle the data volumes required?
- Are the models designed for performance and scalability?
- Are the models optimally designed for security requirements?
- Is the data “packaged” effectively to accommodate ad-hoc users?
- Do the design and development standards follow industry and IBM Cognos Proven Practices?
- How best to ensure the team is building the skills needed to sustain success?



## Overview

The IBM Cognos BI Model Design Review Service was developed to help you improve and optimize the efficiency and performance of your IBM Cognos BI Framework Manager and Transformer models so that they conform to IBM Cognos Proven Practices. Our experts work closely with your team, reviewing the organization of the model from a user and report developer perspective as well as performance, scalability, function usage, security implementation, naming conventions and more. The result is a more efficient design that helps reduce costly maintenance and promote a high rate of user adoption.

The Service includes:

- Effective metadata modeling during the Design and Build phases of your implementation, to ensure that your business goals are met.
- Increased confidence that the metadata model is designed to support the BI solution during the Design phase, before costly issues or implementation delays occur.
- Recommendations for improving the BI solution's technical, business and process readiness for deployment to maximize the return on your software investment.

## Activities & Deliverables

The IBM Cognos BI Model Design Review Service delivers value through a comprehensive set of activities and deliverables.

Through a series of kick-off and subject area interviews with appropriate stakeholders, we will clarify expectations, define objectives, identify application areas for review, and discuss business requirements with end-users and functional area stakeholders. In meetings with IT, we will review data sources and data flow, identify risk areas with consideration for complexity and size, and review optional data strategies.

Topics for review include:

- Metadata and OLAP modeling Proven Practices
- Ad-hoc requirement considerations
- Performance and response time considerations
- Model, object and row-level security
- Data model-to-metadata mapping
- SQL and MDX generation
- Relational, DMR, and OLAP modeling review
- Model maintainability, scalability and Governors
- Shared metadata modeling and development techniques
- Data source-specific considerations
- Strategies for Model Organization
- Multi-lingual considerations
- ETL process timing and considerations
- Naming conventions
- Assessment of current change management processes
- Skills gap assessment and training recommendation

At the conclusion of the Service, IBM will provide you with a *Findings and Recommendations Document*. The document provides information on how your models can be improved from a number of perspectives, assistance with prioritization of the findings to determine next steps, and guidance on how to accomplish the recommended changes. An *Education Recommendations Document*, developed collaboratively by IBM education specialists, will also be provided. This document will serve as a reference of available education options and programs as well as a tailored training recommendation specific to your solution.

## **Engage Today**

Because IBM Cognos BI offers a powerful range of capabilities, it is important that you validate your Cognos BI model designs with proven practices to derive maximum benefit from your IBM Cognos BI investment. While the IBM Cognos Model Design Review Service is best when used during your implementation Design phase to ensure a solid foundation for your Cognos BI solution, it remains a valuable service that can be engaged at any point during your BI development life cycle.

## **About IBM Business Analytics Software Services**

As an integral part of Business Analytics software division within IBM Software Group, the Business Analytics Software Services organization provides education and expert services exclusively focused on the Business Analytics product portfolio. Our depth of experience and extensive proven practices help customers maximize their software investment, mitigate risks, raise the quality of their implementations, and build valuable skills. We have provided training, guidance, advice, reviews, assessments, and assistance to thousands of clients around the world helping to ensure their business analytics implementations are optimized to take full advantage of our product capabilities.

For more information about how IBM Cognos Software Services can assist you, complete the Services Request form [www.ibm.com/cognos/contactus](http://www.ibm.com/cognos/contactus) on our website. An IBM Cognos representative will respond to your inquiry within two business days.

## **About IBM Business Analytics**

IBM Business Analytics software delivers actionable insights decision-makers need to achieve better business performance. IBM offers a comprehensive, unified portfolio of business intelligence, predictive and advanced analytics, financial performance and strategy management, governance, risk and compliance and analytic applications.

With IBM software, companies can spot trends, patterns and anomalies, compare “what if” scenarios, predict potential threats and opportunities, identify and manage key business risks and plan, budget and forecast resources. With these deep analytic capabilities our customers around the world can better understand, anticipate and shape business outcomes.

For more information visit [ibm.com/analytics](http://ibm.com/analytics).



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