IBM Cognos BI Quick Start Service for IBM SmartCloud Enterprise

Highlights

- Accelerate your first IBM Cognos BI v10 implementation with confidence.

- Lower your hardware procurement costs with IBM SmartCloud Enterprise.

- Leverage Cognos BI functionality such as IBM Cognos Business Insight, IBM Cognos Active Reports and more.

- Proven practices from IBM product experts with knowledge transfer to your team.

- Suitable for new or existing Cognos BI customers.

Considerations

IBM Cognos BI features, such as the single BI workspace, Business Insight for dynamic dashboards, Active Reports for flexible disconnected reporting, and the ability to incorporate external data into analytics, all bring valuable capabilities to your users and your IT organization creating new innovative ways to address business needs. However, some important considerations include:

- How can the Cognos BI concept of a single BI workspace help our business users with self-service?
- Where would Business Insight dashboard "widgets" be most valuable for ever-changing business needs?
- When can Active Reports be most effective for disconnected access to information?
- When is the use of external data in a report most appropriate?
- How does an IBM SmartCloud environment compare with an on-premise environment?

Overview

The IBM Cognos BI Quick Start Service for IBM SmartCloud Enterprise accelerates your first Cognos BI v10 implementation by establishing a cloud-based proving ground as a strong foundation to showcase Cognos BI v10 capabilities using your own data sources and custom BI content.

Working collaboratively with your team, we will:

- Select an appropriate target BI application and define requirements.
- Design and create a Cognos BI metadata model.
- Design, create, and unit test selected Cognos BI content (reports and dashboard).
- Recommend a go forward strategy for maximizing your Cognos BI investment.

The value of this Service includes:

- Accelerate the time-to-value for your business stakeholders.
- Uncover new opportunities to leverage your Cognos investment.
- Lower your hardware procurement costs.
- Leverage the on-demand availability offered by IBM SmartCloud Enterprise.
- Build your Cognos BI v10 skills and expertise.

Activities & Deliverables

The IBM Cognos BI Quick Start Service for IBM SmartCloud Enterprise encompasses the following activities and deliverables:

Scoping & Kickoff

In order to establish a clear scope of activities specific to your needs, this Service begins by discussing with key business and IT stakeholders which business and application areas would realize maximum benefit and value with Cognos BI functionality such as Active Reports, Business Insight and the concept of the single BI workspace.

We will work with your key stakeholders to:

- Understand your current Cognos BI applications (if applicable).
- Conduct a custom Cognos BI features and functionality workshop.
- Determine the scope and requirements for the engagement.

The scope encompasses the following Cognos BI functionality:

- Business Insight included advanced charting capabilities.
- Business Insight Advanced incorporating external data.
- Active Reports.
- Optionally, an IBM Cognos Transformer model created in lieu of a IBM Cognos Framework Manager model.

With the scope defined, a formal kickoff meeting with appropriate sponsors, management and IT staff, together with the IBM team, will review the business use cases, requirements, scope and the proposed project plan, our mutual roles and responsibilities, any key assumptions or constraints, and the expected deliverables. This will set the delivery expectations and allow for the scheduling and staffing of the remaining tasks and activities.

There will then be two primary work streams—the **Application Work Stream** with a focus on your IBM Cognos BI content, and the **SmartCloud Readiness Work Stream** to verify the readiness of your IBM SmartCloud Enterprise Environment.

Application Work Stream

With a confirmed scope and requirements in hand, this work stream will design and build the Framework Manager model or Transformer cubes using an iterative approach and publish the necessary Cognos BI v10 metadata "packages" to begin building the BI Content. The IBM team will then design and build the required content in the IBM SmartCloud Environment. Unit testing will also occur to determine if the content created meets the technical and business requirements. After the BI Content is built and deployed, a final technical review will be completed by the project team.

SmartCloud Readiness Work Stream

IBM Cognos technical experts will conduct a readiness assessment for your previously established IBM SmartCloud Environment verifying your environment configuration, software environment conformance, and data access to your previously established data sources, either in the cloud or on-premise.

Project Completion

At the completion of the Service, you will have a Framework Manager model and selected BI Content, in the IBM SmartCloud Environment, as a starting point for exploring Cognos BI capabilities. Deliverables include:

- The *Quick Start Closure Document* reviewing the features that were selected, the activities that occurred, and the completed outcomes. In addition, this document will contain specific go forward recommendations to ensure ongoing success and serve as a reference to realize the potential of Cognos BI.
- An *Education Recommendation Document*, developed collaboratively by IBM education specialists, which will serve as a reference of available education options and programs as well as a tailored training recommendation specific to your solution.

Engage Today

The IBM Cognos BI Quick Start Service for IBM SmartCloud Enterprise is designed for Cognos BI customers who are looking to initiate a new Cognos BI implementation from existing data sources while leveraging the cost-effectiveness and on-demand availability offered by IBM SmartCloud Enterprise. This Service is available either on a Fixed-Fee or Time-and-Material basis. For the Fixed-Fee service, some limitations apply. Details are available from your IBM Business Analytics Software Services Sales representative.

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 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.

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