

# BI Upgrade Readiness

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## Overview

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***By upgrading to IBM Cognos® 8 BI version 8.3 you can take advantage of powerful features like more personalized and targeted information and easier modeling and management. This latest version of IBM Cognos 8 BI offers better accessibility to reach a much broader user community, extending the value of business intelligence to power users, executives, and report consumers. Putting better decision making capabilities in the hands of more users translates to exceptional operational performance across your organization. And taking measures to ensure a smooth upgrade means you can realize these results much more quickly.***

### Technical specifications

#### *What is the BI Upgrade Readiness work package?*

As one of the Review work packages under IBM Cognos Guardian Services, the BI Upgrade Readiness work package provides valuable insight as you plan and execute an upgrade from IBM Cognos ReportNet version 1.1 (MR3 or MR4) or IBM Cognos 8 BI version 8.2 to IBM Cognos 8 BI version 8.3. By engaging IBM Cognos services to perform the BI Upgrade Readiness service, you can be assured that your implementation team is well informed on IBM Cognos Proven Practices, that any compatibility issues are identified, and that your environment is completely ready for the upgrade.

#### *How BI Upgrade Readiness drives better ROI*

Because the BI Upgrade Readiness work package focuses on educating your implementation team, then providing guidance throughout the project, and offers the choice of either onsite or remote consulting, the service provides an excellent return on your investment. When you have an informed team, you can see benefits on your current project and in future

implementations as well. IBM Cognos experts also perform a comprehensive assessment of your environment to streamline your upgrade and accelerate your time to results. With this expert guidance from IBM Cognos services, project risks are reduced, and you can benefit from a much faster return on your effort and investment.

#### *How BI Upgrade Readiness works*

An IBM Cognos consultant is engaged to help you assess the scope of your upgrade project and reduce any risks which might result from compatibility concerns or issues with your application environment. As part of this work package, the consultant will use the IBM Cognos Upgrade Manager, a tool that generates reports lists, performs project planning and monitoring, performs process reporting, and manages multi-user testing and other tasks that will assist you in upgrading to the new IBM Cognos 8 BI application.

Using IBM Cognos Upgrade Manager, the consultant will compare reports generated from your existing application with those generated by IBM Cognos 8 BI, then will revalidate

the reports after the reconfiguration or environment change. This service can be performed on-site through a client-provided workstation or remotely through a VPN connection.

This work package is delivered by certified and experienced IBM Cognos consultants who will leverage IBM Cognos resources and tools to help you

- Educate your team on proven practices for preparing and executing an upgrade process to IBM Cognos 8 BI version 8.3.
- Configure IBM Cognos Upgrade Manager to your environment (source and target).
- Validate, execute, and compare report results using the IBM Cognos Upgrade Manager tool from your existing IBM Cognos BI application and IBM Cognos 8 BI version 8.3.
- Walk your team through the proven five-step process using the IBM Cognos Upgrade Manager tool:
  - Source report validation
  - Source report execution
  - Target report validation
  - Target report execution
  - Output compare
- Prepare a report that documents the upgrade and compatibility issues between releases.
- Work with your team to define a prioritized list of reports.
- Identify upgrade options (lift and shift, compress and optimize).

- Prepare test case archive if required.
- Prompt management across multiple reports.

### **Features and Benefits**

#### *What you get with the BI Upgrade Readiness work package*

The Upgrade Readiness work package delivers value by providing IBM Cognos consultants with in-depth upgrade experience and expertise. This work package results in the delivery of

- A detailed upgrade readiness assessment.
- An upgrade roadmap and recommendation.
- Knowledge transfer regarding the IBM Cognos Upgrade Manager tool to your team.
- A comprehensive “go forward” plan based on IBM Cognos Proven Practices.

#### *Proven methodology leads to successful implementations*

The BI Upgrade Readiness work package is delivered as a part of the proven IBM Cognos Solutions Implementation Methodology (SIM). This process was designed to ensure successful and repeatable IBM Cognos deployments. It’s a step-by-step guide used throughout the implementation lifecycle by IBM Cognos consultants, partners, and customers around the globe to

efficiently and successfully implement IBM Cognos solutions. The IBM Cognos SIM is based on five project phases – **Analyze, Design, Build, Deploy, Operate** – and incorporates a project management component. The BI Upgrade Readiness work package can be delivered at the Analyze phase of this lifecycle.

### **Feature Overview**

#### *IBM Cognos Guardian Services*

Internal teams or partners implementing an IBM Cognos solution can benefit from vendor-specific guidance and technical knowledge to ensure project success. IBM Cognos Guardian Services provide this valuable expertise. BI Upgrade Readiness is just one offering in a full range of IBM Cognos Guardian Services work packages.

IBM Cognos Guardian Services were developed to provide IBM Cognos expertise at critical points of your implementation. They allow you to choose specific services or work packages, as required, to complement your existing capabilities and project requirements. This helps you protect your software investment, and enables you to

- Reduce risk.
- Realize business value and maximize ROI.
- Enable faster adoption.

*Working with Your Technical Account  
Manager*

The IBM Cognos Guardian Services allow you to make use of IBM Cognos Technical Account Managers (TAMs). TAMs are technical resources with deep expertise in IBM Cognos technology, performance management, implementation, and best practices, and can help you navigate through available service offerings, while leveraging IBM Cognos resources, tools, and proven practices.

The TAM helps you maximize your valuable application investment, helping you:

- Manage risk to facilitate IBM Cognos implementation success
- Transform business requirements into tangible solutions
- Ensure the correct and expedient resolution of any support issues.

**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.

For further information or to reach a representative: [www.ibm.com/cognos](http://www.ibm.com/cognos)

**Request a call**

To request a call or to ask a question, go to [www.ibm.com/cognos/contactus](http://www.ibm.com/cognos/contactus). An IBM Cognos representative will respond to your enquiry within two business days.



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3755 Riverside Drive  
Ottawa, ON, Canada K1G 4K9

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