

IBM Cognos 8 Go! Office

Overview

The Microsoft® Office suite offers tremendous personal productivity tools, but it can work against organizations trying to foster a single, trusted source of enterprise business performance information. Spreadsheets and other Office documents can spread out of control, with individual users authoring many different versions of the same information. This hampers the efforts of business intelligence and IT professionals to provide a single version of the truth that drives better performance.

The problem is made worse when users import ever more data as they strive to obtain their own trusted information. This adds to the confusion and is time consuming, arduous and error prone. Accuracy continues to be contentious, and changes are without a sanctioned enterprise audit trail often required for compliance. Further business processes can get bogged down and dependent on the individual employees who publish the needed Office document.



The screenshot shows a Microsoft PowerPoint slide titled "Great Outdoors" with the subtitle "Revenue by Year over Year Growth". The slide contains a table with the following data:

Revenue	2004	2005	2006	Total(Year)
Camping Equipment	\$12,712,290.33	\$24,272,292.24	\$27,802,240.52	\$64,786,823.09
Golf Equipment	\$1,587,558.02	\$5,740,558.35	\$10,737,520.02	\$18,065,405.39
Maintaining Equipment	\$1.00	\$12,452,816.84	\$12,276,376.26	\$24,929,693.10
Outdoor Protection	\$1,336,466.34	\$38,270.64	\$146,421.84	\$1,521,158.82
Personal Accessories	\$7,344,797.42	\$32,945,968.24	\$10,772,940.38	\$51,063,706.04
Total(Grand Total)	\$24,781,112.11	\$81,288,906.31	\$61,629,498.92	\$167,699,517.34

Trusted BI content in a Microsoft Excel workbook.

IBM Cognos® 8 Go! Office brings trusted business intelligence data to familiar Office applications like Microsoft Excel®, Microsoft Word, and Microsoft PowerPoint®. You can use Office to exploit IBM Cognos 8 BI content while streamlining administration and extending the value of both investments. With IBM Cognos 8 Go! Office you can centralize data management, empower users with trusted information, and improve business performance with minimal training.

IBM Cognos 8 Go! Office is part of a portfolio of consumer modes that allows users to easily view highly relevant BI information using the application or device most convenient to them — such as a Web portal, search interfaces, Microsoft Office applications, or mobile devices. This enables users to make informed business decisions anytime, anywhere.

Technical specifications

Central data management

IBM Cognos 8 Go! Office offers control and accountability for data that is shared through Microsoft Office applications. Access to BI content is secured by the central IBM Cognos BI portal. A login within the Office environment authenticates your users and ensures that BI content is properly administered.

This allows IT to introduce version control, access rights, and audit accountability back to individuals. Regulatory compliance requirements make this kind of stewardship increasingly important. As users update BI data, dependant Office files can be automatically refreshed. Users can make and act on decisions with confidence, knowing they are based on accurate information.

Features and benefits

Advantages of IBM Cognos 8 Go! Office include:

- **Single report authoring** — Reports are created once in IBM Cognos 8 BI and then used in Microsoft Office documents.
- **Increased accuracy and timeliness** — Includes all, or part of IBM Cognos 8 BI report elements in Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Word or Microsoft PowerPoint to create a direct link to source data for a single version of the truth.
- **Separate distribution and updating** — No need to recreate reports when data changes: to get the latest information, users simply refresh the documents they already have.

- **Empowered users** — Business users can respond to prompts within IBM Cognos 8 Go! Office to display the specific data they need.
- **Extended value for Microsoft Office features** — Use Office formatting and capabilities, native Excel and PowerPoint charts and standard corporate templates and layouts that are preserved when data is refreshed. Add comments explaining data, and calculations in Excel.
- **Leverages the IBM Cognos 8 platform** — Use the Web services-based service-oriented IBM Cognos 8 platform to enable central administration of your data.
- **Easy to manage** — Unlike piecemeal solutions, IBM Cognos 8 Go! Office does not require a different solution for each Office interface.

Feature overview

Enabling user adoption

Traditionally, poor user adoption hinders the success of new enterprise BI solutions. By leveraging existing Microsoft Office applications with IBM Cognos 8 Go! Office, IT can offer BI content to all users in a familiar, self-service environment. IBM Cognos 8 Go! Office allows BI to become easier to access and use. You can provide trusted BI content in an Excel workbook, offering up the most relevant data when needed — whether it is in Word, Excel, or PowerPoint format. IBM Cognos 8 Go! Office provides the data in the format that best suits the user's need.

All content accessible

IBM Cognos 8 Go! Office allows users to import a wide range of IBM Cognos BI content into Microsoft Office applications, including complex business, production, managed and dashboard reports; individual elements such as cross tabs, graphs, charts and tables, and multiple heterogeneous queries with contextual information.

When users import BI content, they can maintain a report's original formatting and can identify where it came from and when it was created. Once imported, users can manipulate reports with Office features such as Auto Filter, Comments, Charting and Formatting. By importing BI content, Office application users no longer need to cut and paste or manually enter data. This saves time, prevents errors, and allows workers to focus on decisions rather than data entry.

Improving your performance

Using Microsoft Office for consuming BI reports and analyses removes the adoption barrier for users and contributes to high ROI for IT dollars. BI content transforms the Office desktop into a decision-making platform. IBM Cognos 8 Go! Office provides accurate and managed corporate data to enterprise users so they can consume BI information through familiar office documents while reducing dependence on IT.

**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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