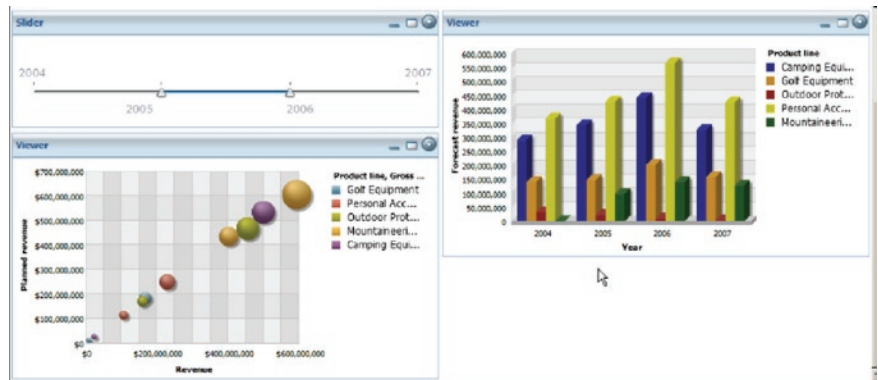# IBM Cognos 8 Go! Dashboard

Overview

IBM Cognos® 8 Go! Dashboard is Adobe® Flash-based software that lets you assemble and interact with sophisticated dashboards from trusted, report-ready information. Extend dashboards beyond just gauges or charts by embedding IBM Cognos-built or external elements such as RSS feeds, Web pages, search facility and more directly into your dashboard. Deliver a single view of the information that matters most to business users with easy-to-use software.

Flash graphics deliver visually appealing graphics and the ability to filter your data using sliders.

Features and Benefits
Using IBM Cognos 8 Go! Dashboard software
IBM Cognos 8 Go! Dashboard software operates in two basic modes, Assembly and Interactive. With Assembly, business users or IT can build dashboards from pre-existing parts; with Interactive anyone at any skill level can view and interact with the dashboard. In Assembly, you have the options to craft the dashboard with drag-and-drop ease, for example

- Choose a template layout for your dashboard page.
- Add reports, parts of reports, or metric content by dragging it from a content pane. You can also add IBM Cognos tools and portlets from a wide selection.

- Add filters from pre-defined menus to the dashboard elements (reports, etc.) to show exactly the information you require.

In Assembly mode, you can also take a dashboard someone else built and change the layout options (e.g., drag one report to the upper right to make it more prominent); or select entirely different content from the content list available to you to add or change what the dashboard displays.

In Interactive mode, you can change the graphic displaying a report (e.g., you may have data from a table report in a bar graph–switch it to a line-area graph or other choice); sort and filter the dashboard data to fit your need; refresh existing portlets in your dashboard (applications, reports, or parts of reports), and many other options.

Cognos®
software

As part of the IBM Cognos 8 BI system, you know your dashboard content comes from pre-authored and trusted business intelligence content. Render a dashboard yourself, much faster than writing your own report from scratch, and make confident decisions because you're working from the single version of corporate truth.

Dynamic dashboards
The Flash-based nature of IBM Cognos 8 Go! Dashboard enables both interactivity and quick response. Flash-based graphics deliver a rich, interactive dashboard experience. Flash as a technology caches downloaded data locally. This means the software delivers an almost instantaneous experience when doing simple re-sorts, order changes or other changes.

Features supporting the dashboard's dynamic ability include:

- Up-to-date visibility: Event-enabled capabilities in IBM Cognos 8 BI can provide up-to-date views of key metrics and business operations as data or reports changes.
- Point-and-click ease: An intuitive interface, including pre-built components and data connectors, lets you create or assemble dashboards connected to trusted company data.

- Connectivity to IBM Cognos 8 BI as a Web Service: Increase the value of IBM Cognos software information by transforming it into easy-to-understand live visual models with point-and-click ease.
- Connect: Refresh views of your business performance in your dashboard by connecting with the underlying reports and data.
- See historical data, simple data models and trends: Assemble dashboards based on your current and historical corporate data; change your time view with 'sliders' or analyze other dimensions by using 'filters'.
- Drill-down charts: Present report data in easy-to-understand charts and graphics and go to report-level details with one click.
- Use templates and pre-built components: Access a library of pre-built reports, templates and applications based on IBM Cognos software to deliver comprehensive business dashboards.

Personalized dashboards
Personalized dashboards demand an intuitive environment so people can request, edit and adapt dashboard content. This means

- Business users and executives can change content or layout of existing dashboards without difficulty and frustration.

- Business users have no constraints on the type of content and how to view it, i.e., not limited to premade reports or IT views of reports.
- Dashboards are fast and easy to assemble, based on trusted, IT-validated reports and data, so business people don't have to author reports from scratch.

These requirements drive dashboards to have an easy-to-use drag-and-drop interface and freedom from (and for) IT—so business people can craft the dashboard that fits their need.

Features supporting the dashboard's ability to be personalized include:

- Flexible user interface and design capabilities: Users can personalize their dashboard to present the information they need within pre-set templates and standards; customize charts and graphs; set thresholds; and assemble entirely new dashboards with a simple point-and-click interface.
- Self-service dashboards: Individual and casual users can easily customize and modify pre-built dashboards for their own view of the business.
- Role-based information delivery: Integrated data-level security ensures that each user can assemble a dashboard only from reports he/she has clearance to access. Further, if you share a dashboard with another person, that person's view of the dashboard is restricted to his/her security level.

Technical Specifications

Trusted data for dashboards

Once BI tools are in-house, one of the biggest impediments to greater usage is poor data quality. With IBM Cognos 8 Go! Dashboard software, reports, report elements, and other data elements placed in the content pane are pre-validated by IT.

Features of IBM Cognos 8 Go! Dashboard ensuring trusted information in your report include:

- IT manages the data and content available to business users to craft their dashboard. This insulates business from technical data cleansing worries, while at the same time, engages them to flag contextual data errors based on their knowledge of what the data says.
- Drag-and-drop content pane with clean data elements means business users know their dashboards are built with trusted information.
- Integration with the full suite of IBM Cognos software for business intelligence and performance management means commonly defined metadata.
- Access to the full range of data quality support available from IBM Cognos software and services, such as the IBM Cognos Data Quality Rapid Assessment Service and IBM® Information Server® WebSphere QualityStage.

Extensible dashboards

IBM Cognos 8 Go! Dashboard software can be your business homepage, or become an element of your business homepage.

In addition to BI elements such as graphs based on pre-authored reports, you can add and embed:

- Your mailbox for regularly delivered BI reports.
- Links to Web pages or the actual Web pages (such as maps).
- RSS readers to capture, for example, external business news and multimedia.
- IBM Cognos 8 Go! Search capacity, letting you search through all of your accessible BI content for information not generally delivered to you.
- Applications, authored by IT using the IBM Cognos 8 Software Developers Kit, that extend and customize your BI deployment (scorecards, mash-ups, and more).

Feature Overview

Features of IBM Cognos 8 Go! Dashboard software enabling extensibility include:

- Data and lifecycle management: The Assembly and Interactive modes let you organize data connections in one place for easy administration. Move dashboard models from conception to production easily. Add trusted IBM Cognos extensions in the same way.

- Secure, interactive data visualization: IBM Cognos 8 Go! Dashboard is specifically designed to leverage the IBM Cognos 8 platform. You can connect live to trusted corporate data sources subject to the governance enabled by the IBM Cognos 8 platform's security. You can assemble dashboards from content you are authorized to see. Share the dashboard with someone else, and when they log-on to view it, their security settings 'filter' the dashboard to remove any content that they are not authorized to view. IT can set security on the reports and data, knowing that all applications will respect it.
- IBM WebSphere Integration Kit: Integrate IBM Cognos 8 Go! Dashboards and content into your IBM WebSphere Portal. Turn IBM Cognos dashboards into IBM WebSphere portlets without having to code. Create complex dashboards which connect across portlets. Further, through Web Services for Remote Portlets (WSRP) you can embed parts of your dashboard, or the entire dashboard in your corporate portal.

**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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