

Cognos Support for PeopleSoft EPM



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Introduction

This document outlines the Cognos product offering, integration, and support for PeopleSoft's Enterprise Performance Management (EPM) offerings. Cognos, an IBM company, is unique in its ability to transform your PeopleSoft data into usable information via industry-leading reporting, analysis, and scorecarding.

Why Cognos?

Cognos is the world leader in reporting, business intelligence, and enterprise planning software. Industry analysts and experts recognize Cognos' leadership in these fields and in the field of corporate performance management. These analysts and experts point to the breadth and excellence of Cognos performance management software as the source of this leadership.

Cognos backs up this leadership with the highest awards for customer service in the industry. More importantly, the return on investment Cognos delivers to its customers is proven by independent industry watchers, and backed up by customers across all major verticals and in organizations public and private, around the world.

Founded in 1969, Cognos today serves more than 22,000 customers in over 135 countries. Cognos enterprise business intelligence solutions and services are also available from more than 3,000 worldwide partners and resellers.

Cognos offers PeopleSoft customers a unique value proposition:

- User self-service
- Zero-footprint architecture
- Single solution for ALL Reporting users
- Single metadata model
- Ability to report across the business.

Cognos has been a PeopleSoft partner since 1996 and is also a PeopleSoft Certified Software Partner. PeopleSoft is an application reseller of IBM Cognos PowerPlay® for the EPM solution and IBM Cognos DecisionStream™ as part of the Higher Education Reporting Data Services solution. Cognos embraces PeopleSoft Enterprise, EnterpriseOne, and EPM, and extends it with the industry-leading business intelligence solution. The Cognos business intelligence meets all user communities and provides higher return on investment, leveraging your investment in PeopleSoft and extending it through heterogeneous support across your organization's data infrastructure.

The Value of Standardization

When technologies become strategic, they trigger companies to look at standardization. That is the case now for business intelligence. Companies can standardize on one vendor who can meet the diverse needs of various departments, user types, and IT infrastructures.

Leading industry analysts say that BI and reporting standardization is happening. Leading companies must consider their response.

Some characteristics that companies should consider when planning to standardize their BI and reporting include:

- Broad coverage for all user types
- Modern Services-oriented Architectures
- Scalability to hundreds of thousands of users
- Access to heterogeneous data sources
- Global capability (multi-lingual reporting and deployment)
- Security.

Cognos offers the deepest and broadest BI footprint in the industry, delivering all of these characteristics. Our key offerings in enterprise reporting, multidimensional analysis or OLAP, and scorecarding are complemented by data integration, dashboarding, and event management/business activity monitoring capabilities. You can link these capabilities together for context and greater understanding to guide people to the best business decisions. Our “write once—deploy globally” architecture gives you the simplest and most cost-effective way to deploy BI across your organization and beyond to your customers and suppliers.

Cognos Business Intelligence

Reporting

IBM Cognos ReportNet® is the first all-in-one reporting software that lets you create, modify, and distribute any report your company requires—invoices, statements, weekly sales and inventory reports. You can standardize all enterprise reporting not simply with one vendor— but with a single, Web Services-based architecture.

IBM Cognos ReportNet® eliminates the need for multiple reporting tools and the resulting costs due to duplicated training, maintenance, administration, servers, support, and lack of consistency in the information users need to make decisions.

The software is simple to manage, with zero-footprint deployment and proven scalability to support hundreds of thousands of users. It is built to integrate with any application or environment you have.

Most importantly, IBM Cognos ReportNet® is easy to use. Even novice users can build all manner of reports with drag-and-drop simplicity. Yet its powerful features satisfy advanced users' need to create complex queries and dynamic, multi-object or multi-page reports.

Analysis

Cognos offers the world's best-selling OLAP (online analytical processing) software. With IBM Cognos PowerPlay®, you can perform your own multidimensional analysis, create reports, and share them to make better decisions. Anyone at any business or technical skill level across your company can explore large volumes of summarized data with sub-second response times.

Cognos delivers:

Easy-to-use analysis. Explore your company's information from multiple dimensions by pointing, clicking, and dragging the information into dynamic, interactive reports.

Flexibility. The zero-footprint Web interface simplifies deployment to employees inside, and customers or partners outside your company.

Speed. Cognos delivers summarized results to users, reducing the volume of information sent and optimizing network performance. Ease of use means quick time to results.

Enterprise capacity. Cognos architecture scales to thousands of users, with automatic load balancing of incoming requests across multiple servers and processors.

Scorecarding

IBM Cognos Metrics Manager lets you model plans or strategies as a set of interconnected performance indicators. You can communicate goal-driven metrics to thousands of employees across your organization. Metrics and easy-to-understand indicators let you monitor your performance against strategic goals. You can see whether your performance is on-track or off, and measure how far you are from your targets. Then you can access the integrated Cognos BI capabilities to understand the factors that are affecting performance.

Dashboarding

Cognos dashboarding uses sophisticated visual reports (“visualizations”) to communicate complex business data quickly and intuitively. Using visualizations, you can display multiple measures simultaneously and create dashboards with a diverse selection of maps and charts. When people view several reports at once, they can see how different data points relate to one another. This helps them make better decisions. These graphically rich reports can be embedded within IBM Cognos ReportNet® to add impact to your presentations.

Event Detection/Business Activity Monitoring

Event detection shrinks the gap between an event and information about it becoming available to the decision-maker. In this way, event detection enables companies to minimize the risk or maximize the opportunity that the event represents. Users can specify alerts for report availability; changes in metrics; and events or transactions recorded in operational data, data warehouses, and data marts. They can direct email alerts or notifications to any device that accepts email such as digital cellular phones and personal digital assistants (PDAs).

Data Preparation/ETL

Cognos offers ETL (extraction, transformation, and load) software that unites data from different sources and optimizes it for rapid reporting and analysis. It makes operational data report-ready, and most importantly, lets you report from one version of data—one version of the truth. It lets you build, deploy, and manage a series of linked, dimensional data marts to form an integrated business intelligence (BI) system. These flexible information stores let you adapt your data structures to respond to business changes — product line additions, new staff responsibilities, mergers, consolidations, and acquisitions.

Cognos Support for PeopleSoft EPM

Cognos fully leverages your PeopleSoft investments. The Cognos business intelligence series offers a single solution for all reporting users through a zero-footprint architecture. Cognos delivers a consistent view across your EPM solution and provides an integrated reporting solution that is seamless to your business users. Because of the single metadata model that spans the JumpStart ODS and EPM data marts, business users can effortlessly access reporting across the whole EPM solution. In addition, other external data sources can be included in the metadata layer to deliver reporting across the enterprise, not just for PeopleSoft. The metadata model can easily be extended to support personal customizations, multilingual deployments, and connectivity to other data sources.

Cognos business intelligence empowers end users with the industry's leading reporting and analysis solution. With proven return on investment, Cognos supports your ability to leverage your PeopleSoft investments. This includes PeopleSoft EPM data marts as well as the JumpStart ODS service offering from PeopleSoft Global Services.

Users can leverage IBM Cognos ReportNet® to deploy managed reports or ad hoc reports across the organization. From a zero-footprint interface, users create, administer, or consume the business intelligence content based on security privileges. The Cognos solution delivers fast time to results for users by creating a simple-to-use, self-service environment. At the same time, it delivers proven scalability and its open architecture integrates smoothly with your the needs of your overall IT infrastructure.

Data Mart Integration

Cognos offers a certified metadata and security integration with PeopleSoft EPM. Through the StrategyPlus utility, PeopleSoft metadata and security is analyzed and published to the Cognos environment, immediately enabling secured reporting and multidimensional analysis directly on your EPM deployment. The utility extracts PeopleSoft EPM security and metadata into custom views built with PeopleSoft's proprietary PeopleTools code.

A PeopleTools project automates the building of the IBM Cognos ReportNet® metadata model by creating a technical view containing all the relationships, cardinality, and join strategies of the underlying tables. It creates a business presentation view to deliver field and table names in a context for business users to understand. PeopleSoft row and column level security is also applied to the model. The same framework manager model can also create an iqd for each query subject. These iqds can then be used to build a IBM Cognos PowerPlay® model. StrategyPlus further enhances the IBM Cognos PowerPlay® cube by applying the PeopleSoft security.

JumpStart ODS

The same Cognos business intelligence that is used for the data marts can be directly leveraged against the PeopleSoft JumpStart ODS implementation. In order to accelerate time to results, Cognos is offering an out-of-the-box Cognos ReportNet® package on top of the JumpStart table structure. The metadata model will include the relationships, cardinality, and joins between the different subject areas. This ensures that all reports (ad hoc, personalized, and managed) leverage a single version of the truth. The same relational metadata model can be leveraged to build high-performance dimensional caches of information for connected or disconnected analysis.

Data will be grouped by business subject area and a friendly presentation layer is applied. This presentation layer uses business terminology instead of the underlying field/table names, making information easy to find, understand, and use. IT/Programmers can elect to use the ‘business terminology’ and/or the ‘original field name terminology’ options. This ensures complete flexibility for all user types within the organization and faster time to results.

IBM Cognos ReportNet® and IBM Cognos PowerPlay® can leverage the JumpStart ODS to support ad hoc, batch, and managed reporting as well as highly interactive analysis and visualization. The solution is designed to enable high return on investment and productivity for all levels of users (end users, business users, power users, and IT). You can leverage the full range of functionality available in IBM Cognos ReportNet® against your existing EPM and Jump Start investments.

Advantage of using Cognos for JumpStart ODS and EPM data marts

Implementing the JumpStart ODS provides a phased approach to building your EPM solution by delivering operational reporting through to Enterprise Analytics.

The following report distribution capabilities are available to enhance the business user's experience:

- **Scheduled reports:** IBM Cognos ReportNet® can schedule standard reports to be run at off-peak hours and made available for access at a user's convenience and with the appropriate security permissions. It is useful to schedule report creation to follow the periodic refresh of EPM data. This way, stored reports consistently reflect current data. Schedules can be set on a recurring basis by time(s) of day, day(s) of week, month, or year and even for specific periods of time with start and end dates.
- **Report distribution:** Scheduled reports can be saved in HTML, PDF, CSV, or XML. You can also publish to multiple languages. To make the result available, you can:
 - a. save it as part of the report entry so a user can see the saved report, or re-run the report for a current set of results
 - b. save it as a report view to prevent re-executing the report
 - c. print the PDF version to specific printers to get pixel-perfect results
 - d. email the report link to one or more users.

- **Bursted Reports:** Bursting is the ability to execute a large report once, divide the report into segments, and distribute those segments to the appropriate recipients. This capability ensures network and processing efficiency, as the data is read only once. Scheduling of bursted reports for off-peak hours can drive further production reporting efficiencies. A scheduled report could also be run once, bursted according to PeopleSoft Security or other criteria, and distributed to a large or small audience of business users. The bursted reports can then be distributed by sending the actual report in HTML, PDF, Excel, or other popular formats—over the Web, through email, or through printer distribution devices.

These options go a long way to improve the user experience with performance and accessibility of business reports. In addition, because IBM Cognos ReportNet® is a completely Web-based reporting solution, if a user does need to run a report immediately for current data or for an ad hoc query, the user's computer is not affected during the execution of a report. He or she can continue to be productive while the report is running in the background.

Cognos also provides a software developer's kit (SDK) for customers who want to integrate into PeopleSoft process scheduler or report manager.

Cognos Consulting Services

The Fastest Time to Result

Cognos Consulting Services take you from project planning through architecture design to successful deployment without delay. Whether you need implementation assistance, an expert project manager, a technical architect, or a program delivery team, Cognos has the experts to ensure results. Our consultants' rigorous product and solution training means you benefit from rapid application deployment based on industry-standard best practices. Because we have a thorough knowledge of business intelligence technology, capabilities, and business values, you get the best in business expertise.

Services Packages Built on Experience

Cognos offers a range of packaged services that can be tailored to your technical or strategic requirements:

- First Project
- Business-Focused Services
- Technical Service Packages
- Quality Assurance Services.

Whatever your consulting needs, Cognos delivers.

Cognos Training Services

Get your Team up to Speed

Fast knowledge transfer is a key factor in ensuring you gain maximum value from your Cognos investment. At every stage of implementation, our training brings your employees up to speed quickly.

A Flexible Range of High-Quality Courses

For reports consumers, report authors, administrators and technical users, as well as project managers, Cognos offers a flexible range of personalized course curriculums for every player in your enterprise:

- Solution Training
- Customized Data
- Training Needs Analysis

We offer cost-effective and convenient training anywhere around the globe. The faster you train your people, the sooner you will profit from your Cognos investment.

To Learn More

To learn more about how Cognos can increase the value of your PeopleSoft investment, visit www.cognos.com or call 1-800-426-4667

About Cognos, an IBM company

Cognos, an IBM Company, is the world leader in business intelligence and performance management solutions. It provides world-class enterprise planning and BI software and services to help companies plan, understand and

manage financial and operational performance. Cognos was acquired by IBM in February 2008. For more information, visit <http://www.cognos.com>.

For more information

Visit the Cognos Web site at www.cognos.com

Request a call

To request a call or ask a question, go to www.cognos.com/contactme. A Cognos representative will respond to your enquiry within two business days.

GLOBAL

Cognos Incorporated
3755 Riverside Drive
P.O. Box 9707, Station T
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada K1G 4K9

ASIA/PACIFIC

Cognos PTY Limited
Level 2 110 Pacific Highway
St. Leonards, NSW 2065
Australia

EUROPE

Cognos Limited
Westerly Point
Market Street
Bracknell, Berkshire
UK RG12 1QB

NORTH AMERICA

Cognos Corporation
15 Wayside Road
Burlington, MA
USA 01803