

IBM Cognos TM1 for use with SAP NetWeaver® Solutions

Embrace, enhance, and extend your SAP® applications with IBM Cognos TM1



Overview

Numerous organizations rely on various tools and resources to store massive data volumes in SAP NetWeaver Business Warehouse® (SAP BW) and SAP®R/3® Enterprise Central Component (SAP ECC). Unfortunately, the stored data is not readily accessible for rapid, sophisticated analysis. So, many organizations turn to IBM Cognos TM1, with its powerful enterprise planning, analytic and reporting capabilities, to help them manage their business performance. TM1 easily accesses and organizes data from SAP NetWeaver Business Warehouse and SAP ECC, enabling users to evaluate current and past performance, perform what-if analysis in real time, track variations in revenues and expenses, follow customer trends, uncover hidden cost drivers, and respond quickly to economic or competitive change.

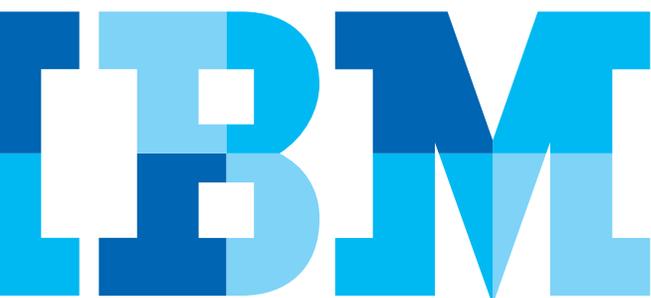
Financial and business managers today want greater analytical ability to manage their business performance. They want to view and analyze data, forecast variations in revenues and expenses, follow customer trends, uncover hidden cost drivers, and respond to economic or competitive change—whenever the need arises. But such abilities typically lie beyond the reach of transactional ERP systems and the rudimentary business performance tools they typically provide.

Many leading companies entrust critical analytical tasks to IBM Cognos® TM1, the ad hoc analytics, scenario modeling and collaborative forecasting solution that extends and complements transactional operations performed by ERP or other in-place systems. TM1 software can easily access data from SAP NetWeaver Business Warehouse and other systems. It helps organize complex business information, so you can evaluate current and past performance, perform what-if analysis, and forecast resources in real time to consider future scenarios.

Because TM1 consolidates information from disparate systems, you can load corporate and source data for analysis during key business cycles without negatively affecting response levels. It offers performance management and optimization to link your analytics with planning, budgeting, forecasting and reporting processes. TM1 is a proven solution that complements and enhances your ERP systems, saving time and expense across your organization while providing timely access for the users who need it most.

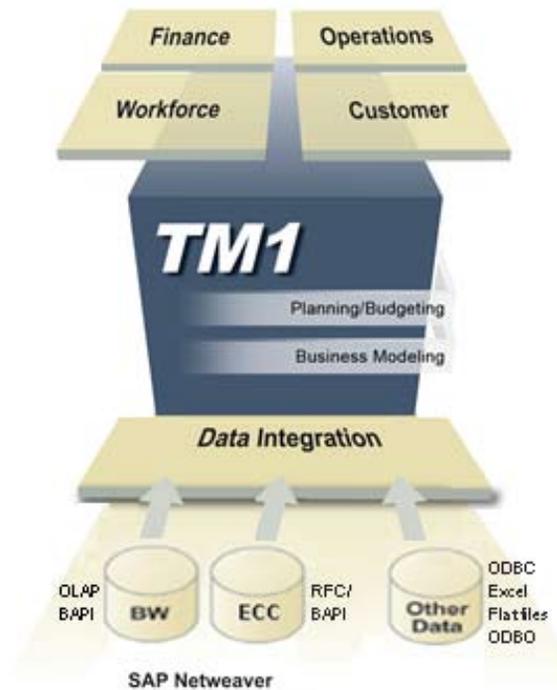
How TM1 Complements Your Investment in SAP® Applications

IBM Cognos TM1 offers a number of features that embrace, enhance, and extend your investment in SAP NetWeaver Business Warehouse and SAP ECC. TM1 transforms critical data into actionable information. It enables fast, accurate reporting, supports better business decisions and lowers your external IT costs.



Because you've invested significant time and money in your ERP systems, as well as time, effort and training in the SAP NetWeaver Business Warehouse and SAP ECC systems, you need TM1 to give business users ready access to data for ad hoc analysis and scenario modeling to support timely, effective decision-making. The flexibility of TM1 lets you quickly and easily build and implement applications to help users meet their business goals through more streamlined, efficient processes.

- **Fast Load/Calculation Times.** IBM Cognos TM1 features memory-based, multi-dimensional cube architecture. The OLAP engine driving TM1 yields excellent response times. And with multiple memory-based cubes, data is more rapidly searched, modified and restructured than with a single-cube, disc-based structure.
- **Business Modeling.** With critical information being sourced from either SAP NetWeaver Business Warehouse or SAP ECC, TM1 enables users to quickly create powerful business models. Using data stored within the SAP NetWeaver Business Warehouse or SAP ECC, finance and business users alike can rapidly build fast, accurate models for performance management, what-if analysis and risk assessment.
- **Fastest Implementation.** IBM Cognos TM1 can be implemented rapidly. According to a recent survey, TM1 had the fastest implementation time among major vendors, with 57 percent of projects going live within three months. Faster implementation means that you achieve business results more quickly and thoroughly.
- **Flexible Data Analysis.** IBM Cognos TM1 offers great flexibility for data analysis. You can build dynamic personal scenarios and multidimensional models (applications) with little training and no IT assistance. You can meet a given information need and quickly build additional operational and financial applications as required. Implementations by more than 3,700+ customers have demonstrated the flexibility of TM1 for modeling unique business structures, products, periods, cost centers, or other dimensions—especially with complex and dynamic data sets.
- **Fast Data Loads and In-Memory, On-the-Fly Calculations.** Because IBM Cognos TM1 can quickly manipulate vast data sets in memory, calculations are always up to date—you won't have to pre-calculate consolidations and derive values before you can view the data.



IBM Cognos TM1 Package Connector uses an SAP® Certified interface to efficiently transfer data into TM1 from SAP BW and SAP ECC.

- **Powerful, Flexible User Interface.** IBM Cognos TM1 is a proven solution for quickly creating ad hoc and scenario-driven analysis and forecast content from data residing in SAP NetWeaver Business Warehouse or SAP ECC. The TM1 Microsoft® Excel based client, or Managed Contribution interfaces provide easy-to-use tools that require little or no training. Forecast and scenario analysis maturity can be monitored through workflow. Reports from analysis and forecasting processes can be created in Excel, then published to the Web with a single click—no IT help, no programming knowledge and no Web experience required. Users can see and interact with reports using browsers like Internet Explorer or Firefox, and—regardless of location or interface—can access analytics information, view and share reports over the Web, or enter data for budgeting, planning, forecasting and what-if analysis.

SAP® Certified

Integration with SAP NetWeaver®

- **Pull Data from SAP BW and SAP ECC with Ease.** IBM Cognos TM1 utilizes the same SAP® Certified interface used by the IBM Cognos BI platform to pull data into TM1 from SAP NetWeaver Business Warehouse and SAP ECC quickly and efficiently. Using IBM Cognos BI packages with the TM1 Package Connector, data is packaged and sent to TM1 via certified connections from SAP BW (OLAP BAPI) and SAP ECC (RFC). Because the same OLAP BAPI interface is used to access data in SAP BW, there are no separate modules or programs to install on the SAP BW server. As a result, you gain the ability to leverage common structures in SAP BW such as InfoQueries, InfoCubes, MultiProviders, Data Store Objects (DSO), InfoSets, and Master Data objects.
- **Easy Integration with Other External Data.** In some organizations, critical data can be excluded from the data warehouse, either because it has been overlooked or because new systems are being added faster than integration can take place. But IBM Cognos TM1 can easily combine data from multiple heterogeneous sources including the Business Warehouse. TM1 is a natural, intuitive environment for bringing disparate data sources into a single, easy-to-use reporting structure.

There are numerous other benefits to embracing, enhancing and extending your investment in SAP applications with IBM Cognos TM1:

- The TM1 connection to SAP BW and SAP ECC is based on existing IBM Cognos BI technology for retrieving data and metadata to build and populate cubes with IBM Cognos BI packages. This conformity to IBM Cognos architecture provides TM1 with the advantages of future IBM Cognos BI performance and enhancement capabilities.
- The in-memory OLAP of TM1 can be extended as a data source for IBM Cognos BI to satisfy more business analytics needs such as reporting and analyzing of planning, budgeting, and forecasting information based on SAP data.

- TM1 reads from a secure 64-bit in-memory cache which accelerates user response times, especially for complex queries and scenario modeling. This capability helps you realize the inherent value of your investment in data residing in your SAP ERP systems by improving time to decision and reducing your reliance on specialized IT resources.
- TM1 requires no pre-calculation, saving you hours per day in decision support activities. (Pre-calculation typically requires a much larger database, greater query time, and more hardware.)
- With TM1, your organization will have lower overhead, especially for training, IT specialists, infrastructure, etc.
- TM1 enables ad hoc changes and decisions—real-world, instant response. Independent testing has shown that TM1 provides sub-second response times for hundreds of concurrent users, reinforcing its ability to support enterprise-wide business and operational performance management applications.

About IBM Business Analytics

IBM Business Analytics software delivers complete, consistent and accurate information that decision-makers trust to improve business performance. A comprehensive portfolio of business intelligence, advanced analytics, financial performance and strategy management and analytic applications gives you clear, immediate and actionable insights into current performance and the ability to predict future outcomes.

Combined with rich industry solutions, proven practices and professional services, organizations of every size can drive the highest IT productivity and deliver better results.

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



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