



CastSolutions

Company Profile

2022

Overview

Cast Solutions is an Australian-owned company that operates across diverse sectors including local government, engineering, utilities, construction, infrastructure and technology.

Founded in 2004, we provide strategic advice and data-driven insights, solutions and the confidence to make meaningful business decisions. We are data specialists, keeping up to data with the latest in innovative technology, including AI and machine learning technology.

Our priority is to enhance our clients' business performance, growth and enable companies to adopt data solutions with ease.

What we bring

Our core services include business advisory, business intelligence, business improvement, data analytics and data integration.

We provide the following to our clients:

- Extensive operational, commercial and business acumen to all technology projects, we combine our strong data analytics and solution development with agile project management approaches.
- Strong internal and external stakeholder engagement, ensuring early engagement on the journey of digital and data transformation.
- Proven methodologies in current business analysis including data maturity assessment; strategic roadmap development; developing action plan and priorities with measurable metrics aligned to the future vision and strategic aspirations.
- Deep skills and experience in industry-leading data technologies, helping you to realise transformative cost savings, efficiency, productivity and business performance and growth. We work collaboratively with our clients, applying our deep data analytics, data science, technology and programming skills.

Our history

Founded in 2004, we have expanded from traditional business and strategic advisory support to incorporate data analytics, digital transformation and data management services and solutions.

We have been delivering data solutions since 2014, helping traditional businesses to adopt industry leading solutions.

Our priority is to make this process easy, enabling organisations to commence on a data transformation journey, with a partner committed to their success.

Our business brings commercial, technical and business expertise that enables transformative outcomes for clients seeking a new journey.

Importantly we are agile, innovative and open to new ideas, generating a co-creative orientation, working with our clients to deliver their vision and outcomes. Our commitment is to understand and enabling their success.

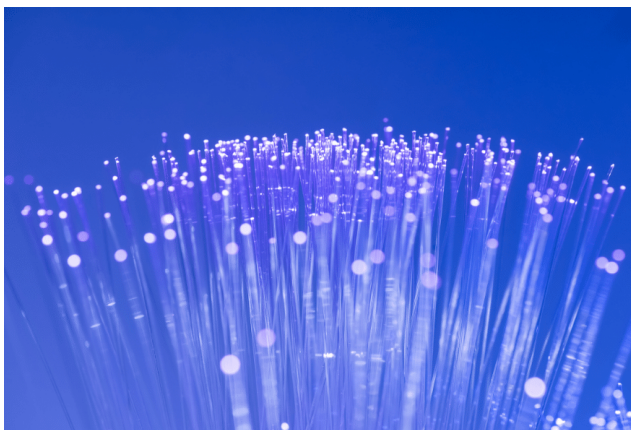
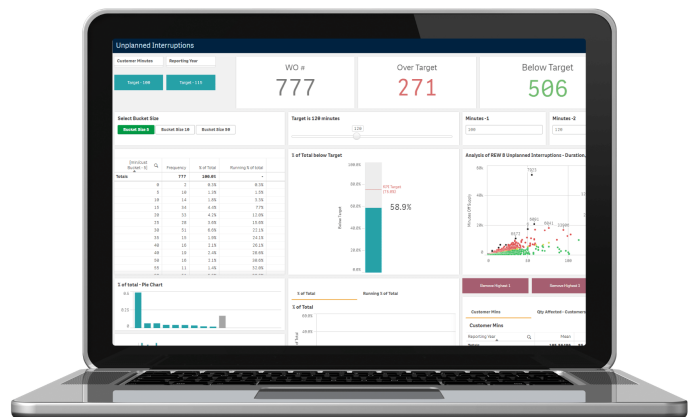
Providing a combination of business advisory and data skills goes hand in hand and enables our clients to improve in diverse business areas such as strategic planning; financial and business performance; works management; safety, risk and compliance. We help our clients adopt the latest in industry-leading, innovative technologies, helping you to realise transformative cost savings, efficiency, productivity and business performance and growth.

Why focus on data?

Leveraging your data resources

Data is a company's greatest resource; and its major weakness, if not handled correctly. This is because the raw data gathered by a business in the course of daily operations – thousands of sets of information – is the DNA that defines them. From data on internal processes to customer information, this forms an imprint that can make or break a successful business strategy.

The best companies in the world don't just gather and store data. They harness its potential benefits to learn and build new ways of thinking and working, empowering transformations that can shape their operations far beyond the scope of the data itself.



Our priority is to help make it easy for you to reassess your business strategy, assess strategic options, and help you to pilot and implement industry leading data technologies.

Our data solutions

Your partner in data transformation

Cast Solutions is your guide and partner in this transformation, offering a range of data solutions that can help organisations better organise, analyse and use their most precious resource. We provide diverse services to blue chip and government organisations, complementing in-house skills with specialist data, technology, process and strategic skills. Our core services are summarised below.

Business advisory services	Our corporate advisory services incorporate a full analysis of your business' operations and strategic data management processes. This is designed to offer you recommendations for how you can fulfill your full potential in-line with best practices in your industry. Our experienced business consultants have helped to revamp companies across numerous sectors in Australia.
Business intelligence services	Accurately managing and analysing your proprietary data is one thing; being able to determine practical improvements for operations from this data is another situation entirely. Business intelligence services are about helping you navigate the data landscape of your organisation, turning raw data into actionable insights which you can use to develop all aspects of operations.
Business improvement services	No matter the scale or success of your company, there's always something that can be done to increase efficiency, lower costs and improve output. It's very easy to become lost in one set of operational processes. With Cast Solutions' business improvement services, you can appreciate your company's strengths and identify opportunities for making workflows better fit-for-purpose.
Data analytics services	Businesses cannot survive without the insights generated by data analytics. How can you grow without understanding how you operate and what you can do to improve? Cast Solutions' team of data engineers uses leading enterprise-ready tools to look under the hood of your company and make sense of what you need to do to make your business the best in your industry.
Data integration services	Cast Solutions' data integration service is about taking disparate data sources from across your operations and reshaping these sources into an ecosystem with a free flow of information. Using advanced data management software, we will help to connect your business more than ever before with data pipelines between different storage systems tailored to your enterprise needs

Cast Solutions helps companies be the best they can be with a data solution for every situation.

Business advisory services

Introduction

We thrive on partnering with companies seeking to improve because they are open to trying new things. Savvy enterprise leaders know that standing still is the same as falling behind in the fast-paced modern world of business. But what sets truly successful organisations apart?

Acceptance that the best business advice can come from outside your business.

Expert business advice is more than just an expert's advice for your business – it's the sum of their experience and business intelligence.

What are business advisory services?

Business advisory services incorporate strategic business planning and strategic data management planning as an all-in-one service for improving business performance or success. We help companies rethink their strategic goals in response to emerging trends in their industry to develop the business' priorities and initiatives.

Cast Solutions' corporate advisory team has helped to revamp companies across numerous sectors using proven processes and tools to identify business improvement opportunities, generating the new operational roadmap.

The common elements in successful data management and strategic planning transformation is the desire for a fresh approach to operations and access to experienced business consultants. Cast Solutions has the team and the expertise – do you have the ambition?

Business advisory services can be broken down into two separate areas – Strategic business planning and data strategy planning. Each of these is described in this section.

Strategic business planning

Forward thinking is one of the most valuable traits an executive team can have. Being able to assess the state of a company and prepare for what comes next requires agile strategic business planning. However, many senior enterprise leaders lack the breadth of expertise – encompassing an organisation's financial accounts, sales processes, product development and IT systems – that's needed to flesh out a long-term programme for improving their business.

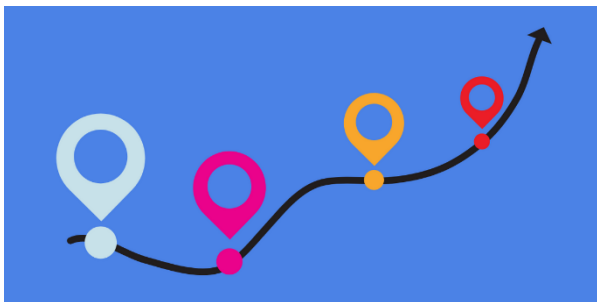
How can Cast Solutions help?

Cast Solutions' corporate advisory services give company leaders a full assessment of all operational elements, grounding them in the details of what state their business is in today.

From there, our business consultants work with you to create a strategic roadmap, incorporating your business' priorities, the action steps required and milestones to watch out for.

A fresh set of eyes, alongside our workshops designed to analyse operational performance while engaging key stakeholders, can help to totally transform your business' trajectory.

Cast Solutions aims to help senior management, whatever their area of expertise, to play to their strengths, safe in the knowledge that a professional business analysis will identify all development opportunities.



4 benefits of better strategic business planning

1. Refresh business goals

Having a clear one-year, five-year and even longer-term strategy isn't just useful for global organisations; even SMEs will benefit from setting future targets and adapting operations to meet them.

External business advice can help management teams better understand the state of the market and produce more accurate forecasts and what-if analytics.

2. Identify business improvement areas

Sometimes organisations can't imagine integrating new day-to-day processes because they have done things the same way for so long.

Business advisory services are focused on transforming your business performance and improving efficiency. This transformation includes improving inter-team collaboration and making decisions driven by single-truth datasets. These benefits can be passed on to your customers, improving the client experience.

3. Rethink key competencies/skills

Your business employees may be right for you today, but that doesn't mean that your company structure will always suit your needs.

External consultants can help you to assess areas of operational growth that will require new skills and determine what expertise you will need to realise your strategic goals.

Cast Solutions can also help you to increase planning transparency across your organisation. Sharing insights with stakeholders and management more efficiently ultimately improves the alignment of operational planning with long-term strategic goals.

4. Smarter use of data, technology and people

Time and resources cost money, no matter the scale of the organisation. Business advisory services can help you get more out of your resources by refocusing employees on the processes that matter.

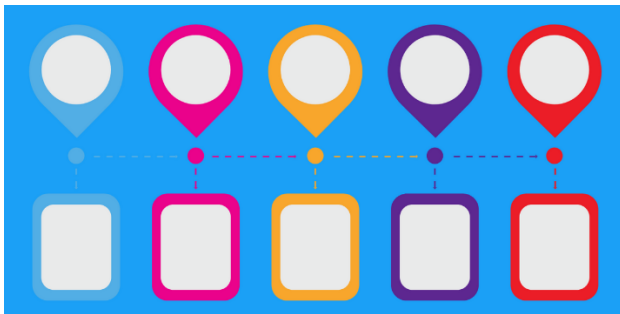
Our consultants can also help to encourage a culture of analytical thinking that builds processes around desired end results, not the other way around.

Data strategy planning

Typically, many data gathering and management processes are centralised around a company's IT team. This unintentionally siloes data insights – from acquisition through to model creation and then results presentation – from those who will be using the information. This makes data management planning more difficult and also means this process delivers less nuanced results.

How can Cast Solutions help?

In a more modern data management approach, business users produce insights from datasets on the fly. IT teams create datasets for business analysis from experts, typically business consultants, before users generate results for use in planning next steps. This system gives C-Suite executives and management teams the flexibility to adapt strategic thinking around new information in real-time and helps them to frame what information is essential and what isn't.



4 benefits of better data management planning

1. Increase productivity

Good data management practices make it easier for employees to find and understand information relevant to decision making. This in turn helps them to more easily check how effectively they work and means that they can get better quality work done without spending time looking for or checking datasets. A single accessible 'point of truth' telling the story of your business will pay dividends down the track.

2. Raise cost efficiency

Well-organised data that flows from appropriate data warehouses or databases into business analysis systems reduces the chances of duplicate or incorrect information. By reducing the chance of data inaccuracy companies reduce the cost of extensive quality checking and negate the costs of fixing problems when they arise down the track. Cast Solutions will also ensure that you use the right data analytics tools for your needs, taking the trial and error – and the costs that come with it – out of deciding what tools to use.

3. Improve operational flexibility

The speed at which a company makes decisions and pivots on new market trends is central to long-term success. If operational data is poorly organised or stored, it's tricky to react to change and you can fall behind competitors. Good data management and corporate advisory on how to use this information gives businesses the adaptability to make decisions quickly and move with the times. It will also help to identify what enterprise tools employees will need to perform to their best.

4. Enhance data governance

A strategic plan for using and storing your priceless data is important. Whether customer or partner information, cybersecurity threats are ever-present in the modern business world. Better data management planning, including using the right processing and storage tools, helps to protect organisations from harm.

The Cast Solutions difference

We have worked with more than 100 companies across Australia to overcome operational issues, improve process efficiency, and drive productive and meaningful business outcomes. We are more than just strategic partners; Cast Solutions is wedded to your future ambitions.

Our corporate advisory team has significant experience in the construction, utilities, engineering and infrastructure industries, giving us a methodical edge to our thinking that's integral in business analysis. Our business consultants are also trained to use the most advanced data analysis systems, allowing us to understand your company and offer tailored insights which can unlock new possibilities.

Confucius once said, "If you are the smartest person in the room, you are in the wrong room." Business advisory services can add a wealth of insight to your operations, helping you to reorganise your data management and strategic planning to power a more successful future.

Business intelligence services

Introduction

Modern businesses gather and produce a tremendous amount of data across their operations. Digital tools allow companies to gather information on a multitude of different factors, from internal data like employee performance metrics to external data like customer demographics. This is tremendously important for more accurate and fit-for-purpose business planning – but organisational data is ultimately only as good as what you can learn from it.

That's where business intelligence analyst services come in.

Business intelligence stems from smartly used data, not smarter data

What are business intelligence services?

Business intelligence (BI) services are the link between data and being able to use it to the fullest. Many organisations can source digital tools to gather data, but unless these companies also have an expert IT team trained to use BI software, this data is an under-used resource. To maximise data intelligence into your operations, you need a workflow that incorporates digital tools and

expert insight which will deliver the right solutions to the right people at the right time.

Consider this example: when taking a holiday, you usually bring a map or guide book. This is data. Everything you need to know about your destination is there, but how can you make sense of where to go and what to do without knowing how to apply that information to your interests?

Now, a friend who knows the area offers you some tips. They use your map to pick out spots you'd enjoy visiting to ensure you get the most out of your trip. They analyse the data on the tools available, add their own insights, and give you back information customised to your needs.

BI services are simply about a knowledgeable business intelligence analyst using appropriate software and their own commercial and operational expertise to transform raw data into actionable insights. Business intelligence software accesses and analyses datasets across a business' operations, sifting through this information to present findings in a more easily digestible way. Traditionally, this is written as a report or visualised through static charts. However, many modern organisations now require a more interactive, real-time data dashboard to keep pace with the trendsetters in their industry. This dynamic dashboard can be adapted to suit the needs and work processes of your business; it's about making your data work for you.

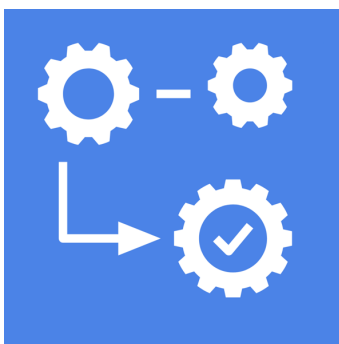
How do business intelligence services work?

Cast Solutions uses a range of enterprise-grade products, both self-hosted and Software as a Service (SaaS), to help businesses build a data processing system perfectly suited to their needs. Intelligent application of data analytics or visualisation is a major part of BI services – there is no ‘one size fits all’ approach to helping our clients. As such, our business intelligence analysts tailor their service and the business intelligence solutions used to your unique situation.



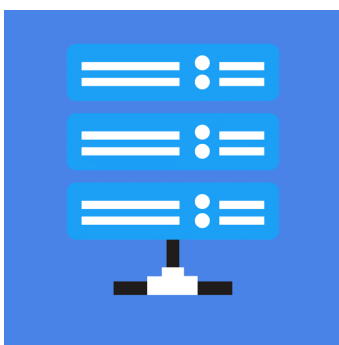
Discussing your objectives

First, we will determine what you want to be able to get from your data. Key stakeholders are integral to our design-thinking methodology, so we will discuss your strategic objectives to determine what BI service you require. We can base ourselves onsite or work remotely, depending on your needs.



Analysing your processes

Our expert team, after studying your information flow, will map out a plan of action. This strategy is dependent on whether you want something as simple as new and enhanced insights from your existing data and technologies, or a more complex service such as interactive web dashboards, chatbots, or data automation.



Producing a data plan

Our next step is to ensure that you have the full picture around your data plan. We will summarise our findings, visualising how you can better use your proprietary business data and any new workflow or system. We then assist you in building or configuring the workflow/system.



Implementing BI insights

We will then work with your team to make changes to your data gathering and processing workflow. This will supercharge your datasets, making it easier to analyse and draw insights from them. It will also make you more agile in approaching inefficiencies or challenges within your operations. After your solution is live, we then provide ongoing service support and improvements if the time comes that you discover a greater need for insight.

What are the benefits of BI services?

Many businesses, regardless of their industry or size, spend a significant portion of their IT budget on manual data manipulation including expert software and employing staff to process this data. However, you simply can't make the most out of this investment unless you can accurately understand and interpret this data to aid decision making.

BI services offer organisations the following benefits:

- More fit-for-purpose data reporting.
- This enables organisations to effectively and confidently make business decisions tailored to their unique requirements.
- Future-proof enterprise planning.
- Using business intelligence software, organisations can adapt long-term objectives to align with where your data says you should go.
- Improved employee satisfaction. Accurately analysing employee performance metrics allows businesses to reward high performing staff when it's appropriate.
- Higher operational efficiency. With more effective insights from company data, you can identify and restrict information bottlenecks to reduce process time and costs.
- Increased customer satisfaction. Businesses are defined by their customer experience. A digital data dashboard allows for a more collaborative working approach and increases client oversight. This in turn can lead to higher trust and satisfaction.
- Enhanced industry reputation. Better data management means you can stand out and differentiate yourself, no matter the market. You can develop a smarter product or enhance your services – you'll be a progressive business that leads rather than follows.

The Cast Solutions difference

Cast Solutions is more than just a business advisory and data solution provider. We are proud partners of your future business success. To make that happen, we need to get right to the core of what your company is about. That requires trust and collaboration – that's why our agile, design-thinking methodology puts your business' needs at the forefront of our thinking.

Our team has diverse expertise in the construction, engineering, logistics and building sectors, as well as experience using business intelligence tools such as Qlik, Power BI and Tableau. This helps us to offer a BI service solution that is both informed by your unique company processes and backed by our years of business experience and data analytics expertise.

This is the Cast Solutions difference. We are committed to making your data work for you so that you can unlock your company's true potential.

Business improvement services

Introduction

They say it can be hard seeing the forest for the trees – this is particularly true in the current world of business. No matter the scale of the company, it's very easy to become lost in its own way of doing things. This makes it difficult to objectively analyse legacy workflows or systems to see if they are truly fit-for-purpose or offering maximum business performance.

Even global conglomerates can benefit from an outsider's perspective on operations. Cast Solutions offers proven business improvement methods designed to give organisations the chance to see the pros and cons of how they operate. Our services also give businesses exposure to new ways of working and technologies that can identify sales opportunities, reduce time wasted on ineffectual tasks and reduce costs to their bottom line.

Build from a position of strength; a successful business can always be improved

What are business improvement services?

Business improvement services are about realigning your way of working with your enterprise objectives. The title may seem obvious, but it can be challenging for companies to streamline long-established processes or identify why, despite cost reductions, spending remains high.

The main areas that business improvement services focus on include:

- Identifying process bottlenecks. Whether that's a confusing management structure or excessive input from too many stakeholders, bottlenecks can be hard to find but contribute to tremendous business inefficiency.
- Assessing technologies. Ineffective data capture or processing systems can make even the most basic tasks time-consuming and resource-draining. Assessing proprietary and/or legacy tools doesn't necessarily mean more investment; often a simple project management tool, customised to a company's needs, can lead to major improvements across the board.
- Appraising enterprise values. In the course of day-to-day operations it's simple for organisations to lose sight of their 'north star' values; what drives the business every day. Reassessing enterprise values can help companies get back to basics about what they need to do to reach those goals.
- Having an external perspective on what your organisation does well and what it can improve on is central to good business planning, especially when arriving at a new stage of growth. Without this oversight from experts such as Cast Solutions, companies will continue to make the same mistakes, stagnating the time spent on simple tasks and hindering overall business efficiency.

How can Cast Solutions improve my business?

Organisations come to Cast Solutions with many different objectives for improvement; to identify new sales opportunities, lower costs, streamline processes, or save time. Each of these end-points require different metrics to track success, making data capture from the very beginning a crucial factor to offering an industry leading service.

We initiate our service by developing a roadmap for your organisation. This process is pivotal to our design-thinking methodology because it places your ideal outcome, the place and time in which your business is able to operate at maximum efficiency, firmly in our mind from the outset.

Cast Solutions will consult with your senior leadership team to determine the short-term project goals and broader enterprise objectives guiding the decision to improve your business operations.

We will also analyse your data gathering and processing systems to determine what additional information we need to capture and assess before we recommend any changes.

From there, we will present your team with our plan for improvement as active buy-in from key stakeholders is critical. How we improve your business depends on your unique operations. These changes can generally be broken down as data-based or process-based:

- Data-based
- Process-based
- Upgrading data capture systems
- Removing workflow bottlenecks
- Pooling siloed data
- Getting more from collaboration tools
- Changing how data is visualised
- Increasing staff buy-in for any improvements

Next, we will implement our business development plan, introducing new data systems and designing new workflow processes to ensure that your staff can continue day-to-day operations unhindered by our changes. We can work onsite or collaborate with your team remotely, depending on your requirements, and can adapt our timeline for improvement to suit you.

The Cast Solutions difference

The Cast Solutions team isn't just made up of data analytics and enterprise experts. It is so successful because everyone is on the same page about what business improvement involves.

We offer market-leading business improvement methods because we practice what we preach – there isn't a single process change or system upgrade that we will ask your organisation to undertake that the Cast Solutions team hasn't already worked through.

4 benefits of doing it the Cast Solutions way

1. Pan-industry expertise

Cast Solutions' team has experience in the construction, utilities, engineering and infrastructure sectors, giving us extensive insight into best-practice in those industries.

2. Leading digital tools

We bring you real-time, data-driven transformation powered by the most advanced business intelligence platforms including Qlik, Power BI and Tableau.

3. Design-thinking focus

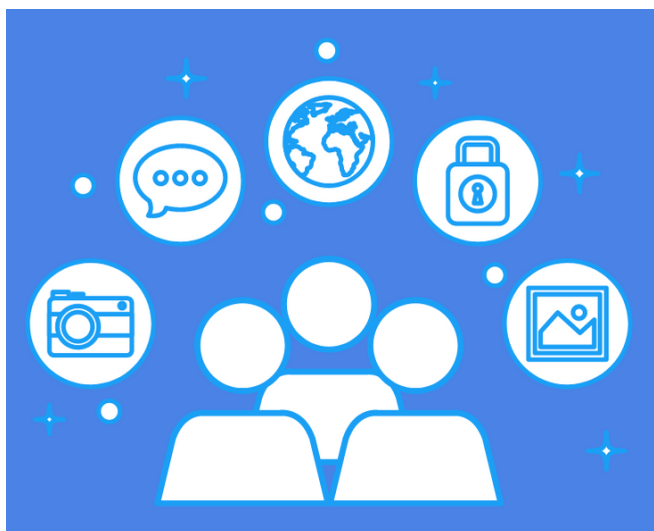
Our methodology involves thoroughly researching what makes your business unique and visualising your end goal for a more holistic improvement process.

4. Collaborative working

Our business improvement service is built on working with you to achieve your goals, meaning you effectively power your own change, no matter what your end goals are.

5. Breaking your business' glass ceiling

No business thinks that they play a part in restricting their own growth – but few organisations devote sufficient time to ensuring their operations are relevant. Legacy systems/processes, once useful, can be so entrenched that it's hard to see that they are no longer fit-for-purpose and can contribute to lower business efficiency.



With the right business improvement methods, you can break through your glass ceiling and raise your business' bottom line.

Data analytics services

Introduction

No business can survive in the modern world without data analytics. How can you progress without insight into how your operations work and what opportunities for improvement exist?

Taking full control of your business means taking apart your daily workflow and data gathering processes to rebuild something more competitive, more efficient and better fit-for-purpose.

Data analytics is the real beginning of a business' journey.

Cast Solutions team helps you transform into the industry leading organisation you can become.

How Cast Solutions does data analysis

Our data analytics tools sit like a screen over the top of your varying sources of information. This helps different systems to relate to data stored in the other systems and pools all available datasets, using something as simple as an Excel spreadsheet or as complex as an API to connect to a cloud-based platform, into a single data lake. From there, we analyse this information and plan a new workflow from which you can transform data into actionable insights.

Companies can choose from bespoke platforms customised to their needs, with varying levels of automation allowing for personal data disparity governance or total digitisation. Clients can also opt for systems which use advanced artificial intelligence and machine learning algorithms to power predictive analytics, or simple-to-use plug-and-play data dashboards – all of which are customised to your needs and are designed for ease-of-use by anyone.

Business intelligence starts with knowing the hows and whys behind day-to-day operations. With analytics tools, you can utilise this vital information to build a company ready for today. Taking this a step further, advanced tools such as predictive analytics or machine learning can help you to forecast where you should head next. Back growth backed by data.

What are the benefits of data analytics?

1. Anticipating needs

Predictive analytics is beneficial for companies that have already used data analytics tools. Powered by artificial intelligence and machine learning algorithms customised to your business' needs, this process uses your proprietary data to forecast future trends.

2. Mitigating risk

Data analytics tools can identify incomplete datasets. From there it's usually not too difficult to find the source of fault with your data gathering workflow. Catching issues with unprocessed data saves time fixing problems at an operational level and cuts the costs of remedying issues that can arise from inaccurate data such as misplaced orders or incorrect stocktakes.

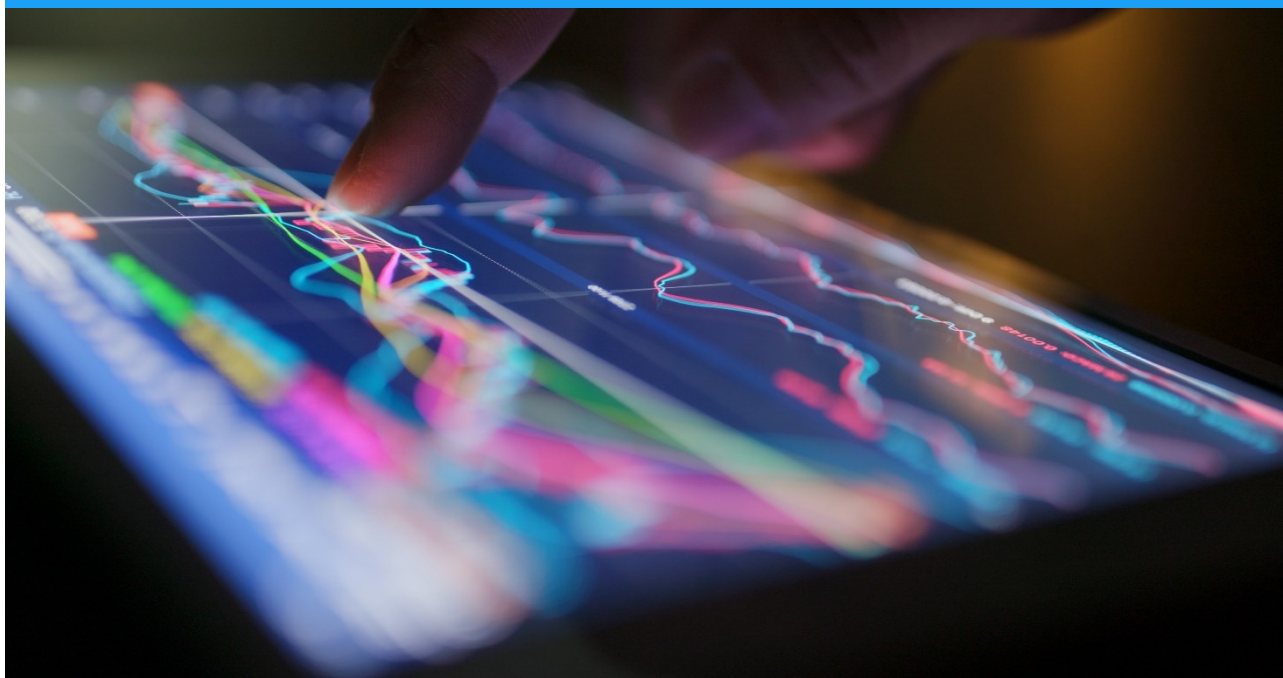
3. Planning sustainable growth

An analytics roadmap aligns your business priorities to how you manage and use your data. This plan for growth is a living document which can be tweaked as your journey progresses or as the market changes while remaining aligned to your overall enterprise goals.

4. Building better strategies

We assist your organisation to rapidly identify and report on your existing data environment. This provides clarity around your data quality, which in turn means that you can make better-informed decisions and strategies with your company's best-practice in mind

Make better-informed business decisions with data analytics.



FAQs

What everyone wants to know about data analytics

1. Do I really need analytics tools?

Leading data analytics SaaS providers, including Cast Solutions, have continuously reiterated new versions of their tools because the marketplace dictates that they are a core investment. It's simply not a cost that companies can avoid. Data analytics dashboards are an integral part of many modern business operations, so failing to find your own data solution is a recipe for disaster.

2. I don't think my data is good enough to use...

Don't worry! Part of Cast Solutions' data analytics service is 'cleaning' this data, ready for use. Also known as data cleansing, scrubbing or repairing, our team will identify all incorrect, incomplete, or irrelevant datasets while implementing new data collection or processing workflows, reducing the likelihood of inaccuracies down the track.

Data cleaning is often done before adopting new analytics tools or data management systems. However, Cast Solutions can run these processes at the same time, using SaaS tools to pinpoint inaccurate data housed in multiple places and assess the causes behind these issues. This then informs our data analytics offering and how we improve your business.

3. My data is disorganised. Can I still use analytics tools?

Many organisations struggle with organising disparate datasets across multiple platforms. From staff information housed on your company platform to documents stored in Google Suite, it's a challenge ensuring that all of this data is accounted for.

We bring all these different sources into our data analytics service, offering a digital dashboard that creates a single view over business operations.

4. Is it expensive to use data analytics?

Data analytics SaaS has become highly cost effective and nowadays companies can choose from a range of platforms with varying degrees of dashboard customisation, predictive analytics and integration ability with your other business systems.

Whatever your choice, it's important to assess a data analytics provider's full suite of costs. Many data analytics providers offer what seem like cost-effective service packages – but these often contain a hidden cost of SQL rescripting for each new report issued. This translates to significant ongoing technical support.

The Cast Solutions team initiates the data analytics service with a full project roadmap, laying out each step to growth with full transparency on all ongoing costs and technical support. We are partners to your future success, so want to ensure you are onboard from the outset.

5. I don't want to learn to use another new digital system...

It can be tiresome trying to keep across multiple enterprise systems and tools. That's why we offer customers the opportunity to design their own data dashboards. This gives you total control over how you gather and analyse data. You also have the option to fully automate your data analytics tools or maintain full governance over all information gathering and processing.

For time-poor customers, we also offer leading out-of-the-box SaaS tools such as Qlik, Tableau and Power BI. Cast Solutions can provide training and technical support for these platforms.

Data integration Services

Introduction

Without an integrated view over your company data, how can you make smarter business choices?

Data integration has become an indispensable steppingstone for organisations looking to move to the next level in their industry. It can be intimidating to manage this process yourself – you have to identify all possible sources of data, assess the possible relationships, manage system connectivity and versioning, and develop a governance framework.

Imagine: an efficient flow of company data across all of your data sources. With an integrated data pipeline, you won't have to imagine.

How we integrate your company data

We know that modern users need robust database integration and flexible data analytics tools to make decisions fast. Traditionally a data management consultant batch-moves information using custom ETL scripting – a slow, expensive and labour-intensive process.

That's why Cast Solutions uses industry leading enterprise products, such as Qlik, to automate everything. With Qlik, users get the frictionless exchange of information across their databases, data warehouses and data marts through your company apps and systems.

Cast Solutions leads the way in using enterprise-grade data management software, tailored to your business' needs, offering a start point to powering a rethink of how you treat your data.

For customers who need automated data delivery to streamline analytics and data workflows

Qlik Replicate™ offers automated real-time data delivery, allowing users to:

Enable change data capture (CDC) across various storage systems, enabling automated data replication and helping users track what datasets have changed.

Analyse large volumes of differing types of data, from flat files (like CSV) to internal company databases, all replicated in an enterprise-ready and analytics-optimised database.

Manage bulk or real-time data flows across all data storage systems.

For customers who need advanced data warehousing and data-mart capability to gain better insight into data sources

Qlik Compose™ automates data warehouse and data mart creation, meaning users benefit from:

Agile data-flow transformation automation, modelled on your business' needs, without scripting.

Continuous integration of fresh data into a single data source, ensuring that no new information is lost in transit between different platforms.

Better data analytics through the use of easy-to-create and automatically updated data marts, allowing users to pull and analyse the collated information needed without any support.

Automation. Change data capture. Streaming.



What are the benefits of data integration?

1. Anticipating needs

Predictive analytics is beneficial

2. Improved business operations

Integrating your raw data sources saves time spent looking for and processing information across different platforms. This improves workflow efficiency and reduces the risk of errors.

3. Better-informed decision making

Integrated data gives you timely access to understand the full picture, without missing or inaccurate information, before you make any strategic decisions. This means companies will have greater insight to make better business decisions.

4. More effective team collaboration

Collaboration is the trend dominating the business world – more people want to work together, remotely and in person. A single point for fact finding, whether this be a database, data warehouse or data mart – with governed access for all teams – aids better collaboration.

5. Stronger partnerships

More collaboration between your internal teams can be extended to your enterprise partners and end clients. Pooling information between the parties reduces time and stress spent chasing after the most up-to-date data.

6. Greater workflow agility

The ability to customise data pipelines connecting your company apps means that you have the flexibility to adjust business processes to suit your needs.

The Cast Solutions difference

Data integration is a necessity in modern businesses with vast amounts of disparate data. Without it, there's a high chance of uninformed or inaccurate decision making. This can impact every element of your company, from internal efficiency to external communications.

Cast Solutions' data integration service is the solution to this risk. Our data management consultants and business experts have insight into both the technical configuration of data integration and the conceptual applications of this change. We also use leading data management software, including Qlik Compose™ and Qlik Replicate™, to power greater business intelligence.

Turn your raw data sources into fountains of knowledge with Cast Solutions.

FAQs

5 core data integration concepts

1. What is data integration?

It's simply consolidating different datasets (most often databases) housed across multiple platforms. This process can often be quite time consuming when done manually as the entire pipeline, from source to target, can get very complex. Once this data has been integrated, it's ready for whatever purpose the business requires, often in-depth analysis using data analytics tools. This centralised dataset gives companies a single view of operations, which can inform more meaningful future decision making.

2. Where does the data go?

The data being processed informs the type of system it's stored in:

- Databases are platforms which store structured and often related information. These are the most common data stores you would find within an organisation. Typically, any data analytics or business intelligence tools can pull information from this source.
- Data warehouses also house structured data, making them alike databases – however, data warehouses are often optimised for analytics or read access, making them cost-effective for storing large amounts of data. A key feature of a data warehouse is to also enable access to archived point-in-time data which is no longer relevant to a business' day-to-day operations.
- Data marts go hand-in-hand with data warehouses; however, they are often built using multiple datasets, providing you with data to serve a specific purpose.
- Data lakes don't often require any specific data structure, meaning you can store incomplete or unstructured datasets in whatever format they may be. They are often used in businesses with vast amounts of unstructured data which requires analysis.

3. How can I access this data?

Data, wherever it's stored, is connected through data pipelines. These pipelines allow data to flow between source applications and data storage systems. For example, a data pipeline can connect a source application, such as a CRM system, to a data warehouse. This can then automatically archive information when it's not needed. Data pipelines can also push certain types of information housed in data warehouses into an analytics database, ensuring the analytics software only assesses relevant datasets.

If you want to restrict who can access your information, data marts are ideal. These programs are built into data storage systems to only allow specific groups access to your proprietary data.

4. Is data integration compatible with all storage systems?

Data integration combines data management software with leading Software as a Software (SaaS) tools. These processes sit over the top of your existing workflow to change data capture and processing without affecting operations. This offers companies greater flexibility to design a data integration service that fits their systems and apps while also adding new data flows.

5. What do I do once my data has been integrated?

Traditionally data engineers have to pool all raw data sources before any other analytics tools or business intelligence services are deployed. They would then carefully create data structures that are relevant for typical end user use-cases. However, Cast Solutions' data integration service is a springboard to introducing new software or workflows alongside this consolidation and data quality checking process, greatly speeding up your project lead time.



Contact us for more information

www.castolutions.com.au

1300 515 660