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Solution Brief: Pre-built, Self-service Data Analytics for Oracle E-Business Suite

Providing finance teams with deep and fast data-driven insights

Introduction

No longer is it enough for finance teams to report financial results and streamline processes; in fact, 85% of an ESG survey respondents believe it is imperative for the finance organization to transform from reporting on "what" is happening in the business to "why" things are happening. Finance leaders are expected to answer new questions from executives every day, and to guide business strategy. It is therefore not surprising that according to Gartner, the #1 priority of CFOs is advanced data analytics technologies.

While Deloitte notes that "CFOs are in a unique position to become the chief analytics officers as finance gains a bigger influence in driving the company's strategy", CFOs do spend more time sifting through spreadsheets than doing anything else—an average of 2.24 hours per day. Finance teams face significant challenges combining ever growing data sets from different formats and sources into a single source of truth to provide actionable insights to other departments.

For IT, those needs translate into an increasing number of complex, time consuming demands from financial analysts.

Going beyond Oracle E-Business Suite reporting

While the Oracle E-Business Suite transactional reporting and supplementary offerings such as Enterprise Command Centers enable finance teams to report on "what" happened, they often fail to rapidly help them understand the root causes of issues. Additionally, existing solutions may not efficiently address new demands from finance teams, including:

- Independently starting new data analytics projects in minutes
- Combining E-Business Suite data with numerous other data sets across different sources and formats
- Eliminating the consolidation of information in spreadsheets for data sharing and collaboration
- Self-service analytics powered by machine learning to quickly discover new insights
- Ability to easily build and deploy machine learning models
- Performing graph and spatial analysis
- Standardized reporting across E-Business Suite and Oracle Fusion ERP
- Faster data analytics integration of acquired companies

The situation was exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. According to The Data Warehouse Institute (TDWI): "**Data democratization and self-service have become an imperative**. Now, enterprises need to **provide data and the means to transform data to more business users** to help them **rapidly solve business problems inside their departments**."

E-Business Suite Analytics Cloud Accelerator

EBS Analytics Cloud Accelerator is a prebuilt solution for E-Business Suite powered by Oracle Autonomous Database for analytics and data warehousing and Oracle Analytics Cloud. It enables finance professionals to rapidly uncover underlying drivers of profitability, improve the use of working capital, and control business expenditures. EBS Analytics Cloud Accelerator includes:

- Hundreds of prebuilt KPIs, dashboards and reports complementing EBS transactional reporting to help guide business strategy

- A prebuilt data foundation (data pipeline from Oracle EBS, data model) allowing users to focus on analysis, not data management
- A complete, self-service data analytics solution to easily enrich E-Business Suite data with additional data sets and discover new insights with a comprehensive suite of built-in tools

EBS Analytics Cloud Accelerator is implemented by the Oracle Cloud Lift Services team.

EBS Analytics Cloud Accelerator delivers:

- 300+ prebuilt Financial KPIs to monitor business performance

Profitability & Loss	• Revenue • COGS • Gross Profit • Gross Sales • Net Income • Net Profit Margin • Operating Expense	• Net Profit Margin • Operating Expense • Employee Expenses • Other Employee Expenses • Rental Expense • Maintenance Expense
Balance Sheet	• Asset • Liability • Owners Equity • Days Sales Outstanding • Days Payables Outstanding	• Current Ratio • Debt to Equity Ratio • Days Inventory Outstanding
Receivables	• AR Turnover Rate • AR Outstanding • AR Overdue • AR Due in Next 30 Days	• AR Unapplied Receipts • AR Average Receipt Days • AR On Time Receipts % • AR Outstanding for Top 10 Customers
Payables	• AP Due in Next 30 Days • AP Turnover Rate • AP Invoices Processed • AP Outstanding • AP Overdue	• AP Holds • AP Payments Processed • AP Avg Supplier Payment Days • AP On Time Payments

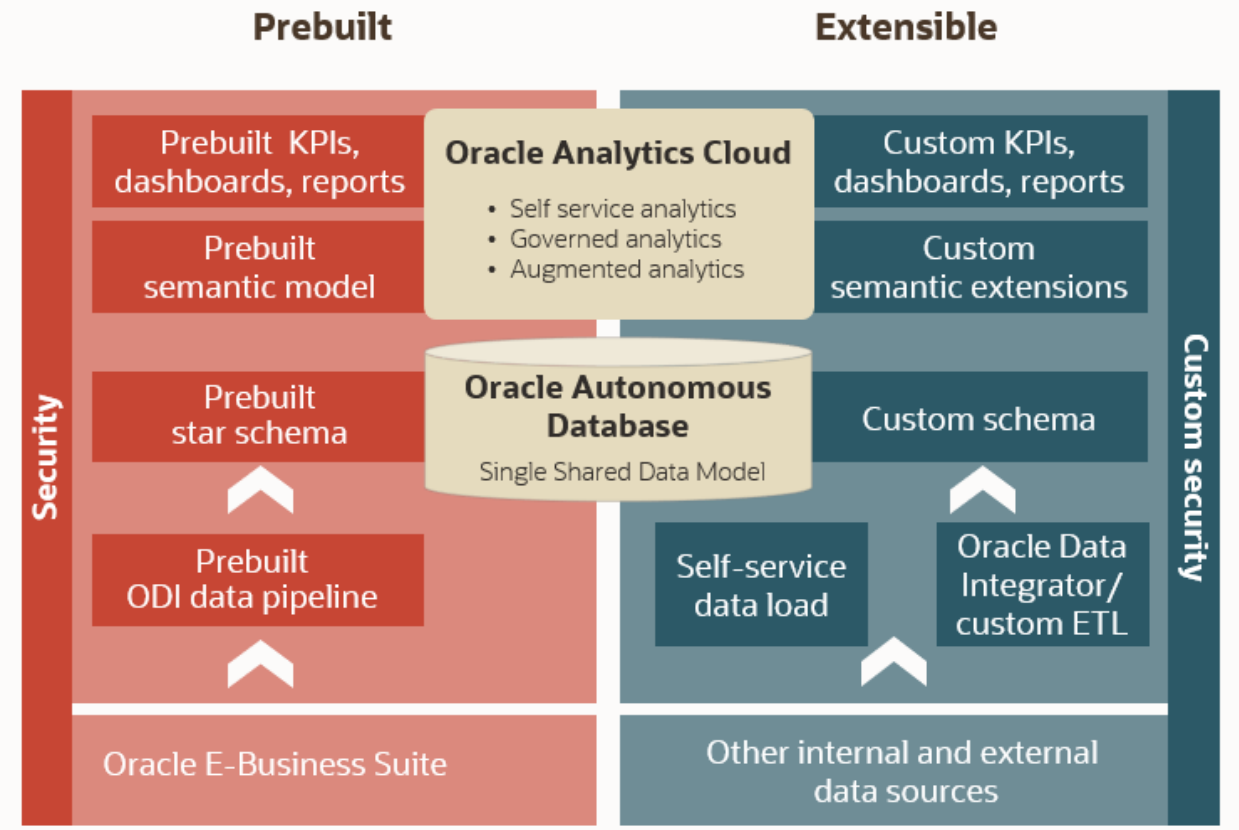
- 100+ prebuilt Procurement and Spend KPIs

Spend Summary	• Spend distribution by location • Top 5 BU Spend • Spend Trend • Spend commitment near Future	• Number of Purchase Orders • Number of Invoices • PO Matched Spend • PO Required Spend • Payables Leakage Amount • PO Not Required Spend
Supplier Summary	• Top 10 Suppliers by Spend • Spend Trend • Aging overview	• Number of Suppliers • Number of Supplier Accounts • Number of Supplier Sites
Off Contract Spending	• Agreement Leakage Amount • Agreement Leakage Amount Year Ago • Non-Agreement Purchase Amount • Non-Agreement Purchase Amount Year Ago	• Agreement Leakage Amount • Agreement Leakage Amount Ago • Agreement Leakage Rate • Agreement Purchase Amount • Non-agreement Purchase Amount • Non-agreement Purchase Rate • Agreement Purchase Rate

- Additional prebuilt KPIs, dashboards and reports

A complete, self-service data analytics solution

In addition to the prebuilt KPIs and reports, EBS Analytics Cloud Accelerator can be extended to build custom ones.



Data from all sources and formats can be combined in Autonomous Database for analytics and data warehousing to drive secure collaboration around a single source of truth. Autonomous Database intelligently automates provisioning, configuring, securing, patching, backing up, performance tuning, and repairing of a data warehouse. This reduces administration effort by up to 90%, enabling finance teams to operate independently while freeing up valuable resources for IT teams. It is the only cloud data warehouse that is **autonomous**, **self-service**, and **complete**, providing finance teams with a comprehensive suite of built-in tools:

- Data tools enable self-service drag-and-drop data loading, data transformation, and business modelling. Financial analysts can automatically discover insights with machine learning algorithms—no coding required—saving them significant time and efforts.

- Built-in graph analytics enables financial analysts to visualize relationships and connections between data entities. They can for example instantly see all costs and headcount associated to a given project, or understand all dependencies associated to a given supplier to best manage supplier relationships.

- With built-in spatial analytics, they can rapidly answer financial questions such as “where did bad weather impact revenue?”, or “where are our most profitable customers?”

- Financial analysts can build machine learning models—with a no code interface for business users—to predict likely financial outcomes, e.g. customers likely to default on payment, transactions likely to be fraudulent, expected revenue based on forecast and historical patterns…etc

- With the built-in Oracle APEX low-code development platform, finance teams can quickly develop applications for ad hoc needs and gaps/processes handled outside of their ERP—without having to join a queue of IT projects. Such applications can include ad hoc data rooms for acquisitions, tracking the progress of digital transformation initiatives, or COVID-19 related applications.

Oracle Analytics Cloud is connected to Autonomous Database, empowering business users and executives with modern, AI-powered, self-service analytics capabilities for data preparation, visualization, enterprise reporting, augmented analysis, and natural language processing/generation.

Customers primarily interested in the complete, self-service data analytics solution previously described—and less in the prebuilt KPIs, dashboards and reports—can naturally implement it separately. More information about this Oracle Departmental Data Warehouse solution is available here.

Conclusion

Beyond their core financial responsibilities, finance leaders are in a unique position to guide business strategy and help other departments achieve their goals. Having the ability to rapidly and independently turn a growing mountain of data into insights is essential to achieve these objectives. EBS Analytics Cloud Accelerator, powered by Autonomous Database and Oracle Analytics Cloud, empowers finance teams with actionable intelligence for fast decision making—enabling them to efficiently take on the leadership role that is increasingly expected of them. Moreover, IT teams reduce risks with a governed, secure solution while saving significant time and efforts.

Contact us to learn more about EBS Analytics Cloud Accelerator

Connect with us

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