Evaluating Power BI's New Deployment Pipeline

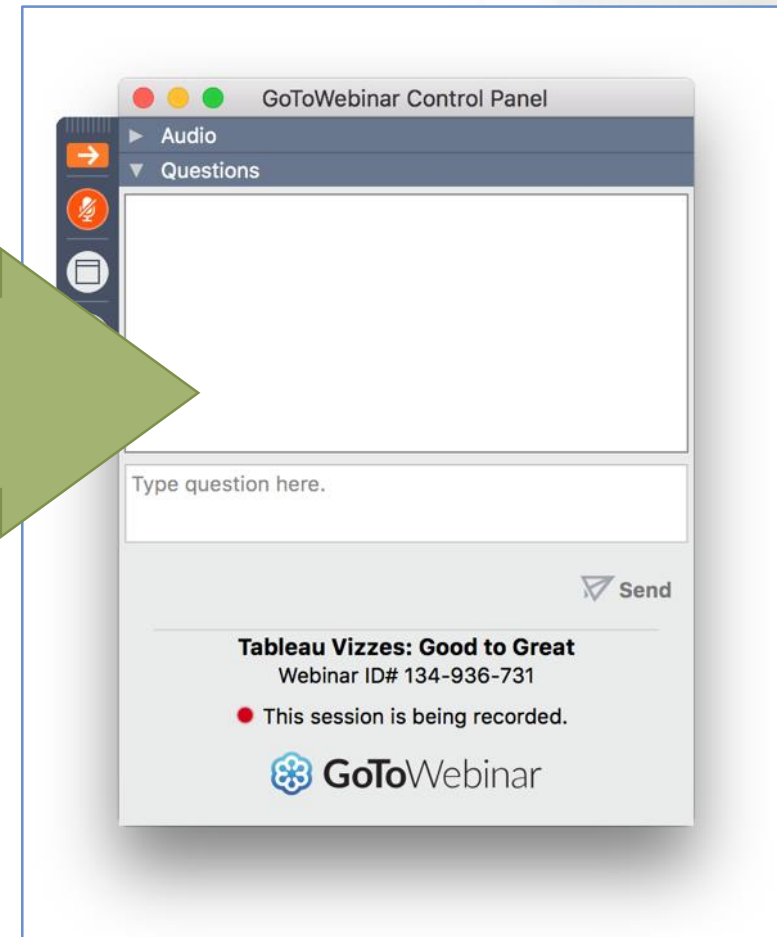# GoToWebinar control panel

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Agenda

Introductions

Introduction to deployment pipelines

Demo

Discussion

   Requirements

   Limitations

   Recommended best practices

Senturus overview

Additional resources

Q&A

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Introductions

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How do you manage your deployment process now?

What is deployment pipelines?

- "An efficient and reusable tool that enables BI creators in an enterprise with Premium capacity, to manage the lifecycle of organizational content.

- Allows developing and testing Power BI content such as reports, dashboards, and datasets, before they're consumed by end users."*

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Workflow benefits

- Add the ability to manage content lifecycle (finally)

- Help build an efficient and reusable process for development, testing, and production

- Allow for improved productivity, faster delivery, and reduced user errors

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Demo

Discussion

Requirements

- All in Premium (A, EM, P)

- Workspace member to view content

- Permission to create workspaces (if new) or workspaces created for you

- Workspaces have new workspace experience enabled

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Permissions

- Pipeline permissions and workspace permissions are granted and managed separately

- Users with pipeline access have the following permissions:
  - View the pipeline
  - Share the pipeline with others
  - Edit and delete the pipeline

- Pipeline access doesn't grant permissions to view or take actions on the workspace content

- Suggestions
  - Development workspace permissions = developers
  - Test workspace permissions = limited
  - Production workspace permissions = extremely limited
  - Pipeline permissions = deployment permissions
  - App permissions = viewers
  - Build permissions set in app or at dataset

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Use cases

Include

- Full deployment
- Selective deployment
- Backwards deployment

However…

- Limitations
- Utilizes premium resources whereas a shared workspace doesn't have to
- No method to revert to previous version

Limitations

- Premium workspaces required for all environments

- Incremental refresh not supported

- Sensitivity labels not supported

- Workspace deployment limited to <300 items

- Template apps not supported

- Paginated reports

- Dataflows not supported (Mar 2021)

- Downloading dataset from target workspace not supported

- Limited data source rules

- App contents and settings are not copied

- Assign 1 workspace for 1 deployment pipeline ONLY

- No rollback/versioning

- Cannot assign all three to existing workspaces.

- No approvals and notes – does not support compliance standards

Best practices

- Treat each workspace as a complete package of analytics

- Plan your permission model

- Connect different stages to different databases

- Use parameters in your model

- Development
  - Use Power BI Desktop to edit your reports and datasets
  - Version control for .pbix files
  - Separate modeling development from report and dashboard development
  - Manage your models using XMLA read/write capabilities

- Test
  - Simulate your production environment
  - Use dataset rules with a real-life data source
  - Measure performance
  - Check related items
  - Test your app

- Production
  - Manage who can deploy to production
  - Set rules to ensure production stage availability
  - Update the production app
  - Quick fixes to content

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Next release

Scheduled March 2021

Other approaches

- GitHub

- SharePoint/OneDrive

- Share in the chat

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Component of overall Power BI administration

- Center of excellence

- Tenant and premium administration

- Premium capacity

- Performance and usage monitoring and optimization

- Governance

- Adoption

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More on this topic

- White paper: Preparing to deploy Power BI Premium
https://senturus.com/resources/preparing-to-deploy-power-bi-premium/

- Matrix: Power BI report distribution options by license
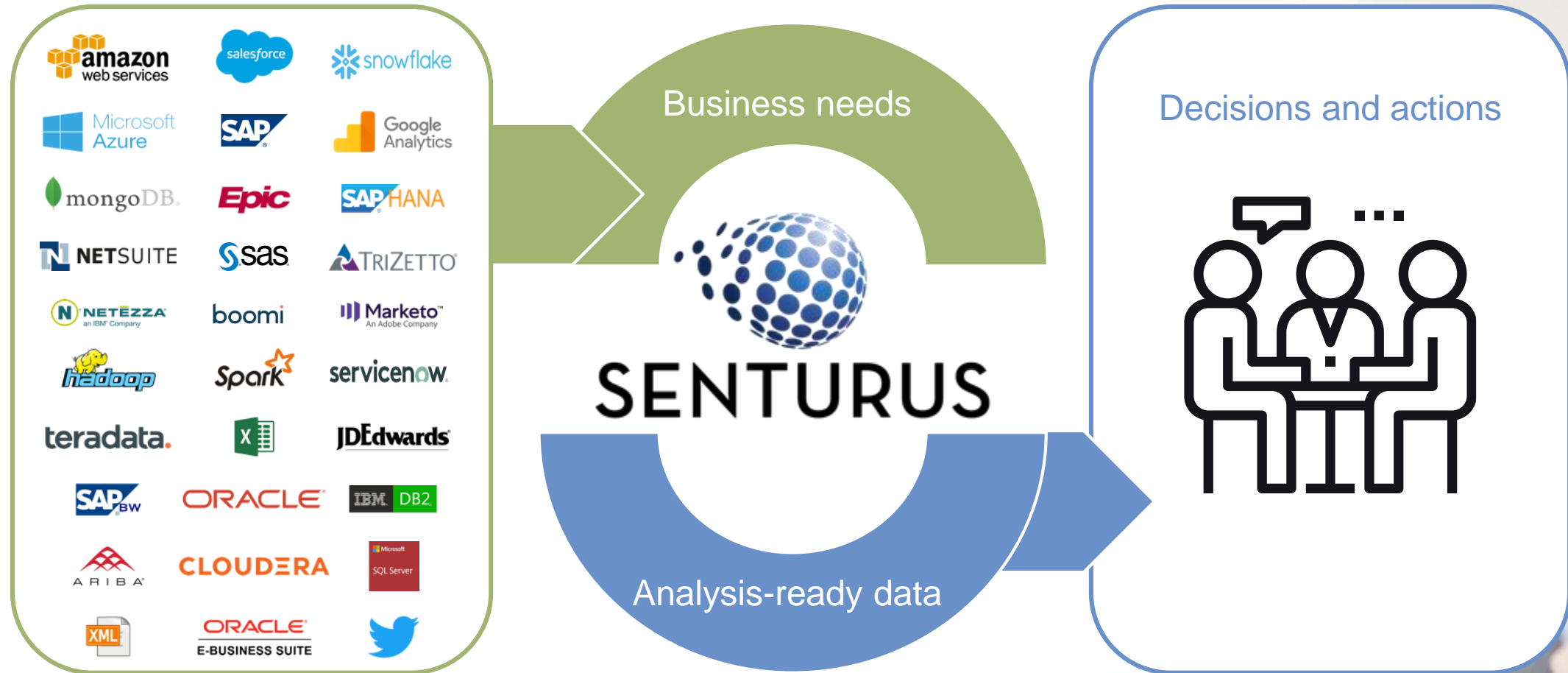https://senturus.com/blog/powerbi-licensing-report-distribution/

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Poll

Given what you now know about Power BI Deployment Pipelines, how likely is your organization to use them?

- Will start using them very soon

- Interested, but will wait for more functionality

- Not interested at this time

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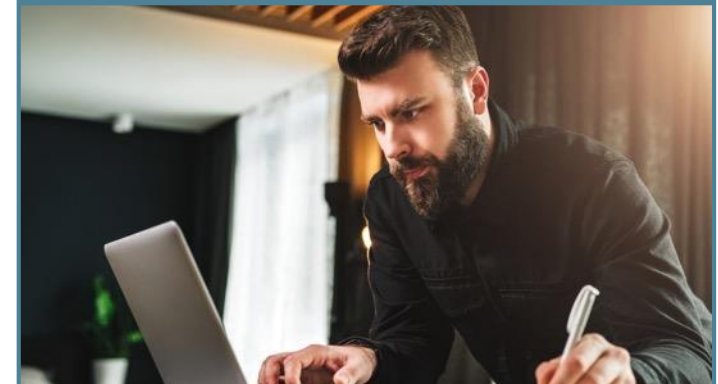
Power BI

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Instructor-led online courses

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Additional resources
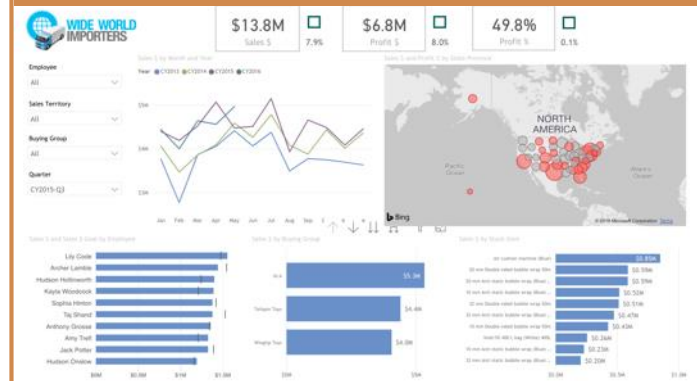

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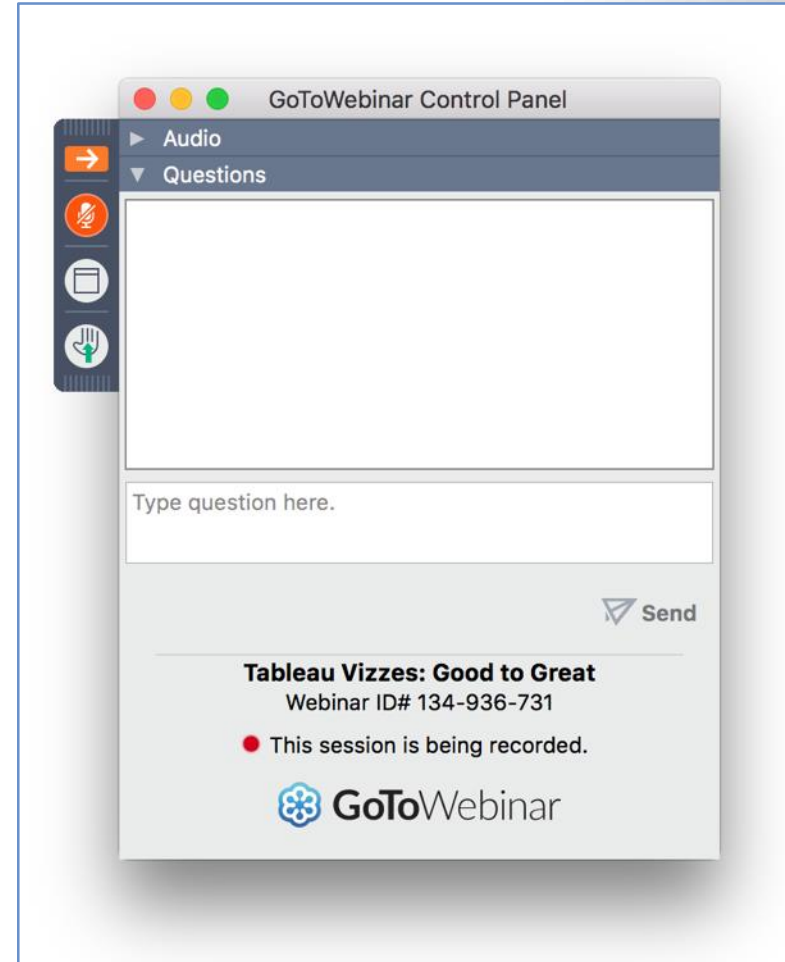

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Product demos

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Q & A

If your question or issue is broader than what we are able to answer today, contact us at:

info@senturus.com

and we will set up a free consultation.

Thank You