Cognos Data Module Architectures & Use Cases

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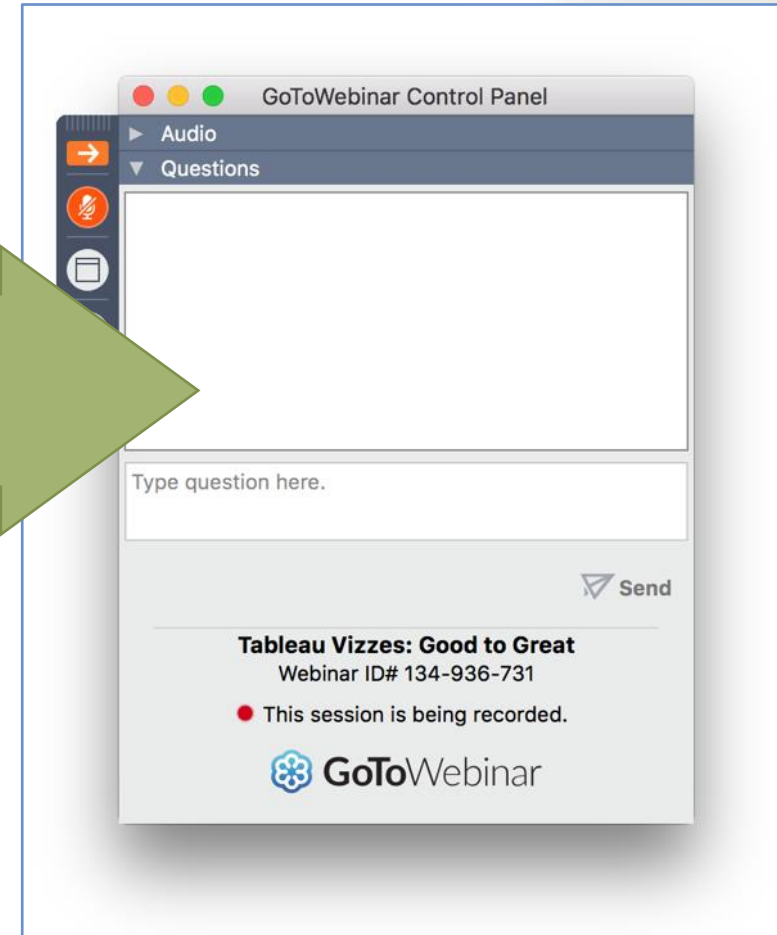
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Agenda

- Introduction
- Cognos data module architectures
- Data set libraries
- Use cases
- Senturus overview
- Additional resources
- Q&A

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Introductions

Pedro Ining

Principle BI Analytics Architect
Senturus, Inc.

Michael Weinhauer

Director
Senturus, Inc.

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Poll

Which version of Cognos are you using?

- 11.1 R7
- 11.0 - 11.1 R6
- 10 or earlier

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Cognos data modules

- Web-based end-user focused data blending, modeling, transformation tool debuted on Cognos Analytics 11.0

- IBM's response to data democratization and other tools like Tableau and Microsoft Power BI

- 11.1 R7 significantly closed some of the technical gaps between Framework Manager and data modules

- All future development resources will be focused on data module enhancements

What are data modules still missing?

- DMR (dimensionally modeled relational)
- Object-based security
- Model branches and merges – team-based modeling
- Parameter maps
  - Multi-lingual packages
  - Complex row-level security implementations
- FM style namespaces (but we can somewhat simulate)
- FM style packages
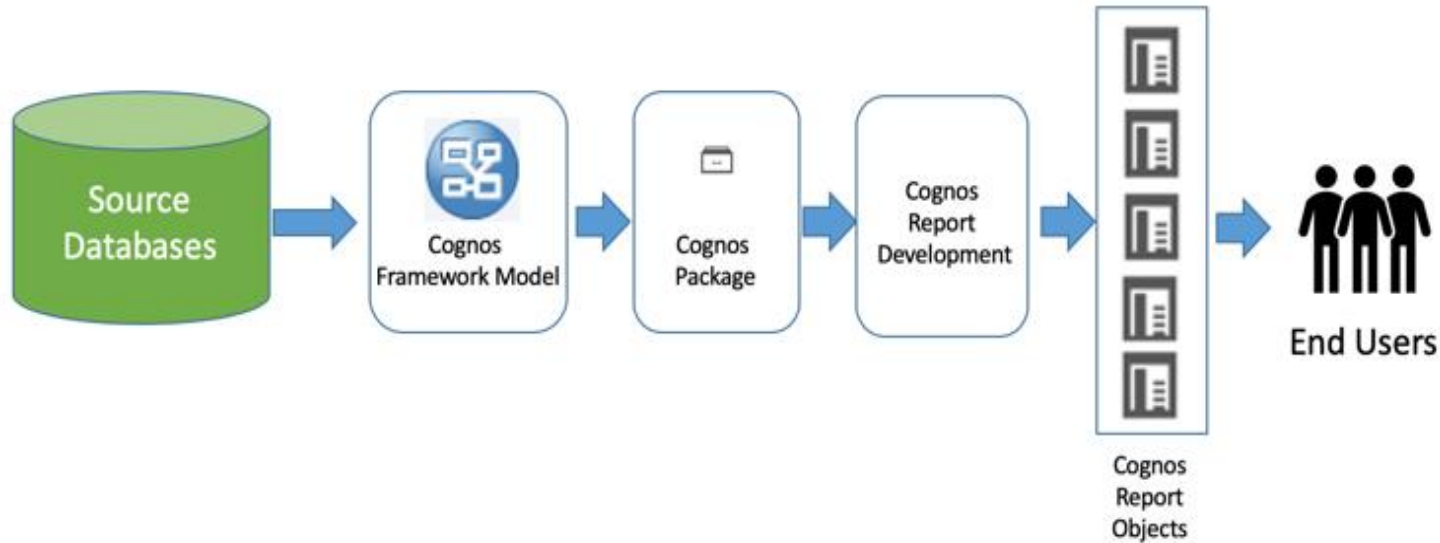- Search and select prompt for reporting

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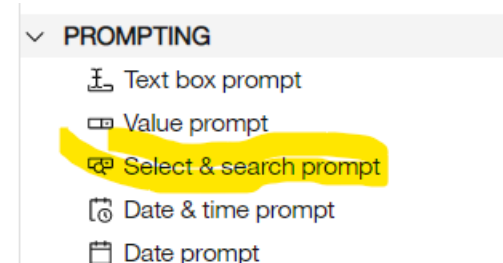
Data module architectures

Many ways to use data modules, but we would like to discuss potential key architectures that you can use to implement data modules
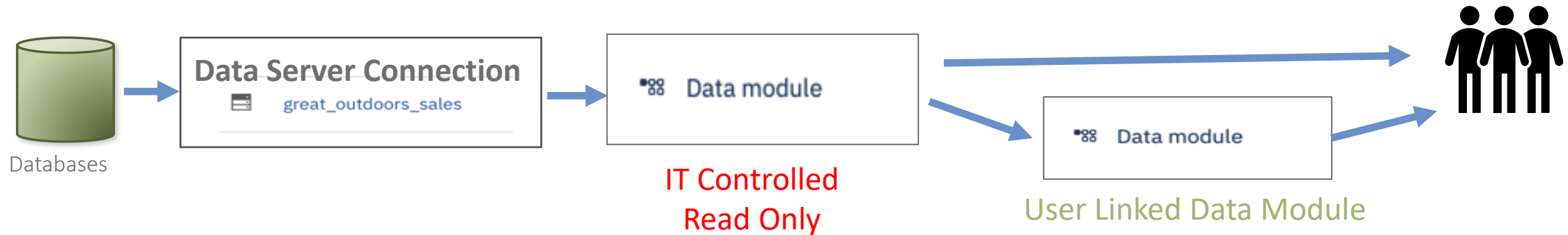
- IT driven enterprise model
- Hybrid model
- End-user driven model

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IT driven enterprise model – classic FM

Source Databases → Cognos Framework Model → Cognos Package → Cognos Report Development → Cognos Report Objects → End Users

- IT gathers report requirements
- IT develops the Framework Manager model
- IT publishes packages from the Framework Manager model
- IT creates standard reports from the package
- Users may create their own ad hoc analysis reports from the package

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IT driven enterprise model – data modules

Databases → **Data Server Connection** great_outdoors_sales → Data module (IT Controlled Read Only) → Data module (User Linked Data Module) → users

- Replace the use of FM with data modules
- For new modeling projects, they are driven by business requirements vs. modeling the entire database
- For existing legacy FM models, select business relevant subject areas in the model that need to be redesigned for better self-service
- The data module is READ ONLY and controlled by IT
- End user modelers can 'link' to this module or create data sets for their own modeling purposes
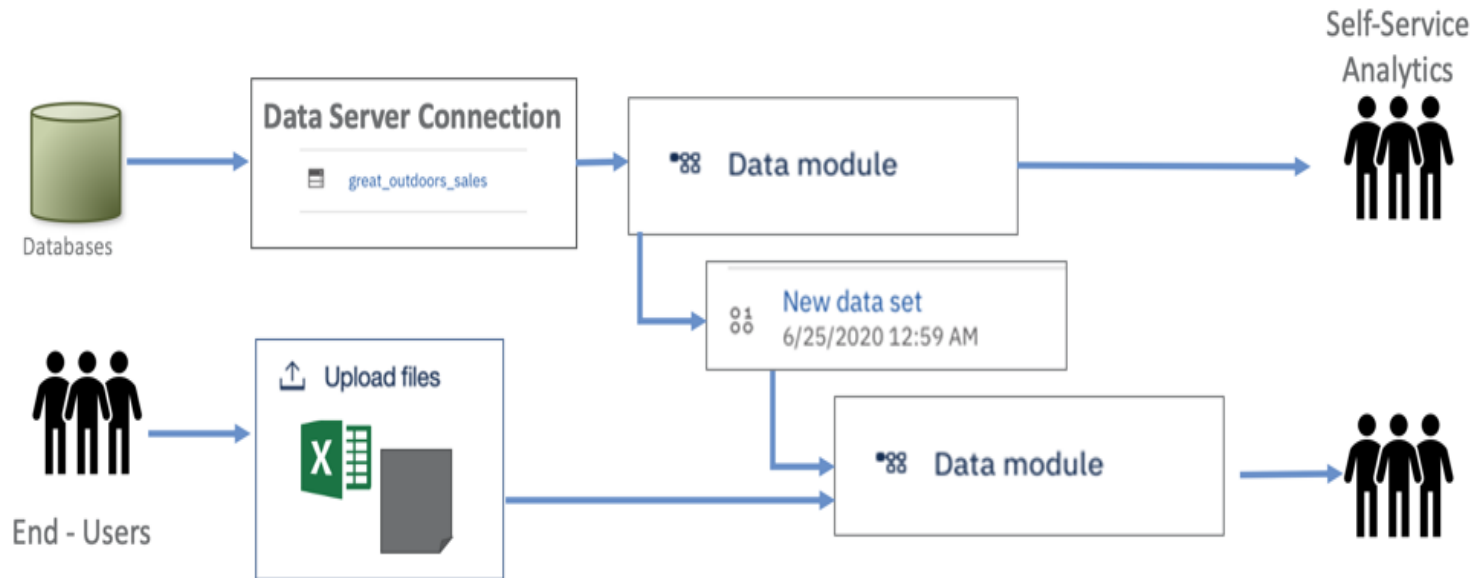
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Hybrid model
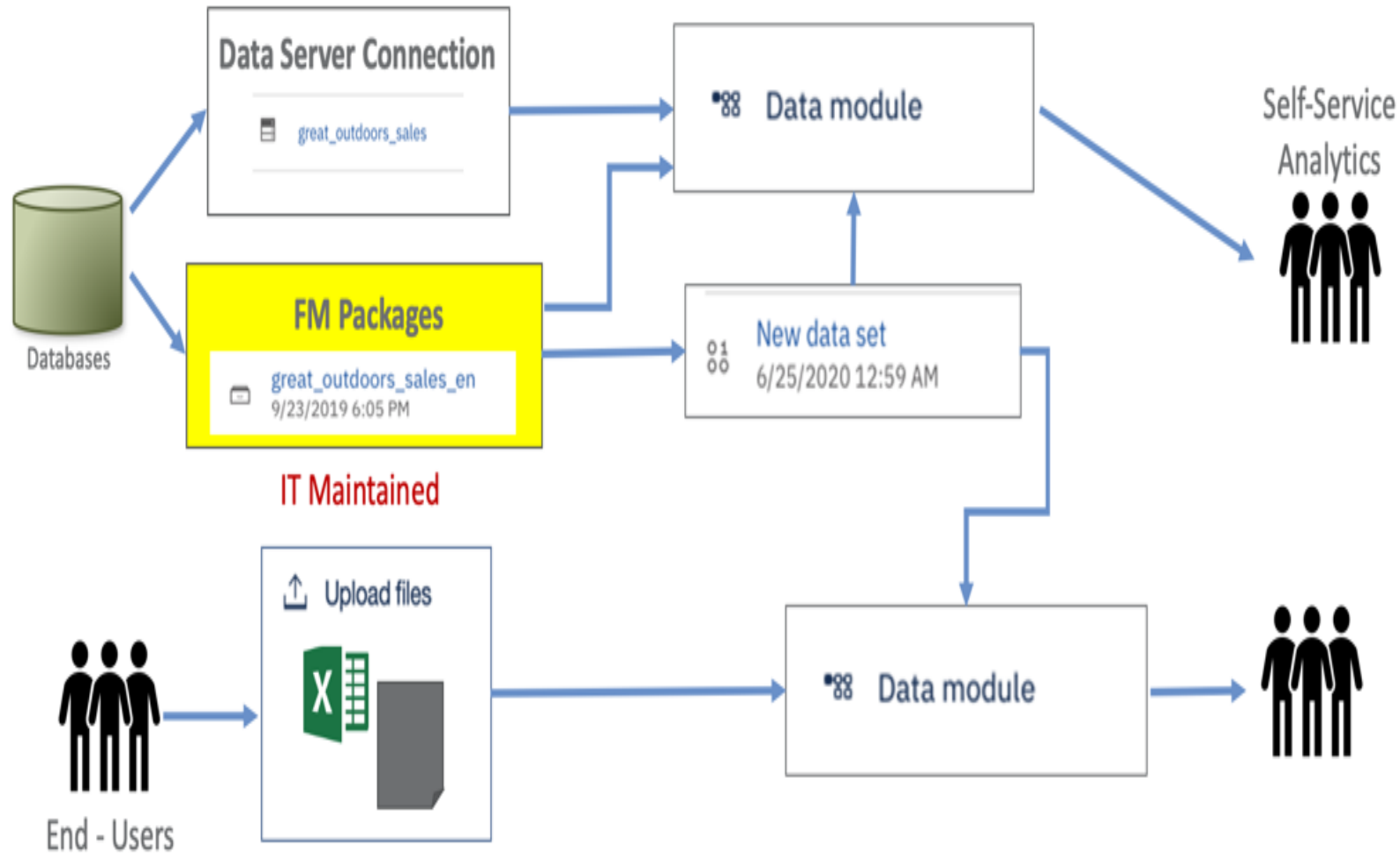
- Leverages existing legacy IT maintained FM packages
- Part of the package can be integrated into a user or IT data module
- Legacy packages could also be used to create datasets for use in data modules
- Allows use of user spreadsheet data

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End-user driven model

"Point me to the data, I'll take care of the rest…"

- IT maintains the source databases or data warehouses
- Users utilize Cognos self-service modeling components to model the database for their specific requirements
- Users may extract subsets of data from source databases via Cognos **data sets** technology; these data sets are then integrated into data modules
- Users may upload their own privately maintained curated data that could be in the form of spreadsheets or text files

Data set libraries

Common Data Sets Stored in Team Content
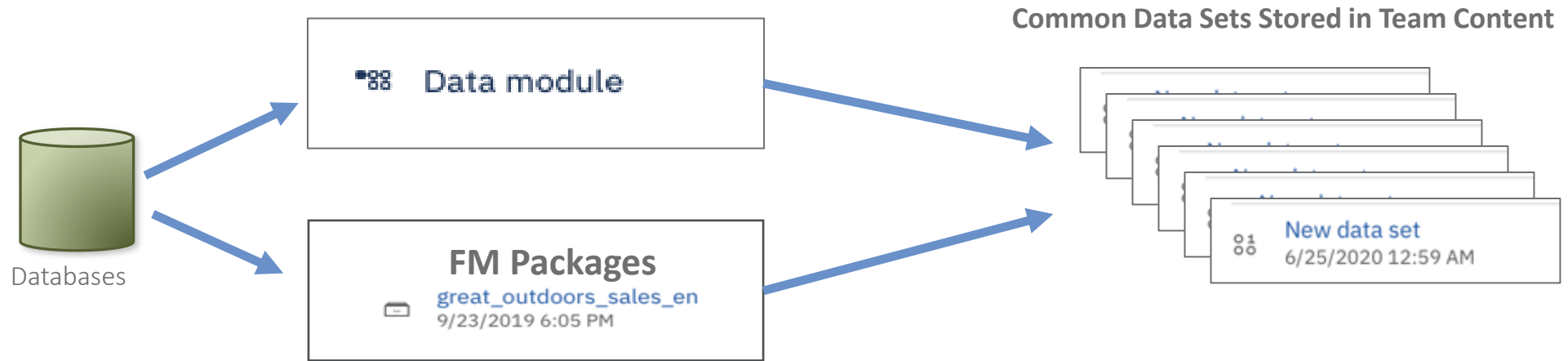
- Common data sets for use in user or IT defined data modules
- Typically, subject specific dimensional/reference data or summarized fact data
- Not meant to store large amounts of data, typically 10-15M rows max
- Allows for better performing queries/reports
- Stored in common folder structures

Make the shift to Cognos self service

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Bridging the gap

Business needs

Analysis-ready data

Decisions and actions
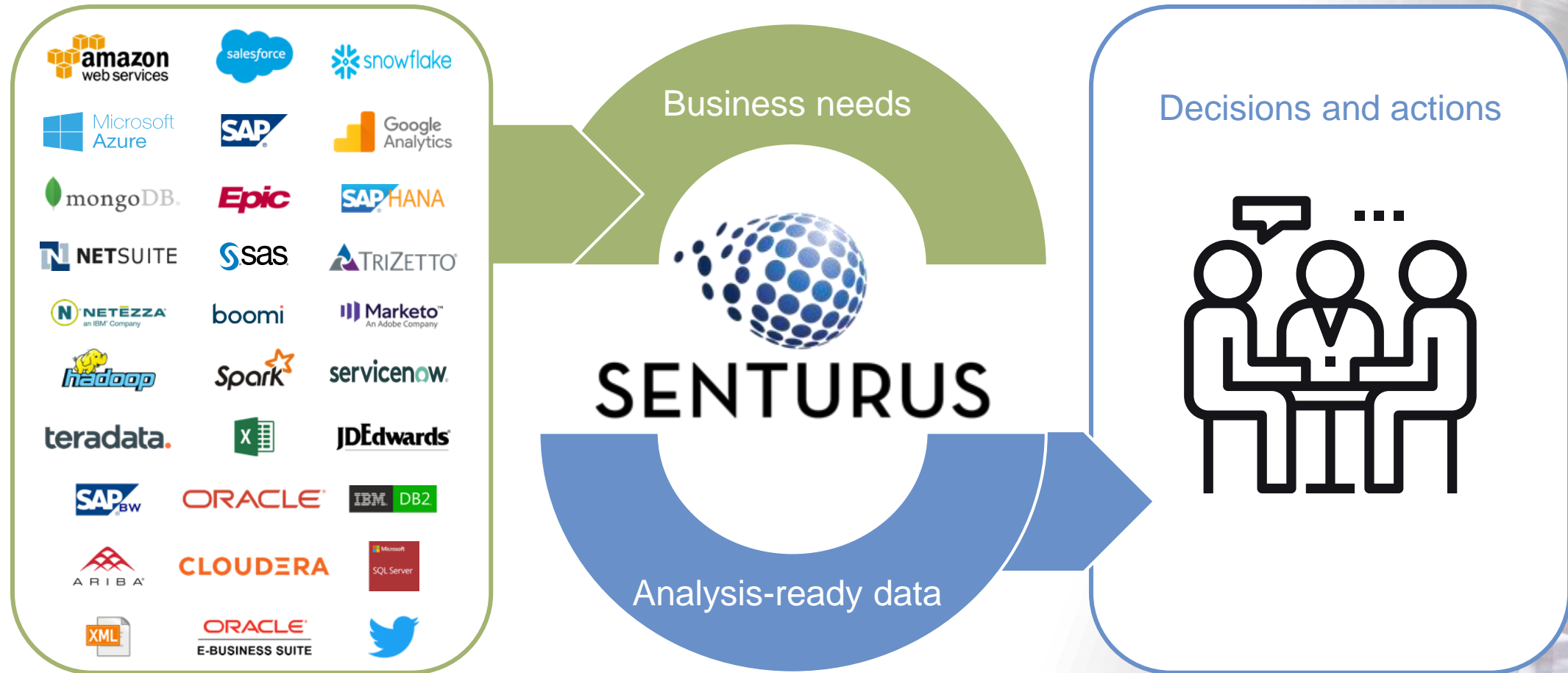
Full spectrum BI services

Dashboards, reporting and visualizations

Data preparation and modern data warehousing

Hybrid BI environments (migrations, security, etc.)

Software to enable bimodal BI and platform migrations

BI support retainer (expertise on demand)

Training and mentoring

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Expand your knowledge

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Upcoming event

Secrets of High Performing Report Development Teams

How BI teams build good reports consistently

Thursday, Feb. 25, 2021, 1pm PT/4pm ET

Friday, Feb. 26, 2021, 8am AEDT

Snowflake vs. Synapse: Comparing Analytic Data Clouds

Demo, feature comparison & considerations

Thursday, Mar.11, 2021, 11am PT/ 2pm ET

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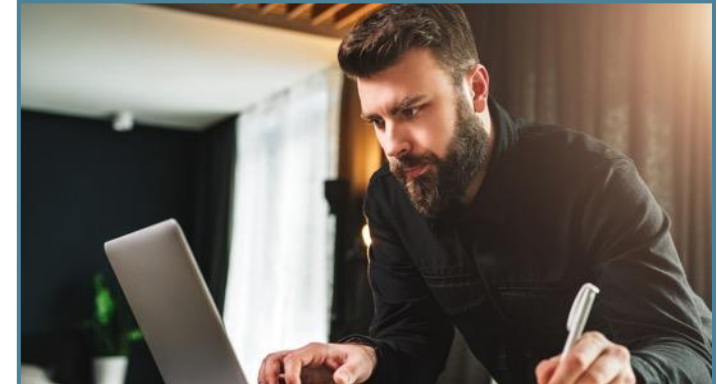
Tailored group sessions

Mentoring

Instructor-led online courses

Self-paced learning

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Additional resources
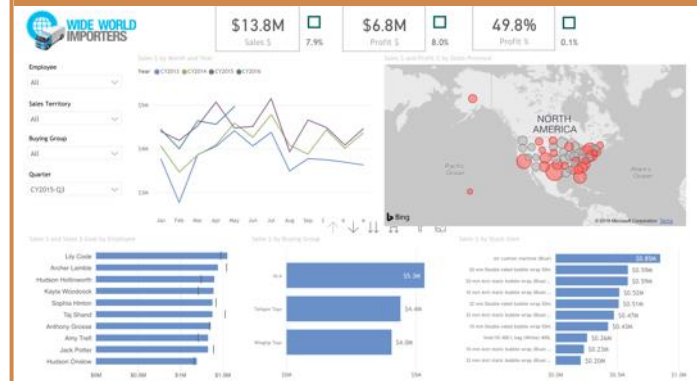

Unbiased product reviews

Technical tips

Insider viewpoints

More on this subject

Product demos

Upcoming events

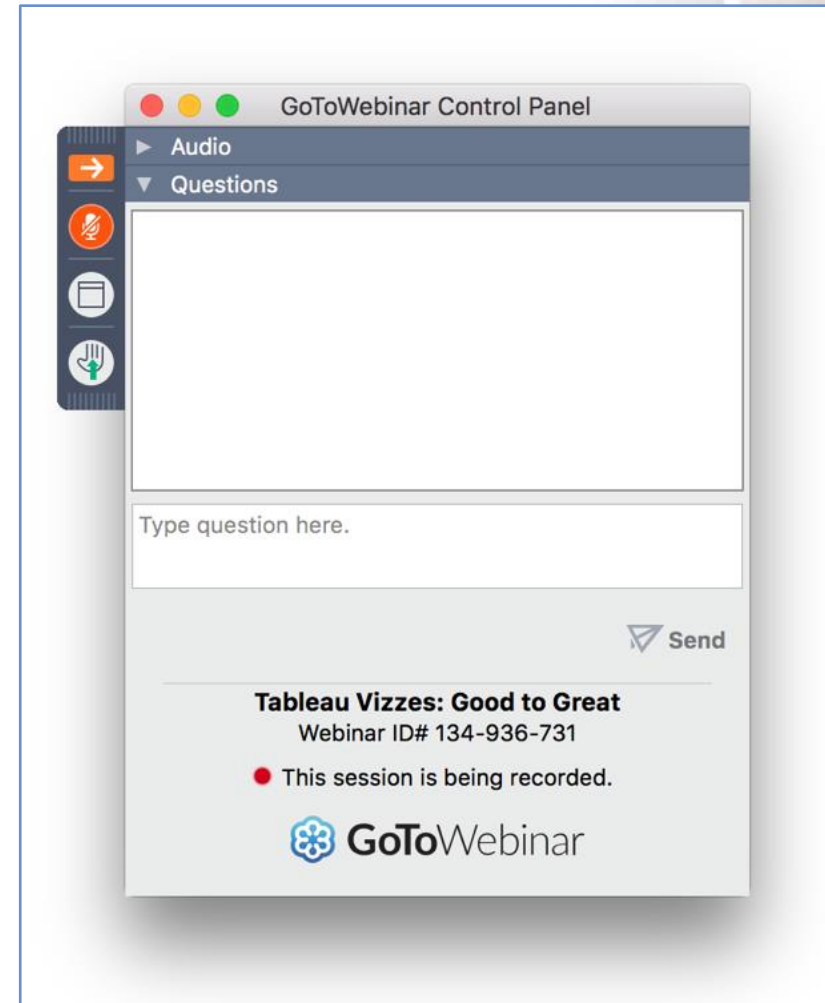SENTURUS

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.

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