



Press Release
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Axis Unveils New Version of IBM Cognos TM1 for Financial Performance Management

Enhanced IBM Cognos TM1 9.4 provides unmatched real-time visibility into complex financials for both enterprise and midsize organizations

Brussels, 10th of November, 2008 - Aaxis, a European provider of Business Intelligence solutions, announces that Cognos, an IBM (NYSE: IBM) company and a world leader in business intelligence and performance management solutions, unveils the availability of IBM Cognos TM1 9.4, an enhanced version of its performance management solution for enterprise and mid-market organizations.

The latest version of IBM Cognos TM1 9.4 features enhanced intuitive analysis and reporting capabilities, higher levels of compliance and software standardization, and integration with IBM Cognos 8 BI. Based on a patented, 64-bit, in-memory multi-dimensional OLAP server, Cognos TM1 gives users real-time insight into the impact of their financial performance management activities including planning, budgeting, forecasting, and consolidation. Powered by the TM1 analytics engine, IBM Cognos TM1 9.4 enables strategic analysis of financial, transactional, operational and other large-volume business data, allowing users to see sophisticated views of mission-critical information. As a result, users can perform 360-degree analytics, easily spotting trends that can optimize budgeting, planning, reporting, and forecasting processes and outcomes. TM1 9.4 also includes enhanced administration features, dramatic usability improvements for Excel and Web users, and compliance with Vista and Office 2007.

"We were able to implement IBM Cognos TM1 in an accelerated timeframe to handle our budget and internal financial reporting processes for our restaurants. The ability to process revisions to our budgets due to changes in assumptions especially commodities for all of our 265 company restaurants and view consolidated statements within minutes instead of hours was a big benefit," said Joe Furmanek, Director of Finance at Checkers Drive-In Restaurants. *"Our field managers now receive financial reports much sooner after period-end, which allows them to make any necessary adjustments to their operations quickly while it can still have an impact in the current period. We're currently migrating our Key Indicator reporting process to IBM Cognos TM1 9.4."*

One of TM1's most significant new features is "Active Forms", which provide a number of new or updated capabilities for both power users and end-users. These include reports with

asymmetrical drill-down; parameter-driven row definition; intuitive style-based report formatting; an identical user experience in both thick or thin client; and server-side zero suppression for improving end-user responsiveness. These functions are valuable for a fully interactive environment that innovates on TM1's historical strength in Excel-based application authoring.

Other TM1 9.4 updates include:

- **Enterprise-ready Web deployment:** New functionality provides maintenance-free reporting and input template creation that works both in the Excel and Web environments. IBM Cognos TM1 Executive Viewer has moved to an XML format for view definition and rendering, thus providing an easy way to create programmatic maintenance and deployment routines.
- **SOX compliance:** Two new features improve product compliance with Sarbanes-Oxley-related regulations for GRC (governance, risk and compliance). A new logging facility captures all non-data maintenance activity for comprehensive audit capabilities. The IBM Cognos TM1 audit log tracks who changes your metadata, and when it was changed. This includes instances such as adding elements to a dimension, changing parentage of elements, adding or deleting public subsets, or changes to your rules or processes.
- **Global Support** – Fully Unicode-compliant, TM1 9.4 supports expanded string lengths beyond the previous limit of 255 characters. Two new languages – simplified Chinese and Japanese – have also been introduced.

"Business users and executives at both large and midsize enterprises need to keep track of complicated data in real-time, and then be able to leverage it based on their goals and objectives," said Doug Barton, vice-president, product marketing, Cognos. *"The newest version of IBM Cognos TM1 arms these users with the most powerful and actionable data to drive improved performance across the organization."*

For midsize organizations, a mid-market version is available with all the capabilities of the TM1 9.4 solution. The IBM Cognos TM1 MidMarket Edition is a cost-effective alternative to spreadsheets and offers an affordable, single, web-based solution with a range of new options for information analysis, presentation and report delivery. Since minimal IT support is needed for installation and setup, the demand on overstretched IT resources is greatly reduced. As a result, end users can develop performance management solutions without having technical skills. The IBM Cognos TM1 MidMarket Edition also provides role-based security and a clear audit trail to facilitate accountability and accuracy within your organization.

Cognos offers financial and performance management solutions for mid-market organizations to help structure and automate key financial processes -- from planning, budgeting, and forecasting to consolidation, reporting, and analytics. Cognos mid-market solutions streamline information gathering, aggregation, and analysis so that small and midsize companies can focus more attention on running and growing their business. For more information on Cognos' mid-market solutions, visit <http://www.cognos.com/products/tm1/cognos-tm1-midmarket-edition.html>

For any additional information, please contact Carl Moons, General Manager at Aaxis, by phone 02 725 16 44.

About Aaxis

Founded in 1975, Aaxis works closely with over 450 companies and organizations in the Benelux and France, to provide them with the strategic information at the speed and flexibility they require to assess the rapid changes in their market places. In order to meet these requirements, Aaxis delivers software like analytic tools and solutions for Performance Management, Data Integration, Data Quality and Data Mining.

Aaxis has offices in Belgium, France, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and Sri Lanka to provide local assistance to international companies. Aaxis is also part of a worldwide network of distributors and integrators, through their software developers' network of strategic alliance partners. Further information is available at **www.aaxis.com**.

The Aaxis Group is TM1 Distributor & Cognos IBM Platinum Partner

About Cognos

Cognos, an IBM company, is the world leader in Business Intelligence and Corporate Performance Management for the enterprise. Their solutions let companies improve and direct corporate performance by enabling all of the key steps in the management cycle—from planning, budgeting and consolidation, to measuring and monitoring performance, to reporting and analysis. Cognos is the only company to support all of these key management activities with a complete solution that spans all of the essential components of CPM—enterprise planning, scorecarding, and business intelligence.

Founded in 1969, Cognos employs over 3,500 people and serves more than 23,000 customers in over 135 countries.

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