

IBM Cognos Report/Query Studio Custom Training

Business Overview

Our client is an energy management company (“EMCo”). EMCo assists industrial and commercial enterprises across North America that utilize large volumes of energy to run their business. The costs, risks and regulatory issues of high volume energy consumption are complex. EMCo takes the complexity out of the equation to reduce operating expense and manage the risk by leveraging their energy expertise with a high level of analysis for their client’s specific energy needs.

Business Challenge

EMCo’s certified energy professionals require a lot of data, and data analysis, to do their job. They explore all options, analyze opportunities, and combine their extensive knowledge of the energy sector with the transactional data that the clients provide. Having certified experts who can build their own reports to extract the data that they need in their analysis is a significant advantage. No bottlenecks occur if each professional is capable of writing their own reports. The number of IT resources that are required is significantly reduced, saving not just money but time.

EMCo wanted their professionals to be trained in the IBM Cognos Report Studio and Query Studio tools to enable this quick analysis.

Solution

LPA created a custom three-day Report Studio training class and a one-day Query Studio class. In conversations with EMCo’s management, LPA spent time and collected enough information to design a course meeting the EMCO’s analysts reporting and analysis needs. LPA understood the current level of technical understanding the professionals had, and the types of analytics that they typically performed, to custom-design a training solution to quickly enable EMCo’s professionals.

The first part of the training class involved Report Studio training, exploring the different report types (lists, crosstabs, charts, repeaters). Other topics covered included creating highly visual reports and learning the different ways to format reports, effectively using data filtering, adding advanced calculations, and exploring techniques to make the report interactive. Due to the needs of the professionals, we customized the training

further to explore topics such as advanced formatting and layout techniques and included a section for complex queries and advanced drill through methods.

Query Studio training allows the professional to quickly build the reports he/she needs for analysis. The class was structured to provide instruction on how to add and manipulate data on reports, including pivoting data, exploring the multiple filtering techniques, highlighting key information by defining conditional styles and other techniques to quickly isolate the key data.

Results

After taking this custom training class, EMCo's professionals were empowered to use the reporting techniques explored in class to perform data extract and data manipulations required for their day-to-day analysis. This helped them significantly in providing higher quality recommendations to their clients in the most efficient and timely manner.