Applying Data as a Service (DaaS) to Canadian organizations

Data as a Service (DaaS) is a Three-Part Framework of analytics engineering services built to help organizations become data driven. DaaS enables organizations to capture and derive value from data, overcome barriers in data and analytics adoption and optimize the total cost of ownership (TCO) of their Information Delivery solution. Our framework applies to organizations who are just getting started or are half way through their data and analytics roadmap. DaaS services use an agile approach to leverage CGI's advanced analytical offerings built to address specific needs of Artificial Intelligence and adapts to the challenges of unlocking value from the large volume of data, organizations currently have.

CGI's application of DaaS ensures the following comprehensive approach is considered:

- Establishing a proper data strategy
- Selecting the best suited Data and Analytics Platform for the organization's specific objectives
- Thorough data governance in production and
- Operations and support for Analytics

Based on the experience of over 5,500 data analytics experts, we have developed this tried-and-tested framework comprising of three pillars: Data assessment and value realization, Data governance and managing Data in production.

DATA ASSESSMENT AND VALUE REALIZATION

CGI experts work with clients to assess current data maturity, define the future state and develop an implementation roadmap to get there. Beginning with the business case definition to utilize data and achieving ROI, we align the business case with business objectives through the definition of the actual use case catalogue. Our agile approach enables organizations to adopt and implement changes to reflect up-to-date data stories. The framework then goes on to show the way to align priorities and define the implementation roadmap for the organization.

Throughout this stage, we analyse the maturity and quality of data to uncover the unrealized value of the data and help clients prioritize use cases including the data quality as one of the dimensions. Based on deep industry knowledge and a technology agnostic point of view, we conduct due diligence to select the best-suited technology platform to maximize the value of the investment. This component of the framework also assesses the potential of an Analytical Centre of Excellence (CoE) and looks to define the best models to create or advance the CoE. This includes performing skills and technical capabilities assessment and identifying the gaps to fill in order to enable organizations become data-centric.

WHY DAAS?

- Tried-and-tested
- Comprehensive yet customizable
- Modular and easy to implement
- Enables faster adoption of data initiatives by aligning IT and Business
- Guides the organization of critical aspects and elements

DATA GOVERNANCE

A well-defined data governance is critical to harness the full value of data. This critical component serves both as a guideline and as a roadmap to implement best-in-class data governance practices and stewardship. The Data Governance structure is broken down into modules with a clear set of objectives and deliverables required for successful implementation of each module. CGI has a well-established experience in implementing Data Governance structures. Our approach follows definitions, principles, and best practices set forth in the Data Management Body of Knowledge (DAMA Framework). CGI has further built on DAMA and used its vast experience in implementing Advanced Analytics to identify additional data dimensions that are critical to AI Data Governance Initiatives.

DATA IN PRODUCTION

This third and vital component is about sustaining value generation using data in production. This deals with setting up key elements to operationalize data, reducing risks, and managing analytics and platforms in production, which enables organizations, capture and scale the full potential of data. It covers a set of services such as full platform management (system agnostic), data discovery and support services, data security, IT service management, data services and apps (i.e., building reports, dashboards, ML models and apps), data engineering, data infrastructure monitoring, and data model monitoring in production among others.

The data and analytics journey organizations go through should typically include all the three components, but the relevance of these components depends on the current stage of organization's data maturity. As such, CGI's DaaS framework has been designed to be flexible to suit any organization considering how to approach a data and analytics strategy, or anywhere on their journey to becoming data-driven.
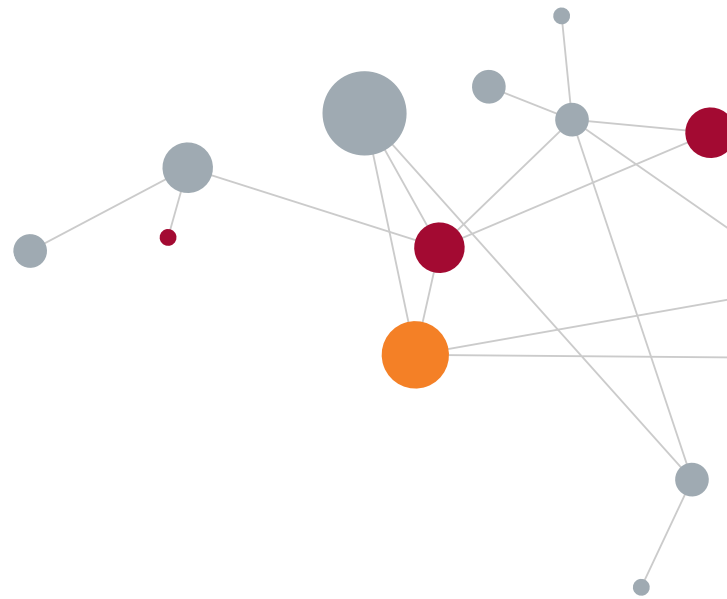
To learn more about CGI's DaaS framework, visit cgi.com/en/advanced-analytics or email our CGI expert Tomasz Jamroz at tomasz.jamroz@cgi.com.

For more information about CGI, visit cgi.com, or email us at info@cgi.com.

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