Securing the long term success of your BI projects

Management Information Centre of Excellence (MICOE) - Ensuring BI projects are completed faster and more cost effectively

The cost of BI project failure:

Every large company is aware of the fundamental role BI plays in the smooth running of their operations. Despite this, many organisations suffer from severe setbacks when implementing BI projects:

- Only one third of all projects are deemed successful.
- 45% of IT projects overrun on cost.
- Less than 50% of IT projects are completed on time.

The cost of a failed or delayed project goes far beyond the loss of the initial investment, as the long term benefits of the new systems may be delayed or fail to materialise altogether.

Why are BI projects so rarely successful?

The difference between success and failure in a BI project often comes down to one, fundamental, area – personnel. The best BI results require a group of professionals who possess both niche technical expertise and an intimate knowledge of the organisation they are working in. The challenge facing every company is how to ensure this balance. Many organisations rely on external consultants and Systems Integrator's for the technical expertise. However, these consultants

The Golden Mean – Management Information Centre of Excellence (MICOE):

The MICOE represents the next stage in BI projects. It consists of a group of highly experienced BI personnel who are embedded in an organisation to take care of all of their BI needs in the long term.

The Best of Both Worlds:

A MICOE contains a mixture of internal staff and external BI experts from a range of specialist consultants. This provides the team with intimate knowledge of the organisation, while giving them access

to a wide range of technical expertise through the various different consultants that are represented.
Longevity

Many companies already recognise this and call on a mixture of internal talent and outside expertise. However, what separates a MICOE from this approach is its longevity. At the end of the project, the team stays together rather than returning to their organisations or being absorbed into other projects. This means that they are able to bring the full weight of their experience of working with each other, the systems and the organisation to each subsequent project – drastically increasing their efficiency.

Flexibility:

Unlike a whole team of new employees, however, the MICOE is flexible. The size and makeup of the team can be altered to fit each individual BI project within the company as the representatives from external service providers and consultants are able to draw on the wide networks of talent their organisations possess. The essential core of the team remains intact and uses their expertise to maximise the efficacy of the new human resources.

Benefits:

- Drastically increased BI success rate - MICOEs boast a success rate that is in a separate league to the standard approach. Xoomworks is a part of a MICOE that boasts a 100% success rate at a global petrochemical company.

- Cost Savings – In addition to the huge savings made when project failure is avoided, MICOE's rely on their experience to get projects done faster and more cost effectively than anyone else.

- Preserved and Evolving Expertise – Not only does a MICOE keep the experience gained through a project within your organisation, it provides the stability for the members to experiment and develop their capabilities over time.

- Access to top talent – Every consultant and SI has its own strengths and weaknesses. A MICOE is able to combine the niche strengths of several companies to ensure best-in-class results across the BI field.

Xoomworks, a key component of your MICOE:

The role Xoomworks will play in your MICOE is twofold:

1 - Setting up your MICOE

Xoomworks has significant experience of working within MICOEs and has been involved in several of these teams from conception through to realisation. As a result, Xoomworks is uniquely positioned to help your company assemble its MICOE. We fully understand the range of capabilities required, and have the network to bring in expertise not present in our own organisation to ensure excellence across the board.

2 - As a long term part of your MICOE

Xoomworks are the original experts in SAP BusinessObjects (BO), and have been providing best-in-class consulting for over ten years. Over 70% of our technical consultants have previously worked at SAP BO or BusinessObjects in senior expert roles. As a result, our role in the MICOE is the handling of all BO related issues. This involves carrying out content checks, upgrades and migrations and ensuring that nothing harmful goes into the production environment. Furthermore, Xoomworks also enjoys a long and close relationship with SAP, ensuring that your company has immediate access to SAP expertise whenever they need it. Your MICOE should consist of the foremost experts in every area, and, where BO is concerned, Xoomworks provides exactly this.

Partnering with Xoomworks

We lead the field in Business Intelligence. We have over 10 years' experience in SAP BusinessObjects™ and over 70% of our technical consultants have previously worked at SAP BusinessObjects™ in senior expert roles. We are certified practitioners on SAP BusinessObjects™ and HANA, and have excellent connections across SAP. We have a deep understanding of SAP BusinessObjects™ and we have implemented SAP Business Intelligence solutions across large enterprises worldwide.

Let us show you what we can do for your business intelligence.

Contact Xoomworks on +44 20 7400 6120 to talk to a consultant, or email us at: bi@xoomworks.com.