



Globally recognized uk publishing company improved business performance through Power BI

The Challenges

A globally recognized UK-based publishing company as part of its expansion strategy to be known as a trusted and innovative leader in the global publishing and education sectors stood at a crossroads in their business operation. Their data infrastructure, built on the platform of Qlik Sense, was struggling under the immense pressure of ever-growing data volumes. It was becoming increasingly clear that Qlik Sense was not equipped to efficiently manage the sheer scale of data involved, leading to lagging processing speeds and diminished productivity. This transition, however, presented a unique set of challenges. We were tasked with the ambitious endeavor of **migrating 35 of their specialized apps** - which were Qlik reports - over to the Power BI platform. A key challenge here was not just the migration, but also the requirement of **developing an alternative to Qlik's features in Power BI which were not natively available**. At the forefront of Client's concerns was the seamless continuation of services to the end users of these apps. Our challenge was to ensure a smooth and nondisruptive transition, thus maintaining the business-as-usual environment for their user base.

AT A GLANCE



LOCATION
UNITED
KINGDOM



PRODUCTS
SNOWFLAKE,
POWER BI

CHALLENGES

- Large Data Volumes with over 500 million records leading to lagging processing speeds and diminished productivity
- Techniques were required to ensure that the Power BI reports were optimised for speed migration from Qlik to Power BI
- Replicating Qlik-specific features in Power BI, which were not natively available

SUCCESS HIGHLIGHTS

- Business continuity in a new platform with zero downtime
- Optimised performance leading to fast data rendering in reports, over 90% improvement
- Handling huge datasets with data volume over 500 million records
- Seamless transition to a new environment with no loss in functionality
- Saved over a couple of days of manual downloading time by automating the download of over 3,000 reports.

The Approach

Our objective was to migrate the extensive portfolio of Apps while addressing the Power BI Limitation. We strategically devised a two-phase plan, tactically dividing the migration of the applications based on their importance and the degree of their user interaction. This tiered strategy allowed for a methodical progression of tasks, ensuring we could maintain focus and attention to detail throughout the process. The phase I included migrating the applications entailed a detailed rewrite of the Qlik scripts. Considering Power BI's structure and capabilities, we stored the scripts as views or tables in Snowflake, a cloud-based data warehousing platform renowned for its seamless compatibility with Power BI.



During the second phase of the implementation, we undertook the meticulous process of reproducing Qlik reports in Power BI. This not only required a comprehensive understanding of both platforms, but also necessitated the design of innovative solutions to seamlessly integrate features specific to Qlik that were not natively supported in Power BI. Leveraging our proficiency in both Qlik and Power BI, we successfully expedited the migration timeline, eliminating the need for extensive explanations on Qlik's

Business Outcomes

Maintained Business Continuity

We ensured business continuity on a new platform, Power BI, with **zero downtime** and with **no loss in functionality**. This meant replicating Qlik-specific features in Power BI using innovative workarounds, ensuring that users could continue to work with the features and functionalities they were accustomed to, thus minimising the learning curve and ensuring business operations ran smoothly.

Optimised Performance

The migration not only maintained the existing data functionality but also optimised the performance, leading to faster data rendering in reports. Reports that took over 5 minutes to load in Qlik loaded in under a minute in Power BI, over **90% improvement**.

Self-serve capability

In addition to conducting comprehensive training sessions on Power BI, we furnished client's team with documentation and guidelines outlining best practices. We identified key users within the client team to participate in these training sessions, empowering them to effectively mentor their colleagues once the migration was finalised. By synchronising this training initiative with the migration process, we ensured that the client team could swiftly become **self-sufficient, minimising their reliance on us upon project completion**.