

IBM Cognos Software Demo Transcript Business Glossary & Data Lineage New features in IBM Cognos 8 BI

Let's take a look at our integration with IBM Business Glossary. As a business user, I've opened up my report, Returns by Order Method, and I see my outdoor protection line has a high number of unsatisfactory returns. So I might ask the question, what exactly makes up unsatisfactory product as part of return quantity?

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So by clicking on these column headers, right clicking and selecting Glossary, I can drill through and see the definition for return quantity and the definition of what makes unsatisfactory product.

If I need more detail, I can click through and I can find out more information such as long description, who owns the data. I can also see samples and related items as well as usage information.

Now that I know this information, I have a lot better feeling on whether I can trust it or not. I can also open Business Glossary in full screen mode.

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So I come back to my report, and now that I know what unsatisfactory product is, the next thing is, do I trust the number on the table? So I will click on that cell and go to lineage, which is the next key feature in Cognos 8 Version 4.

The first thing I see is a business view showing the lineage of the data or where it came from. If I'm technically savvy user, I can click on the Technical View and Cognos 8 Version 4 will have automatically generated information about the query, any filters that have been applied and show me the full path back through the package, including any [joins] all the way back to the original data source. So now that I know where the data comes from, I know whether or not I should be able to trust it, and in this case I can.

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The third thing I'm going to do is add a comment, another new feature of Cognos 8 Version 4. The reason I'm going to do this is at least twofold: firstly, I don't want to get inundated with questions from people asking me if I've done something about this.

But more importantly, I don't want other people to become ineffective with their time by researching the same thing that I've already taken care of myself. After I add this comment, I can, of course, go back and view the comment in the report. If I'm the person who created the comment, I can also modify or delete the comment.

[END OF SEGMENT]