I have been working with IBM OpenPages for many years and wanted to share some of its recent evolution in a series of posts. IBM OpenPages is the market leading Governance, Risk & Compliance Solution and IBM reviews its development objectives through interaction with its customers, analysts, thought leaders and through internal collaboration.

Over the past 2 years OpenPages has evolved and those changes can be summed up through 4 pillars:

- **User Engagement**: Continue to improve the user experience with an intuitive interface.
- **Advanced Analytics**: Continue to provide compelling visualization for more insightful risk management.
- **Technical Foundation**: Continue to strengthen the core of the OpenPages platform.
- **Application Integration**: Continue to integrate OpenPages within a broader ecosystem of business applications.

Details of these changes are described in 4 posts. This post focuses on Advanced Analytics. The other posts cover User Engagement, Technical Foundation and Application Integration.

**Advanced Analytics:**

Visualizations (Organization Structure & Business Structure) – Finding the correct information can be difficult, however visualizations can help bring the information to life and allow users to explore areas of interest/concern. Our new Visualization capabilities auto generate the business hierarchy graphically showing Risks and Controls.
Our Process hierarchy allows you to create process maps. These diagrams can show all associated sub processes and allow users to create decision points and linkages.
Both Business and Process diagrams automatically map Risk and Control information whilst allowing users to drill directly into the detail.

**Reporting:**

IBM OpenPages 7.2 comes with IBM Cognos 10.2.2 referred to as the Command Center. This release builds on the existing BI platform that provides existing customers with production reporting and alerting, but new capabilities have been included in the areas of dash-boarding, slice & dice analysis and mobile reporting.

**Dashboards**
The Workspace is a reporting landing area that is Intuitive and easy to use, it is the single place that you go to find answers to key business questions. Highlights:

- Pre-assembled workspace content
- Search assisted authoring
- Drag and drop assembly
- Dynamically filter
- Quicker and deeper insight into data
- Seamless graduated experience

Traditionally there has been a heavy reliance on super users to make simple changes to reports around formatting and filters and often have to maintain a bank of duplicate reports that have minor differences for example color schemes, chart types and so on. IBM Cognos BI resolves this by providing users with a workspace where they can drag in multiple reports into a single area and create their own lens over the top of the standard reports making formatting changes that will be available to them the next time they access the report. This reduces the administration burden on advanced users.

**Do more / Workspace Advanced**

When users are ready to expand on the capabilities offered by the Workspace, they can seamlessly transition to the deeper analysis capabilities by clicking the ‘Do More’ button, which enables the interactive exploration of information. It is particularly useful for managers and analysts who need to analyze and report on trends in organizational performance by:

- Perform complex analysis tasks quickly and easily to get to the "why" behind an event to improve business performance.
- Explore large complex data sets using drag-and-drop techniques.
- Drill down through increasing levels of detail and view data by different dimensions, such as region or risk category or sub category.
- View and analyze graphic representations of data relationships and change displays easily to gain greater insight into trends, causes and effects.

Some of the capabilities are:

- Intuitive drag-and-drop interface
- Integrated data exploration and analysis
- Calculations, drill, filter, pivot, top/bottom, count
- Manage set definitions
- Flexible format, layout and distribution
- Multiple queries, formatting and charting

It is this Workspace Advanced environment where users are able to create a new report. This is done by simply dragging and dropping data charts, cross tabs or lists into the canvas / Workspace area. Then dragging the dimensional and data elements into it from the data source tab.

**Mobile**

Previous versions of OpenPages and Cognos BI have allowed users to view reports from OP menus, embedded into Detail or Activity Views or refreshed directly within Microsoft Office. Cognos BI now comes with Mobile apps for business intelligence making information available when and where it’s needed. Providing information within an app can drive adoption making the utilization of information fun and fast. With IBM business intelligence mobile apps for Apple iPhone and iPad and Android tablets and smartphones, you can interact with reports, analysis, dashboards and more on your mobile device of choice.

With IBM business intelligence capabilities provided in mobile apps, you can:

- Experience insight wherever you are through quick and simple access to business intelligence.
- Explore information like never before in a rich, visual and interactive experience.
- Enable IT to confidently deploy relevant and reusable business intelligence to mobile devices.
In addition to the Business Intelligence capabilities that come with IBM OpenPages customers are able to upload data to Watson Analytics. Watson Analytics is available here.

**IBM Watson:**

IBM Watson is a technology platform that uses natural language processing and machine learning to reveal insights from large amounts of unstructured data. This has many applications in the world of GRC. As a starting point we have released IBM Regulatory Compliance Analytics that compliments OpenPages GRC.

The IBM Regulatory Compliance Analytics (RCA) solution, powered by Watson, is designed to be a tool to help financial services institutions effectively track, manage, and monitor their regulatory compliance efforts. By combining the IBM OpenPages® GRC Platform, IBM Watson™ Cognitive Computing, and regulatory content that you choose to bring into the solution, IBM Regulatory Compliance Analytics dis-aggregates and classifies the regulations you provide, paragraph by paragraph to the sentence level. This can help you to identify where you may have gaps in your control framework by presenting potential new controls that are related to current and emerging regulatory requirements which you select as relevant to your organization.
IBM RCA is a separate chargeable component and can be used in conjunction with the new Regulatory Compliance Management solution.

There are many ways that Watson capabilities can be deployed in GRC and IBM are looking for customers that wish to engage further in this exciting area. For more information please ask your local IBM Risk Analytics representative.