

Connecting Content | Driving Performance

Assessment Overview

The Dayhuff Group provides Business Intelligence (BI) solution leadership and implementation to its clients by starting with an on-site BI Assessment. The purpose of the Assessment is to:

- Survey the client's BI need;
- Inventory the source systems for complexity, size and relevance;
- Identify a solution platform congruent to the client's existing platform and that addresses the business need.

Completion of the BI Assessment gives our clients a definitive best practice solution that is tailored to their business needs. Clients receive a best practice BI roadmap.

Dayhuff Group identifies opportunities for best practice BI implementation and usage during the BI Assessment and begins knowledge transfer to client staff immediately. Collaboration with both business users and technical developers is paramount to our best practice solution.

Our approach in the BI Assessment is to facilitate and guide our client through a rapid, repeatable and comprehensive survey of the business need and technical solution. This cross collaboration prepares our greater team of client business users and technical developers along with Dayhuff Group BI consultants for a successful BI solution.

Approach

- Facilitate strategic business user sessions that identify the business need
- Collect business and reporting samples to determine un-met business need
- Facilitate IT developer discovery sessions that identify platform options
- Review technical architecture for existing applications
- Review the current data warehouse tools to establish and evaluate solution platform options
- Review the current report design, deployment method and user profile
- Provide best practice examples and thought leadership with knowledge transfer

Team

The BI Assessment project team is composed of very senior resources to ensure that best practices are utilized and to maximize the collaboration between our client, Dayhuff Group and any future tool vendor resources. Unlike most consulting firms, Dayhuff Group puts you in contact with our best & brightest.

In addition to supplying you with a detailed description of our team members, Dayhuff Group will define key roles and responsibilities for the client. The Dayhuff Group assessment team members are:

Dayhuff Group Solution Architect

The Dayhuff Group Solution Architect is responsible for the BI Assessment phase and ultimately the application architecture and solution investment. The main objective is to ensure that the application architecture meets and exceeds the client's business needs. The main activities are designing the solution architecture, ensuring that all solution components (database, data modeling, meta data, ETL, and presentation) form an integrated and manageable information system.

During implementation, the Dayhuff Group Solution Architect is responsible for reviewing all project deliverables and auditing the project management process for conformance with Dayhuff Group and industry best practices. The main objective is to ensure that the project is being managed and controlled properly, and that the appropriate attention is given to areas of risk or uncertainty. The activities include bi-monthly project audits and development of ongoing project quality documentation and associated action plans to address any project quality issues.

Dayhuff Group Business Analyst and Report Developer

The Dayhuff Group Business Analyst and Report Developer is responsible for leading the source system inventory, determining the initial OLAP data model and inventorying the reports and their consumption. The two main objectives are to ensure the business needs are clearly defined and communicated and to verify the information in the data mart is consistent with the source systems. The main activities are leading executive and business user interviews, creating the source system inventory, documenting current report SQL and participating in hardware and software evaluations.

During implementation, the Dayhuff Group Business Analyst and Report Developer is responsible for leading and managing all report and cube presentation activities for the data mart. The main objective is to ensure

that the presentation environment, business intelligence deployment, key reports, graphs, analyses, and executive dashboards meet the business needs. The main activities are creating presentation standards, leading and managing the presentation design and development, developing the business intelligence deployment platform, developing OLAP structures to support standard reports, graphs, and dashboards.

Assessment Deliverables

[BI Solution Road Map](#) - This document communicates the phased approach of the data mart to the executive sponsor and funding committee. It defines the data mart, describes its benefits and delineates the phases, if needed.

[Implementation SOW](#) - The official Statement of Work that authorizes Dayhuff Group to begin the solution.

[Solution Investment](#) - The financial investment needed to implement the solution.

[Project Timeline](#) - The project timeline indicates the length in weeks or months of the implementation project.

[Business Case](#) - The Business Case describes how the users expect to use the solution and generally, what types of reports are needed.

[Source System Inventory](#) - The Source System Inventory should include all centralized applications and any desktop, user-supported applications.

[Data Behavior Summary](#) - The summary describes how the data relate and is indicative of the data model complexity.

[Stick Figure Data Model](#) - The Stick Figure Data Model conveys the concept of a star schema to both the business users and to technical developers.

[User Population Inventory](#) - The User Population Inventory describes the spectrum of users and their skills.

[Architecture Design](#) - The Architecture Design describes the technical components of the solution.