IBM InfoSphere Information Governance Catalog

*Align the goals of business and IT for better information governance and trusted information*

IBM® InfoSphere® Information Governance Catalog helps you understand your information and foster collaboration between business and IT by establishing a common business vocabulary on the front end, and managing data lineage on the back end. By leveraging the comprehensive capabilities in InfoSphere Information Governance Catalog, you are better able to align IT with your business goals.

InfoSphere Information Governance Catalog helps organizations build and maintain a strong data governance and stewardship program that can turn data into trusted information. This trusted information can be leveraged in various information integration and governance projects, including big data integration, master data management (MDM), lifecycle management, and security and privacy initiatives.

In addition, InfoSphere Information Governance Catalog allows business users to play an active role in information-centric projects and to collaborate with their IT teams without the need for technical training. This level of governance and collaboration creates an environment where decisions are more accurate and business opportunities are more readily captured. The end result is an organization with a consistent understanding of information, what it means, how it is used and why it can be trusted.
IBM InfoSphere Information Governance Catalog creates trust in an organization’s information assets by:

- Establishing a common business language and managing business perspectives about information, aligning those views with the IT perspective
- Managing and exploring data lineage for data governance and compliance efforts
- Creating a well-documented, end-to-end information blueprint to ensure business requirements are aligned with the enterprise and reference architectures before starting a strategic project
- Keeping data design aligned with business intent and requirements

**Establish a common business language and manage business perspectives**

Strong business and IT alignment is essential in MDM, data warehousing, business intelligence, application consolidation and migration projects. Wherever information will directly affect a business—known as the point of impact—it must be correct, consistent and complete. It is not enough simply to document business metadata or business terms. This information is active in the enterprise and must be open and accessible to all business and development teams. InfoSphere Information Governance Catalog provides a collaborative environment in which users can evolve this important information asset as the business adapts to market conditions, shifting customer needs and competitive threats.

By leveraging business-driven integration and governance, including InfoSphere Information Governance Catalog capabilities for creating consistent business policies and rules, employees can be more confident when making decisions at the point of impact. InfoSphere Information Governance Catalog enables companies to define how information should be structured, stored, transformed and moved through governance policies and rules (Figure 1). Information governance policies are expressed in straightforward language and can contain sub-policies and references to information governance rules. Information governance rules, also expressed simply, describe the measurable criteria by which information can be determined to be compliant with a business objective.

*Figure 1. An information governance policy and the rules associated with the policy.*
Create an end-to-end blueprint of the information architecture

A well-documented, end-to-end blueprint of both the business and technical vision for an information project helps IT departments align business requirements with enterprise and reference architectures. It also encourages a standardized approach that minimizes rework. By representing the project vision across all domains (such as data integration, data archiving, test data management, application retirement, data warehousing and business intelligence), blueprints can help data architects avoid siloed thinking and misalignment with business priorities.

Architects can use blueprints to leverage best practices, as defined by the appropriate method, and create documentation with stated expectations regarding assignments, business justification and the final deadline. InfoSphere Information Governance Catalog plays a critical role in keeping the project vision synchronized with the actual solution by linking the blueprint to business and technical artifacts throughout the solution lifecycle.

Increase trust through integrated metadata

Knowing the origin of data and what happens to it as it moves through numerous systems across the enterprise is fundamental to establish confidence in the completeness and correctness of that data. Data validation and traceability is an important factor in complying with regulations such as the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and Basel II. These regulatory and compliance rules require companies to verify the accuracy, history and origin of their information. InfoSphere Information Governance Catalog outlines the complete lineage of fields from applications, reports or data warehouses back to source systems, surfacing the processes and transformations that occurred along the way (Figure 2). Its interfaces help data stewards promote data governance by establishing information responsibility and accountability.

*Figure 2. IBM InfoSphere Information Governance Catalog enables users to quickly answer questions about the meaning and source of information.*
Model and design data solutions
InfoSphere Information Governance Catalog provides a collaborative data design solution that helps organizations model, relate, standardize and integrate diverse and distributed data assets.

- Simplify and speed up warehouse design, dimensional modeling and change management by providing a tool to the warehouse data modelers and database administrators to design and manage the warehouse from an enterprise logical model.
- Increase efficiency and reduce time to market through greater understanding of current data assets.
- Simplify and accelerate data and integration design for business intelligence, master data management and service-oriented architecture initiatives.
- Leverage data-model value across the data lifecycle to promote cross-lifecycle, cross-role and cross-organization collaboration and to align process service, application and data architecture.

Govern information with enhanced stewardship
As data stewards become increasingly responsible for improving the value of their data assets, they need capabilities to help them manage these new requirements. Data stewards are being asked to handle a diverse set of scenarios, including:

- Collaborating across multiple lines of business to build information policies supporting regulatory requirements
- Assessing the cost of poor data quality and managing data quality issues to closure
- Engaging subject-matter experts through business processes to review and approve corporate glossary changes

InfoSphere Information Governance Catalog provides capabilities to help data stewards tackle these governance challenges through the Stewardship Center tool. The Stewardship Center features are built upon IBM’s market-leading business process management software, which is now included in select information integration and governance offerings. Information Governance Catalog customers can take advantage of pre-built governance workflows that integrate into both existing and newly supplied data quality and information governance capabilities. Organizations can then further extend and customize these workflows as necessary to engage subject-matter experts across their lines of business.

What’s new in the latest release (V11.5)?
Scalable data platforms such as Hadoop offer unparalleled cost benefits and analytical opportunities. Today, IBM helps fully leverage the scale and promise of Hadoop to enable critical projects and key analytics initiatives. The end-to-end information capabilities of InfoSphere Information Server allow you to better understand, cleanse, monitor, transform and deliver data, as well as to collaborate and bridge the gap between business and IT. Relevant new features in InfoSphere Information Governance Catalog include:

- Governance Catalog Extensible Framework: Customers can define and register new assets within the catalog, and set their display and structural definitions, enabling users to easily recognize and better understand information. Further, these assets may be fully governed and mapped to maintain data lineage.
- Data class definitions: Detected data classifications can be displayed and searched within InfoSphere Information Governance Catalog. This allows administrators to create and manage data class definitions, including their regular expressions, valid values or range.
• **Multilingual support:** Business terms may be defined in different languages and associated with each other to allow the organization to manage related business definitions.

• **XML schema definition support:** Customers can now import an XML schema definition file and browse or share the included entities, attributes and types across the enterprise, as well as govern and annotate the entities, attributes and types.

• **Column-level lineage for Hadoop files:** Job lineage now includes column-level lineage for the file connector when used for files whether in Hadoop or other systems.

• **Asset interchange support for extended lineage content:** Customers can easily and seamlessly migrate all extended data source and extension mapping content from previous versions of InfoSphere Metadata Workbench or between versions of InfoSphere Information Governance Catalog.

**Why IBM?**

IBM InfoSphere Information Governance Catalog provides comprehensive capabilities to help understand information and foster collaboration between business and IT. This encourages a standardized approach for discovering companies’ IT assets and establishing a common business language. Firms leveraging InfoSphere Information Governance Catalog are better able to align IT with their business goals.

InfoSphere Information Governance Catalog helps establish a solid foundation for different types of information integration and governance projects when combined with IBM InfoSphere Information Integration solutions, IBM InfoSphere Optim™ Data Lifecycle Management solutions or IBM InfoSphere Master Data Management solutions.

As a critical element of IBM Watson™ Foundations, the IBM big data and analytics platform, InfoSphere Information Integration and Governance provides market-leading functionality to handle the challenges of big data. InfoSphere provides optimal scalability and performance for massive data volumes, agile and right-sized integration and governance for the increasing velocity of data, and support and protection for a wide variety of data types and big data systems. InfoSphere helps make big data and analytics projects successful by delivering business users the confidence to act on insight.

**For more information**

To learn more about IBM InfoSphere Information Governance Catalog, please contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit the following website:

[ibm.com/software/data/metadata-management](http://ibm.com/software/data/metadata-management)

View a video demonstration of the business glossary capabilities found in InfoSphere Information Governance Catalog:

[www.youtube.com/user/BusinessDrivenInfo](http://www.youtube.com/user/BusinessDrivenInfo)

Additionally, IBM Global Financing can help you acquire the software capabilities that your business needs in the most cost-effective and strategic way possible. For credit-qualified clients we can customize a financing solution to suit your business and development requirements, enable effective cash management, and improve your total cost of ownership. Fund your critical IT investment and propel your business forward with IBM Global Financing. For more information, visit: [ibm.com/financing](http://ibm.com/financing)