



Case Study

## **PIRSA – Power BI Report Server and BI Platform Upgrade**

Implementation of On-premise Power BI  
Report Server and an upgrade and  
migration to the BI Platform for  
Department for Primary Industries and  
Regions South Australia (PIRSA)



# PIRSA – PBI Report Server and BI Platform Upgrade

### *Implementation of an On-premise PBI Report Server ecosystem as well as an upgrade and migration to the BI Platform*

#### **Problem.**

There is a demand within the PIRSA business to start creating and consuming Power BI dashboards and reports. With the business not quite ready to move into the cloud space, they were looking for an on premise solution as a stepping stone that could satisfy their needs. They were looking for a centralised solution which could home all of their BI style reports both traditional paginated and excel, for which they had many existing, as well as the new world Power BI and Mobile Reports.

Whilst this work was being undertaken they were also looking to upgrade all their existing BI instances to the latest Generally Available version on SQL Server. They had many databases, integrations packages and analysis services models which would have to go through the upgrade as well as some custom web applications .

With a growing number of simultaneous developers a Development Lifecycle Framework was also requested as an initiation document for any new developers.

#### **Solved.**

To provide an on premise solution to PIRSA's reporting needs Exposé implemented an on premise Power BI Report server making use of PIRSA's existing SQL Server license with software assurance.

All BI components were upgraded to the latest versions of SQL Server including databases, models, integration packages and reports. The old BI servers were decommissioned including the SharePoint environment which was no longer required as Power BI Report server was now acting and the BI Reporting hub.

A number of key reports were recreated in Power BI showcasing some of the great functionality and visualisations available in the tool.

Exposé worked with some key users of the business to upskill in the use of Power BI and Power BI Report Server so they could continue development after the project.

A development framework was created around source control, development lifecycle and release management process so all developers were across the same methods and tools.

#### **Business Benefits.**

The work which Exposé has undertaken allows the client to now create and publish Power BI dashboards, Mobile dashboards and KPIS to a centralised on premise reporting hub whilst still maintaining their traditional paginated and excel based reports.

PIRSA users now have the ability to create powerful visualisations and dashboards to allow users to visually explore and analyse their data, giving them key insights to enable fast and informed business decisions.

BI Developers can now also make use of the new features and functionality introduced into SQL Server since 2012 to help improve performance, security and end user experience.

The establishment of a Development Lifecycle Framework greatly improves the trust in source control and allows a smoother development to release process between the growing number of simultaneous developers.

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**Do you have any additional questions, or  
want to know more?**

We would love to hear from you.

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