

A top-down photograph of several people's hands stacked together in a circle on a light-colored wooden floor. The hands are of various skin tones and are wearing different accessories like watches, bracelets, and a ring. A semi-transparent white rectangular box is overlaid on the center of the hands, containing the title text.

Totally Centralized BI & Self Service with Necto 16

Necto 16 Features

Totally Centralized BI & Self Service

One of BI's biggest trends is Self-service BI. By 2017, most business users and analysts in organizations will have access to self-service tools to prepare data for analysis. But we need to be aware that it comes with its challenges. As much as business users need access to data analysis and reports, they can't just skip IT. IT is and will continue to be the anchor of the ship. That's why centralized self-service BI works well, it gives business users the ability to gain insights quickly, while having IT's governance and expertise to maintain the data healthy.

Back in the day, the way the system worked was the following: business users needed to request access to data from the IT department. The BI tools were not intuitive so there was no way to go around IT. This created a lot of delays and bottlenecks in the process of analyzing and reaching insights. Business users needed better usability. They needed speed to make timely data driven decisions. If they only relied on IT, there were many delays in the delivery of reports and in the decision making process. BI tools started to address the problem and new technologies appeared to allow self-service access to non-IT users.

Data preparation is one of the most difficult and time-consuming challenges facing users of BI and data discovery tools, as well as advanced analytics platforms. However, data preparation capabilities are emerging that will provide business users and analysts the ability to extend the scope of self-service to include information management, and extract, transform and load (ETL) functions, enabling them to access, profile, prepare,

integrate, curate, model, and enrich data for analysis and consumption by BI and analytics platforms.

Self-service BI is an approach that allows business users to access and work with data sources even though they don't have an analyst background.

By allowing the business users to make decisions based on their own analyses, we are giving more time to the BI and IT teams to focus on other more important tasks than just generating reports. And at the same time, the business users have the freedom to create their own dashboards and reports when they want them. This gives them data insights faster so that they can make decisions and react to situations accordingly.

In order to satisfy the end user's needs, the self-service BI tool needs to be intuitive and user friendly.

One challenge that self-service BI faces is flexibility. It has to be useful for both experienced analysts and business users. But the biggest challenge out there is how to maintain one single version of the truth if everyone can access data. Through 2016, less than 10% of self-service BI initiatives will be governed sufficiently to prevent inconsistencies that adversely affect the business.



If many business users can analyze data, there can be a problem of data democratization that could lead to multiple versions of the truth. The rise of data discovery, access to multi-structured data, data preparation tools, and smart capabilities will further democratize access to analytics and stress the need for governance.

The key to self-service's success is governance. A centralized self-service tool provides business users with the freedom to explore any data and act on every insight while giving IT the power to manage the system. The result is "one version of the truth" throughout the organization. There needs to be enterprise-grade centralization and a high level of data security.

There are BI tools that have tackled the new challenges of self-service BI. Necto 16 can deliver to you a totally centralized and self-service experience. Plus, it's collaborative, allowing business users and IT members to connect even on a data cell level, sharing their insights and working together to maintain one single version of the truth.

