

Microsoft Business Intelligence CHEAT SHEET

MSBI Basics

MSBI

Microsoft + Business Intelligence together is known as MSBI. It is a part of SQL Server which uses a part of SharePoint services. It consists of a set of tools which help in providing the best solution for BI.

Business Intelligence (BI)

BI refers to Business Intelligence. It is a technology driven term which refers to as a software application used by the organizations to integrate, analyze and present raw data to help the organizations make more informed business decisions and strategic planning.

Components of Microsoft SharePoint

SharePoint Foundation: It is a foundational program used for communication, collaboration and content management.

SharePoint server: It is a full featured software product that provides industrial grade communication, collaboration and content-management

InfoPath Form Services: It is a feature of SharePoint Server which allows InfoPath forms to be embedded in SharePoint Websites

Excel services: This feature embeds excel documents in a SharePoint website where it can be viewed

SSRS Integration: It installs an SSRS Server in such a way that it closely works with the SharePoint environment

Key Performance Indicator(KPI): It is a feature that provides a quick visualization of business information in the organization which provides an indication of how well it is doing

Business Connectivity Services(BCS): It is a feature of SharePoint that connects to Line of Business (LOB) systems and displays the data that they contain in the SharePoint environment

Sites: It is a website that SharePoint manages in ways that are compatible with its content-management features

Document Libraries: It is a mechanism to store content in SharePoint. A document library provides management of the content like document check-in and check-out, workflow etc.

Lists: A SharePoint website that contains the lists of data stored in form of rows and columns

Wikis: These are the specialized websites that allows the members to update the content

Blogs: It is a web log which provides a forum for people to write communications that can be viewed across the organization

MSBI Tools

The tools which are used to transform the Business data into the information. MSBI is categorized into 3 parts based on SQL Server data tool

- **SSIS:** It is an **integration tool** referred to as SQL Server Integration Services. SQL Server Integration Services is used for **collecting data/information in different formats** from various locations and gathering it in the centralized location. The important tasks performed by SSIS is **Extraction, Transformation and Loading**
- **SSAS:** It is an **analytical tool** referred to as SQL Server Analytical Services. SQL Server Analytical Services is used to **analyze the centralized stored data**. SSAS uses OLAP (Online Analytical Processing) component of MS SQL server and data mining capabilities
- **SSRS:** It is a **reporting tool/ Data view tool** referred to as SQL Server Reporting Services. SQL Server Reporting Service is a **graphical generating software system** from **Microsoft**. It is used to **present the data graphically** which is necessary for an organization to **make an effective decision**. The SSRS tools **develop, design, test and generate reports**

Features of MSBI

- Provides a single version required to make effective decisions
- Eliminates or reduces the instinctive decisions made
- Provides quick and timely response to the business related queries by making it more responsive
- Minimizes the error prone manual work
- Provides robust support for analysis
- Provides support for historical data
- Supports summarized data

Data Warehousing

It is a tool which divides the analytical workload from transactional workload and enables an organization to combine data from a number of sources

Database Engine

It is a part of SQL Server which creates and drives relational databases

Data Integration

It works by combining data from several sources which are stored using various technologies and provide a meaningful and valuable information

