

Five steps to bolster risk management and enhance decision making



Efficient, data-driven risk strategies the need of the hour

Data-driven risk strategies are changing the game for banks. Integrating data analytics into risk management can help resolve risks before they crystalize into bigger issues that impact performance and require substantial investments of time and resources to resolve.

Risk-management strategies empowered by data analytics can identify, prioritize and manage material risks in real time, providing impactful view for first-line risk owners, risk and compliance departments, board members, and other key constituencies.

In today's complex and competitive marketplace, these capabilities can be the difference between strategic success or failure. Yet, in our experience working with large banks, only a few are using data in risk management to maximum effectiveness. To gauge progress, we advise banks to ask themselves the following questions:

- Have you re-assessed your risk-management capabilities in the context of expanding compliance reporting obligations and increasing complexity for international banks?
- Do you have adequate staff and infrastructure resources to manage increased regulatory obligations?
- Do your risk-management frameworks trigger timely action, or is your staff paralysed by the information being presented?
- Do your board members have access to real-time risk data to update them on the latest regulatory and key operational requirements so that they can discharge their accountabilities responsibly?
- Have you designed a mechanism for linking risk data to your organisational strategy in the medium and long term?
- Have you considered the potential consequences of not managing your risk data effectively in terms of regulatory censure, financial loss and reputational damage?

Five steps to bolster your risk strategy

Link your risk framework and data strategy



Leverage your risk-management framework tools and processes (e.g., risk appetite, taxonomy, risk registers, and action plans) when defining a data strategy and vision for the short and long term.

Have measurable stage gates and milestones to track progress against your data strategy and roadmap. Connect data goals to the risk landscape, ensuring scalability and flexibility to futureproof your strategy.

Determine your key data



Understand your organisational processes, determine what data is key, and identify the drivers of that data set (e.g., system-generated, external, internal, and manual).

Some data may need to be tested independently or re-calibrated to improve confidence levels to determine whether data controls are adequate and operating effectively.

Address gaps to further enhance data reliability. This step might highlight the need for additional action, such as further cleansing of data, re-calibration of data, or sourcing of new data mined from different areas of the bank.





Ensure your data source is reliable

Understand and map your data lifecycle at both the process-specific and entity levels. Identify existing and/or establish new golden-source data points with clear data lineage demonstrating data flows, processes, and controls across the data lifecycle.

Test the accuracy and effectiveness based on critical data elements.



Predetermine what you want to report, to which committee, and when

Understand the needs of your organisational Board and committee structures and assess reporting frequency and regulatory timelines.

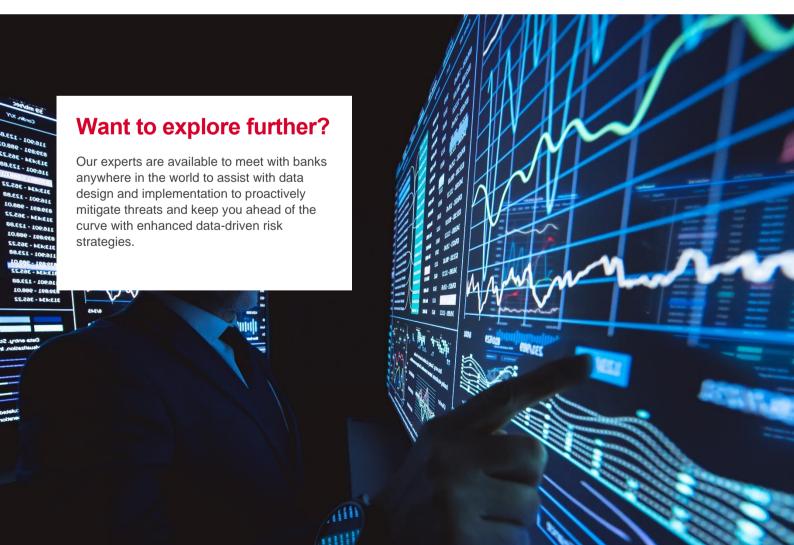
Integrate these key drivers into reporting metrics and rationalise key performance indicators within the reporting structure to ensure consistency, accuracy and standardisation in regulatory report generation.

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Leverage technology for real-time visibility, monitoring and management

Set aside budget to streamline and automate your critical risk-identification processes, alongside data observability features to monitor and flag issues that arise in real time.

The benefits of this step far outweigh the cost of investment.



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