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Data Governance: Best Practices for Getting Started

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Agenda

- There is a need for Data Governance
- Where to Start
- Culture Change
- Helpful Resources

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- MS in Business Analytics
- “A Practitioner’s Guide to Data Governance” case study
- Security Benefit led the Data Science & Governance Team
- Master black belt in Six Sigma
- Director of Sales Engineering Program, East Coast

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We need to do data governance!

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Where do we start?

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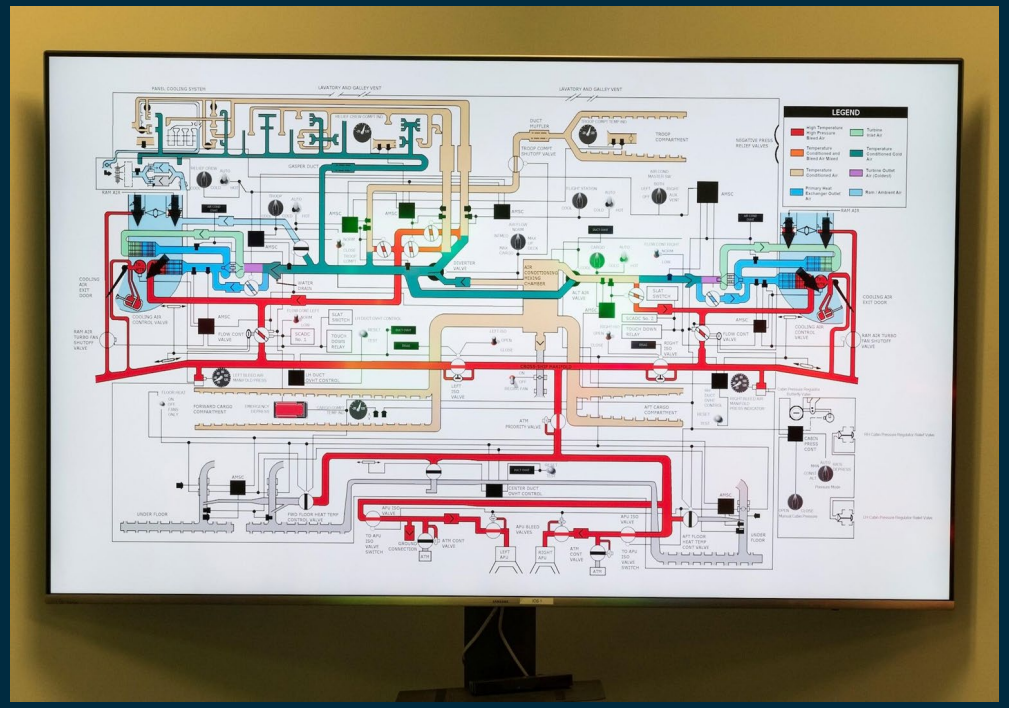
Assess Current State

- Gather existing maps of where your data lives (or start one)
- Meet with department SME to verify the map
- Find out who is using the data
- Find out who is managing the data (if anyone)
- Find out if you have any self-governance
- Find out if you have any quality checks
- Find out how vendor data is managed



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Gain Support

Top Down

- Equate your data strategy with corporate level goals
- Try to quantify the cost of data wrangling and the cost of bad data
- Build business and technical sponsorship

Bottom Up

- Discover the pain points bad data creates for each business unit
- Discuss how data governance can address those pain points
- Make it clear the goal is to make finding and using data easier

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Word Choice Matters!

Understand the culture of your organization

Sometimes the word *Governance*
=
Expensive Overhead to members of leadership

Consider calling it:

- Data Strategy
- Data Usage
- Data Enablement

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Start with the Data!

Data stewards defining terms and compliance teams writing policies do not add value unless those assets are connected to a physical data element.

The idea of *Data Governance* is to ENRICH your physical metadata with business and compliance context.

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Quick Wins

It is important to **show a value quickly as you build the governance practice**. Some areas where you can gain quick wins:

- **Start with ingesting your physical metadata to create your automated Data Dictionary**. Many companies are tracking this in Excel spreadsheets. This enables you to have accurate data that STAYS accurate through ingestion refreshes.
- **Complete Lineage stitching** next to create automated, exportable data flows to understand how data flows through your systems.
- **Review your data flows** to find duplicative storage of the same data. Eliminating this can reduce storage costs.
- **Ingest the metadata from your BI tool** to build your automated report catalog. This will enable elimination of duplicate reports and prevent creation of duplicate reports, saving resource time, which equates to cost savings.

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Creating Cultural Change

- Add Data Governance requirements to Change Control and Go Live checklists.
    - Are new feeds mapped?
    - Are new fields defined?
- Add Data Governance tasks to project plans with defined timelines.
- Include funds for Data Governance work in project budgets.
- Make sure everyone understands this is part of the company culture and not a project with an end date.
- Gamify governance with awards for most proposed terms or most terms mapped to data assets.

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Collibra Accelerators

Collibra provides numerous capabilities that can accelerate your time to value in your governance practice.

- **Automated Business and Technical Lineage**
- **Profiling and Data Classification with Machine Learning**
- **Adaptive Rules for Data Quality**
- **Automated Report Catalog with Lineage**
- **In App Workflows**
- **Bi-directional integration with ticketing systems**

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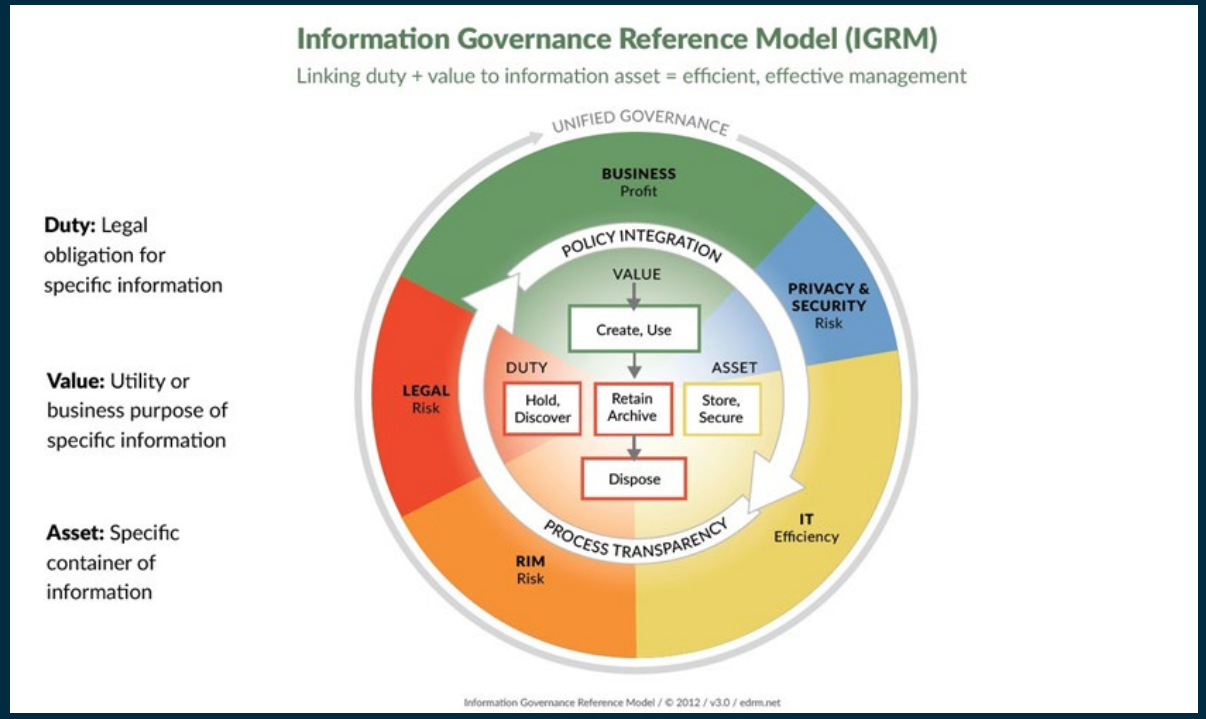
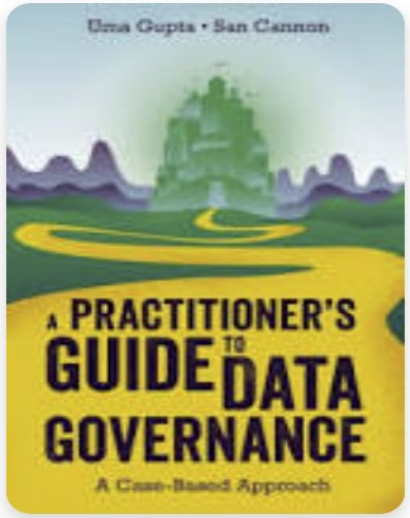
Helpful Resources

CGOC Information Governance Process Maturity Model



A Practitioner's Guide to Data Governance



A Practitioner's Guide to Data Governance:
A Case-Based Approach

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