

# exp<sup>o</sup>sé

Data Exposed

Case Study

## Large utility customer - Future state Data Analytics Platform Reference Architecture & Roadmap

A complete interactive blueprint for a  
scalable future state and a roadmap on  
how to get there.



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# Large utility customer - Future state Data Analytics Platform Reference Architecture & Roadmap

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## Problem.

Our large utility customer, a heavy user of SAP ERP and other SAP technologies and services, needed a responsive and flexible platform that could satisfy the existing and sometimes conventional data analytics workloads. At the same time, also provide the scale and services needed for many of the medium to longer-term data analytic aspirations throughout the business.

It is a large and complex organisation with a vast number of varied data related goals, ranging from small exploratory workloads, conventional reporting, large and sophisticated real-time data workloads originating from potentially thousands of devices in the field, neural networks and deep learning workloads, to everything in between.

Reliance on cost-effective and reliable electricity, while satisfying an increasingly socially conscious user base, has never been more important. These realities are increasing the need to truly understand the network, which means access to data fast, through appropriate tools. One example could be the need to understand the impact of emerging technologies such as solar panels, virtual power plants, connected homes and appliances, smart streetlights, etc. on the network. Simply provisioning fragmented services in a cloud platform provider, without understanding a horizon state, and some pragmatic guardrails would have created a free for all and a potentially hard to manage data ecosystem, while not realizing the stated goals.

## Solved.

Exposé has, over the past four years, developed a unique work package to help customers understand where they are today, create an informed future horizon state and sensible paths on how to get there. While at the same time, ensuring that a robust and scalable data ecosystem evolves.

Exposé started our customer's Data Analytics Platform journey by focussing almost exclusively on business outcomes and the user stories that exist throughout the business (from priority requirements through to aspirational ideas and statements). This focus helped us understand and develop the modular patterns needed to satisfy the potentially infinite number of business outcomes. Then the technologies required to serve these patterns.

What emerged is a unique interactive visual analytic, which is a living tool that will continue to evolve as projects are implemented, and technologies are endorsed. It allows our customer to understand not only the technical blueprints needed across the organisation for their Data Analytics Platform but also how pervasive the technologies, patterns and user outcomes are; which helps planners and architects plan projects and initiatives.

## Business Benefits.

- Planners and architects can quickly see how **pervasive** the patterns and technologies underpinning a business outcome will be, thereby allowing them to understand whether the delivery of the specific business outcome is a **good investment**.
- Each solution reuses previously enabled patterns and technologies or enables new patterns and technologies, thereby **maturing the solution towards the horizon state**.
- It **reinforces sound architectural principles and guardrails**, thereby ensuring the platform evolves sensibly and cost-effectively, does not become a free for all with each solution brought online contributing to a broader set of outcomes.
- **Sprawl is avoided**, which inevitably leads to massive **cost savings**.
- A **fragmented data ecosystem is avoided** as each solution leverages past solutions and contributes their unique extensions.
- The maturing data ecosystem and modular nature of the reference architecture **reinforce pragmatic governance** that can contribute to existing or evolving governance frameworks.
- The fact that each solution leverages past solutions and contributes their unique extensions means that the **speed of solution delivery** is expedited and the cost of delivery is minimised.

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

We would love to hear from you.

#exposedata

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