

MotioCI At a Glance

Your company relies on reporting from Cognos which is crucial for its success. You must ensure that your development methods are efficient and deliver high-quality BI assets to your user community. MotioCI offers version control, release management, and automated testing for an improved Cognos lifecycle. It also has features to improve special projects, such as a Cognos upgrade.

Version Control

Cognos Analytics has no native version control, so when a report is deleted or a change is made to that report, it becomes the final version. How long and how expensive is it for you to retrieve lost data in Cognos?

MotioCI version control takes the finality out of making changes in Cognos. Since every change is tracked in MotioCI, the following become possible in Cognos:

- Freely make changes with the peace of mind that ANY previous version of a BI asset, including deleted content, can be restored.
- Diminish all the time you would normally spend on recreating lost content.
- Increase traceability into the development of your BI assets with the "who, what, and when" being automatically captured.
- Reduce troubleshooting by visibly seeing exactly what has changed between versions of an asset.
- Improve communication among team members with the ability to add the "why" to a new version of a BI asset.
- Enable "hybridization" by taking all of the favored aspects from previous versions of a BI assets into a new version.

Deployment

Deploying BI assets for your user community is complex regardless of the your organization's size. With the limitations of having to deploy entire zip files of assets (reports, packages, folders, security, users etc.), careful planning is required to get user-ready content into production. How does having this "all or nothing" deployment approach impact your efficiency?

MotioCI deployment capabilities give you flexibility and empowerment to improve deploying BI assets in Cognos by giving you:

- Control over what gets deployed and schedule it out on your timeline. You can get as granular as a single report instead of being limited to major exports and imports across environments.
- Transparency into who is deploying what and when to give you an audit trail and enforce compliance requirements. You can safely eliminate the need for separation of powers.
- Simple rollbacks of deployments reduce ticketing bottlenecks and time you would otherwise spend on restoring a failed deployment.

Testing

Testing Cognos assets is often only done at a bare minimum level due to the time it takes to test manually. But how much time and money is this approach costing you when undetected errors make their way to production? MotioCI's continuous, automated testing proactively catches mistakes before they hit production where they become the costliest to repair.

This enables you to:

- Save money by finding and solving issues early on in development.
- Trim down the time and effort to test by applying and automating MotioCI test cases to run continuously on your BI assets.
- Ensure the assets you develop are high quality and producing accurate results.
- Better manage performance and the development lifecycle.

MotioCI for Upgrades

Upgrading to the latest version of Cognos leads you to a more modern BI implementation with the latest features, better performance, and user experience. But when you consider that the average Cognos implementation has 14,380 objects that must be moved, this upgrade turns into a long project. There is uncertainty into what you need to upgrade, how your content will behave in the new version of Cognos, and how much time it will take to migrate and ensure it is running as expected.

Do you risk keeping your user community behind the times by staying on an older version of Cognos and avoiding an upgrade?

Enter MotioCI inventory and reduction features. The inventory feature identifies everything you have in your content store— including things like duplicate content, unused reports, and it breaks down the level of complexity for your reports. These "candidates for deletion" can then safely be eliminated from your upgrade with the reduction feature. Should you need to get anything back, it's all under version control for your peace of mind.

Using MotioCI in an upgrade gives you the following advantages:

- Reduces the scope of your upgrade by identifying what to upgrade and what to delete.
- More control over your upgrade with insights on what will likely break, run as expected, or require more testing/repairing.
- Modernize faster and gain access to new features sooner.
- Reduce troubleshooting by testing and finding issues in a sandbox environment before they go to your live upgrade.