EY Data Fabric

Helping clients with data insights and answers through integrated services and experiences to deliver frictionless transparency

EY Building a better working world

Microsoft

Clients across all sectors are data rich and insights poor, they struggle to find answers they need in their data

Clients are finding it difficult to:

- Access relevant and trusted data sources
- Unify siloed data sets (third party, legacy, operational, analytics, etc.)
- Stay connected with rapid evolution of technology
- Keep business and IT connected and on the same page
- Recognize data duplication and its negative impact on the business

EY Data Fabric solution benefits clients by:

- Facilitating a faster time-to-market – EY Data Fabric supports quick and agile scaling so new services can go-live quicker.
- Reducing operational costs and optimizing labor forces – businesses are able to leverage data to identify inefficiencies or improvements in business processes.
- Enhancing platform integration to prevent business disconnect – business processes no longer get left behind with a fully integrated data fabric.
- Offering tighter data controls for compliance leading to increased trust in data and less duplication – you can implement data management over key business data to reduce operational risk and limit business disruption.
- Leveraging client's vast amount of data utilizing Microsoft Azure cloud technology – you can quickly analyze and incorporate large volumes of customer data.

Facilitating business outcomes with a modern approach to data

The EY Data Fabric solution helps organizations that have invested in Microsoft Azure build their own data fabric to develop use cases and realize value from their data to drive business outcomes. EY teams uses a repeatable approach to help organizations align business and data strategy as well as design and implement the data fabric architecture. EY teams has a set of accelerators and toolkits to help with the strategy, design, build, deployment and value realization, which are applied in combination with the below guiding principles to deliver the data fabric.

- Fit-for-purpose data access: Uses a multitude of optimized serving layers, designed for end users and business requirements in mind
- Business domains: Drives data products which includes description of data, architectural patterns, and organization of data
- Use-cases optimized data flows and usage: Empowers driving the flow of data from source to end user based on desired business outcomes

Capabilities of EY Data Fabric using Microsoft Azure Services

Capability	Functions
Self-service data	• Leverages at will datasets curated and approved as trustworthy for various user groups and their use cases • Uses Microsoft Azure to support easy connectivity between all services and provide cataloguing and lineage features to build trust in the data
Data sharing	• Supports well-governed data exchange between internal systems and third-party entities • Leverages Microsoft Azure to facilitate easy data exchange between various environments while still complying with governance and security policies
Data science and artificial intelligence (AI) at scale	• Supports enterprise-wide enablement of data science use cases and adoption of AI-driven experiences • Leverages Microsoft Azure to provide flexibility and scalability for building enterprise scale data science models, as well as capabilities to manage the models and supporting datasets
Enhanced data privacy and governance controls	• Governs rules and policies for appropriate access to be granted to users at the right level of granularity • Leverages Microsoft Azure services to offer a variety of granularities to grant access (e.g., location, naming conventions, data contents)

Customer success story: EY Data Fabric in action

Opportunity overview

- This global retail company was not meeting customer demand due to ineffective use of data and lack of digital strategy.
- On the other hand, they were also struggling with a high inventory to capital ratio.
- They planned to use Microsoft Azure services to better analyze the data they had and leverage EY Data Fabric to increase accessibility to other data sources.

Client challenges

The need for action was driven by the following factors:

- Inability to meet customer demand on supply and delivery due to ineffective data management and quality processes
- Lack of scalability for data science initiatives and gain better business insights due to legacy modelling processes and techniques
- Limited accessibility due to disparate, on-premises data which was disintegrated and not subject-oriented

Solution delivered

- EY teams implemented the EY Data Fabric solution, which in turn made critical data sets from across the business easier to access, trust and share the machine learning pipelines.
- Subsequently, EY teams were able to develop a company tailored broad machine learning system that incorporated customer, store and product specific demand.

Client benefits

The client was able to:

- Scale predicative analytics solution across 10,000+ stores and 200 stock-keeping-unit's (SKUs) resulting in a US$400m annual reduction in capital cost and 10% increase in service levels based upon a US$46,000 inventory reduction per store
- Reduce working capital and provide insights and metrics for informed business decision-making

EY and Microsoft: Work Better. Achieve More.

Every day, throughout the world, businesses, governments and capital markets rely on EY business ingenuity and the power of Microsoft technology to solve the most challenging global issues.

EY and Microsoft bring a compelling formula to spark the potential of the cloud and unlock the power of data. We solve our clients' most challenging issues by blending trusted industry expertise with innovative cloud technology. Our strategic relationship draws on decades of success developing visionary solutions that provide lasting value.

Together, we empower organizations to create exceptional experiences that help the world work better and achieve more.

For more information, visit: ey.com/Microsoft.

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Enabled by data and technology, diverse EY teams in over 150 countries provide trust through assurance and help clients grow, transform and operate.

Working across assurance, consulting, law, strategy, tax and transactions, EY teams ask better questions to find new answers for the complex issues facing our world today.