

Well Governed Data for Better Access, Trust, and Control

No one knows how normal operations will change after the pandemic passes. But some things may change dramatically. For instance, operations continuity and telework. During the crisis, federal agencies — many of which were resisting even modest levels of telework — will have successfully demonstrated new remote operating and staffing models. Agencies now know they can connect hundreds, thousands, even tens of thousands of remote employees and contractors. This new insight frees them to reimagine how best to deploy their workforce at a given moment.

After People, Data is your Agency's Most Important Asset

This disruption also underscores the importance of reimagining the second most important asset an agency has: its data.

Accelerating the realization of the value of data assets is the key driver behind the [Federal Data Strategy](#). The strategy pushes agencies to unlock their data assets in pursuit of improved citizen experiences, optimized business operations, and innovative new digital services.

At its core, the Federal Data Strategy has four key objectives:

- 1 Ensure agencies operate under an enterprise data governance setup
- 2 Drive strategies that improve access, use, and augmentation of data, both for federal employees and constituents
- 3 Use data to support both decision-making and program accountability
- 4 Make federal open data available for commercialization and public use, and innovation generally

Success Requires Reimagining your Data Management Infrastructure

This all sounds great, but how do agencies get there? The practical reality is that most agencies' data assets are not technically optimized to fulfill the Federal Data Strategy. Their data typically exists as disparately defined datasets, that use a variety of structures and formats, and are scattered across multiple physical data silos.

In the past, agencies pursued all sorts of data management strategies and technologies, attempting to get control over their data. Beyond spending lots of money on systems integration and data rationalization projects, these efforts have not yielded as hoped.

More recently some have tried moving their data to commercial clouds. While this has helped to reduce data scatter, data lakes in the cloud do not make the data any more mission-friendly. That's because, inside the lake, the underlying data inconsistencies and IT complexities remain. And as a result, providing data for mission-critical applications and analytics continues to be a difficult, costly, and slow process.

Addressing these challenges requires a more holistic data management solution. Fortunately, just such a solution exists.

Unify data intelligently for better access, trust, and control

TIBCO, a leading technology firm, whose innovative solutions are well known across federal IT circles, has just such a data management solution.

TIBCO's data management product line, branded Unify, helps agencies unlock data assets so they can improve citizen experiences, optimize business operations, and deliver innovative new digital services.

TIBCO Unify addresses every kind of agency data—metadata, reference data, master data, transactional, and streaming data. On-premises, in the cloud, or spanning an ever-evolving hybrid combination, it doesn't matter.

With TIBCO Unify, chief information, data, and technology officers can reimagine how they can overcome complexity and manage their diverse, disparate, distributed data assets in a well-governed and consistent way.

Unify provides agency data consumers, analytical tools, and applications with timely, mission-friendly data that can be trusted. And at the same time, Unify's adaptive data management infrastructure keeps costs low while it ensures proper governance. This pragmatic approach lets agency technical teams check the box on all four Federal Data Strategy objectives.

What's Inside TIBCO Unify

TIBCO's innovative portfolio of enterprise-grade data management middleware includes:

The [TIBCO EBX](#) master data management solution for modeling, governing, and sharing critical master data, reference data, and hierarchies. Agencies use EBX software to ensure the authority and consistency of data shared across all their operational, analytics, and governance applications. With one solution for all types of master data and for all types of applications, EBX software lets agencies achieve greater efficiency and lower costs than if they licensed and operated separate solutions.

Agencies use [TIBCO Data Virtualization](#) software to span data silos and create one place to find, understand, and consume all agency data. Business-friendly data views hide the complexity resulting from different data storage technologies, formats, protocols, locations, etc. Further, these views simplify access to any data source on-premises, in the cloud, and of particular importance, for a growing number of federal civilian and military applications, including Internet-of-Things data. Avoiding the delays and rigidity of physical integration into warehouses or data lakes, data virtualization lets agencies respond faster to new data requirements.

[TIBCO Cloud Metadata](#) software is a next-generation enterprise metadata management, data catalog, and governance solution that delivers the data context, coherency, and control agencies need. TIBCO Cloud Metadata software spans agency business and technical metadata including data dictionaries, business glossaries, and data catalogs. Augmenting agency staff knowledge, built-in artificial intelligence (AI), and machine learning (ML) improve data classification and data lineage so data consumers better understand and trust agency data.

How Agencies Benefit from TIBCO Unify

Only TIBCO provides such an advanced portfolio of master data management, metadata management, and data virtualization capabilities together as one unified solution. This all-in-one approach lets agencies standardize data definitions and deliver one unified data catalog, point of access, security model, and governance system—for all agency data.

TIBCO Unify is proving to be a huge advantage for agencies operating under multiple federal IT mandates relating to program accountability (including the Data Act), modernization (including Executive Order 13,800 and the Modernizing Government Technology Act) and the Federal Data Strategy. Benefits include:

- **Mission-friendly data.** Deliver agency data in a mission-relevant way instead of how it is stored in IT systems. Maintain consistency with agency definitions so everyone is on the same page.
- **Trusted data.** Agency data consumers and providers have confidence in the data's origin and transformations. This lineage, along with transaction logging, ensures accountability, simplifies compliance, and accelerates troubleshooting.
- **Data when you need it.** Bypassing nightly batch bottlenecks, agency data consumers make decisions based on the latest data.
- **Greater productivity.** Agency data consumers spend less time searching for data sources and more time adding value. When agencies are in the data-sharing mode, an intuitive, self-service catalog simplifies things on both ends.
- **Speed and savings.** User experiences show that agencies provision new data requirements up to 10 times faster than ETL based integration into warehouses and marts. Less data engineering and fewer data copies mean significant savings.
- **Enhanced governance and security.** Agencies can proactively protect data assets from unauthorized access and comply with data regulations including those that require encryption and masking.
- **More value from your existing data infrastructure.** By avoiding data replication and leveraging advanced virtualization techniques, agencies can support larger data workloads and more demanding SLAs with existing data centers and cloud resources.

Conclusion

Data, data everywhere is the new normal.

Metadata, reference data, master data, transactional, and streaming IoT data — on-premises, in the cloud, as well as ever-evolving hybrid combinations — is critically important to mission success.

While every agency yearns for data that is easy to access and use, unlocking the value of data requires agencies to reimagine traditional data management.

TIBCO Unify gives Federal Agency CIOs, CDOs, and CTOs the innovative data management infrastructure — master data management, metadata management, and data virtualization combined as one unified solution — to overcome agency data complexity, bridge agency data silos, and deliver the consistent, well-governed data that every agency is mandated to provide.

To learn more, [contact us](#).



Global Headquarters
 3307 Hillview Avenue
 Palo Alto, CA 94304
 +1 650-846-1000 TEL
 +1 800-420-8450
 +1 650-846-1005 FAX
www.tibco.com

TIBCO Software Inc. unlocks the potential of real-time data for making faster, smarter decisions. Our Connected Intelligence platform seamlessly connects any application or data source; intelligently unifies data for greater access, trust, and control; and confidently predicts outcomes in real time and at scale. Learn how solutions to our customers' most critical business challenges are made possible by TIBCO at www.tibco.com.

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