The Dashboard: Another overrated tool or a necessity in today's business world?

Many of you have been trying to answer this question

The answer can be found through two angles:

- ➢ The technical angle, to analyze a significant quantity of specialized data (compliance, governance, vulnerabilities, incidents, IT risks, cybersecurity, etc.)
- ➢ The management angle, to measure and determine a status in order to confirm a strategy and its progress or to modify priorities

Technical Angle

Connections must be made between the various technical data functions in order to produce a summary reading, essential to the work of the technical team in charge of IT operations, cybersecurity, and IT risks. Generating this technical summary of results is a complex process that requires specialized knowledge, an appropriate model and extensive work to simplify the task. Whether carried out by an expert or aided by an application, it is a major and highly complex undertaking.

Moreover, the data must be consolidated and rendered comprehensible to managers and decision-makers so that they can make decisions based on the latest results and trends.

Management Angle

For management, it is important to determine which data is relevant, how it will be analyzed and transposed, and the best way to present it. As a manager, you are responsible for knowing what is working well or not so that you can make informed, clear decisions.

Producing a simple, at-a-glance synthesis is therefore no easy task.

What's Needed

A connection must be made between the managers who require a simple reading and the experts who look at all the data, analyzing and considering all the results. Some data are easy to interpret, while other data indicate a situation that is more difficult to detect and requires further investigation. The experts are responsible for understanding and interpreting the past, reacting to the present, and planning what to focus on for the future. In some cases, the path is clear while in others, experts must draw on their extensive knowledge, experience and impressions to take the right action.

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<u>But what should managers focus on? There lies the challenge!</u>

It's not always easy to interpret the explanations of experts who arrive with volumes of specialized data, details and impressions. These experts face the challenge of summarizing the results in order to highlight the essential for managers, so that they understand what is important, worrisome or out of step with the business reality.

To this end, it is necessary to create a metrics model that provides a useful and meaningful synthesis for the company. One that links the IT, cybersecurity and IT risk functions to business needs.

While sometimes technology is perceived as a necessary and costly evil, when used properly, it allows for more effective management, production, interpretation and reaction within a company. In short, it is indispensable but to gain maximum advantage, you must be able to fully understand the results and how to use them.

As an expert, you need to understand what is going on so as to determine what is satisfactory, missing or required.

Answers and opinions may vary. But in many cases, the one tool that is indispensable for managing IT, security and IT risks is a dashboard composed of appropriate metrics and presented in an easy-to-understand format conducive to decision-making. The golden rule: one measurement, one understanding and one decision.

While a variety of choices are available, beware of producing a dashboard with metrics just for the sake of metrics! Nothing will be gained by consulting metrics that do not enable you to make decisions. It is preferable to analyze and choose the metrics best suited for communication between decision-makers and experts and which will lead to a plan of action. The idea is to choose useful metrics that will evolve and provide comprehensible readings. Dashboards composed of metrics that require long and complicated explanations should be avoided.

Four possible options:

- ➢ Start from scratch and concentrate on the presentation
- ➢ Include a large volume of technical data so as not to forget or neglect anything
- ➢ Begin with a blank page and invest months of work

- ⇨ Or, use a product that contains dashboards and metrics that are ready to be used.

The first three options will require three to six months of work and investments of $72,500 to $184,500 per dashboard, compared to savings of 50 to 75% using INDIK™ (for more details on the ROI, follow website link).

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THE INDIK™ SOLUTION

INDIK™ knowledge database and ready-to-use dashboards, enables you to quickly and effectively choose the right, easy-to-understand metrics according to the intended recipients. INDIK™ provides recipients precise metrics so that they can make decisions without spending hours trying to interpret the information. It's therefore important to choose metrics that have a proven track record and to focus on a reasonable amount of results. While there are various possible options, we prefer a set of synthesized, standards-based metrics building on known elements that can be referred to if needed. A reading that will enable technical experts and managers to communicate and understand each other.

At INDIK™, our expertise and our vision have been transposed into an efficient, user-friendly product: its wizard assistant can perform the tasks for you using artificial intelligence and a processing algorithm that contains years of knowledge and experience.

When you choose INDIK™, you can:

- ➢ Use the wizard assistant to work autonomously from the start
- ➢ Ask us to help you carry out a proof-of-concept by quickly customizing one or several dashboards
- ➢ Choose a turnkey approach where INDIK™ experts configure and implement the production of all your dashboards, so that all you have to do is use them

We are able to assist you using our INDIK™ product which allows seasoned experts and concerned managers to determine and concentrate on the right metrics, so as to make the right decisions.

INDIK™ will help you create the finest IT, Cyber Security & Risk Management Dashboards, with its revolutionary process, and allow you to quickly visualize, easily understand & share the data with minimum effort.

To book a demo or find out more please visit us at www.indik-dashboard.com

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