



//ABANCA

Scaling Data Governance:

ABANCA Boosts Profitability with Enhanced Risk Analysis and Compliance

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Manuel Ferro Novoa
Chief Data Officer, ABANCA

Goals

Strengthen data governance, data quality, change management, and risk data aggregation compliance

Enable data owners and data stewards to understand where data is located and how it can be used

Provide governed data to senior management, data scientists and data analytics quickly and easily

Solution

Establish a business glossary of over 2,000 terms and definitions using Informatica Axon Data Governance

Automatically catalog metadata for more than 600,000 scanned assets and track data lineage using Informatica Enterprise Data Catalog

Create a BI scorecard of governed data that can be used by the organization, senior management, and data scientists, or downloaded as a report for banking regulators

Results

Enhances security, reliability, and compliance with scalable data governance policies, procedures, and controls

Increases transparency with users, while easing compliance demands and saving time on data preparation

Helps bank employees find and understand data, leading to better lending decisions for increased profitability and the ability to predict the business and regulatory impact of data changes



About ABANCA

Founded in 2011, ABANCA Corporación Bancaria, S.A. is a Spanish bank based in Galicia with more than 6,000 employees and 700 branches throughout Europe, the UK, Latin America, and the United States. The bank provides retail, private, and business banking products and services to more than 2 million companies and individuals globally.



Informatica Success Story: ABANCA

As one of the top ten financial institutions in Spain, ABANCA is committed to delivering banking services that are aligned with its core values: responsibility, reliability, innovation, and quality. ABANCA seeks to combine the characteristics of a traditional community bank with those of a modern bank that has at its core the satisfaction of its clients and continuous innovation.

ABANCA's modern approach to servicing clients, including mobile banking and online broker services, is something the bank sought to bring to its data governance as well. As a Spanish bank, ABANCA is subject to guidelines set by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, including the reporting of risk data.

To comply with Basel guidelines and enhance risk analysis, ABANCA needed to strengthen data governance, traceability, and accountability. Although decision-makers, such as loan officers and data scientists, had access to financial and customer data, identifying relevant data, understanding business terms and definitions, and finding data owners to answer questions was a challenge.

When Manuel Ferro Novoa was appointed Chief Data Officer at ABANCA, he set his sights on continuing to build a data governance program to make it easier for ABANCA teams to access trusted information, leveraging the single source of data that the bank already had in its corporate data warehouse.

"We need to support our decision makers and data scientists with well-governed data and reports, and make it easier for them to find the data they're looking for," he says. "This is an ongoing priority for us as we continually expand the scope of this project."

Building an Effective and Scalable Data Governance Program

The bank decided to focus on risk data first because the organization needs to comply with Basel recommendations (BCBS 239). The team wanted an automated toolset to govern data, track its lineage, and enable non-technical business users to understand where data is located, who owns it, and how it can be used.

Working with DataSpurs, a Barcelona-based Informatica partner that specializes in data governance, ABANCA deployed [Informatica Axon Data Governance](#) and [Informatica Enterprise Data Catalog](#), which integrate to form a complete solution that helps the bank enhance its risk analysis capabilities and information in general. The team established a centralized business glossary for approximately 2,000 data assets, that will increase progressively, giving credit managers and data scientists an authoritative source of definitions, data owners, and lineage that's easy to use.



"As a bank, we count on accurate and timely data delivery to our credit, risk, business, and finance teams. Informatica and MicroStrategy give us peace of mind because information flows are automatically captured, without the need for manual intervention."

Manuel Ferro Novoa

Chief Data Officer, ABANCA



"If someone has a question about the data, they can easily find its definition and owner," says Jorge G. Romarís, Director of Data Analytics and Rtech. "They can get the link to the origin. Data owners know that the information belongs to them, and that they need to keep it updated."

The team also wanted to give data owners a way to view data lineages graphically. The decision wasn't just about visualization, but about empowering them to better understand how changes to data affect reports. Today, teams can view a direct link to data lineage in Informatica Enterprise Data Catalog, which automatically catalogs metadata and displays graphical charts featuring how data flows from transactional systems into the bank's data warehouse, with more than 600,000 scanned assets, and reporting consoles.

"Business users now understand how a change to the governed data might impact the bank's information," Romarís says. "This will progressively give us much better control over financial information."

With a complete view of the data's origin, location, previous changes, and area of impact, ABANCA can create a business intelligence (BI) scorecard that can easily be downloaded to a spreadsheet to provide to regulators, data scientists, or senior management.

"Informatica makes it easy to provide trusted data using our BI tool," says Ferro. "We are confident about using this tool, because we're sure that the data will be well-governed."

Delivering Trusted Data for Compliance and Management Reporting

Now that ABANCA has a scalable data governance foundation, the bank is progressively delivering more accurate and detailed reports to its Board of Directors and to regulators, while saving significant time on data preparation. Reporting on data is greatly simplified, with the support of MicroStrategy, easing compliance demands while enabling the bank to make better lending decisions to enhance profitability.

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Simplifying Workflows for Data Scientists

Data professionals rarely receive kudos, because employees don't often think about how data is managed and optimized behind the scenes. However, Ferro received a compliment from an ABANCA data scientist that made the impact of his team's efforts clear.



“With Informatica solutions, everything is simplified now. Our data scientists know where to find data and who to contact about it. They can spend more time on data science because everything is at their fingertips. That made us realize that we have made a huge contribution to the business.”

Inside The Solution:

- Informatica Axon Data Governance
- Informatica Enterprise Data Catalog
- Informatica PowerCenter

About Informatica

At Informatica (NYSE: INFA), we believe data is the soul of business transformation. That’s why we help you transform it from simply binary information to extraordinary innovation with our Informatica Intelligent Data Management Cloud™. Powered by AI, it’s the only cloud dedicated to managing data of any type, pattern, complexity, or workload across any location — all on a single platform. Whether you’re driving next-gen analytics, delivering perfectly timed customer experiences, or ensuring governance and privacy, you can always know your data is accurate, your insights are actionable, and your possibilities are limitless. Informatica. Cloud First. Data Always™.

Informatica Worldwide Headquarters

2100 Seaport Blvd, Redwood City, CA 94063, USA

Phone: 650.385.5000 | Fax: 650.385.5500 | Toll-free in the US: 1.800.653.3871

informatica.com | facebook.com/InformaticaLLC | linkedin.com/company/informatica | twitter.com/Informatica



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