Financial Reporting Analytics
Risk Analytics – Managed Services
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Overview

Introduction
Today’s finance function is experiencing a multitude of challenges, particularly as its operating environment gets complex and dependent on data from systems. Traditional methods to review the underlying transactions for financial close, and activities to quality check and oversee these reconciliations, are thus getting increasingly error prone, slow, and difficult to deliver, as well as more resource-intensive.

Now more than ever, the Finance function needs to embrace cutting-edge, analytic technologies to build and sustain more efficient and effective control over their increasingly complex business activities. It becomes critical to analyze the financial entries captured in the system and to understand the accounting behavior and trends.

Deloitte Risk Analytics Solution
Our teams help design, implement, and embed technology, enabling our clients to identify, assess, and prioritize risks and seek-in actions more quickly. As they do so, they seek-in a faster and more reliable analysis of the GL movements, integrating financial data from multiple source systems and presenting it to users over the web via interactive reporting dashboards.

Monitoring and controlling the behaviour of financial entries regularly not only helps the business have a smooth financial close but also highlights the potential control failures and frauds at the transaction level, helping the clients mitigate these risks in advance and formulating controls to minimize uncertainty at financial close.

Ad-hoc to Technology-Driven
Companies spend hundreds of man-hours in completing reconciliations; however, they are unable to access key information without adding hundreds of more hours without technology. Organizations spend huge amounts on the best ERP systems to record and track transactional data, but rely on manual processes to make sure that the information is valid, correct, and appropriate.
Financial Reporting Analytics

FRA is a proprietary tool by Deloitte which leverages technology to automate the process of journal entry analysis.

Current Challenges

• High volumes of complex issues present in reconciling certain GL codes are too often dealt with via informal, often spreadsheet-based, finance reconciliation activities.
• Establishing clear ownership and accountability for closing each individual GL account.
• 'Fire fighting' approach, hence little investment in proactive root cause analysis and fix activities.
• Increasing compliance, regulatory and external reporting expectations are putting pressure on resources dealing with "traditional" Finance activities.
• Key stakeholders now have a reduced tolerance for reporting errors or restatements.

Deloitte Risk Analytics Solution

The Financial Reporting Analytics is a tool that facilitates a comprehensive analysis of accounting entries passed in the bookkeeping system and examines unusual transactions (Dormant users, GL Accounts anomalies, etc.) using Trial Balance (TB) and Journal Entry (JE) Data.

We are able to achieve this by integrating financial data from multiple source systems and present it to users, over the web via interactive reporting dashboards, which empowers the key people to make quick and accurate decisions.

Potential Benefits

• Factors Affecting the Financial Close
  Seldom-Used Accounts & Users
  – Unusually High/Low Amounts
  – Unrelated Accounts
  – Large Credits to Income Statement
  – Large Debit to Revenue
  – Amounts with Round or Recurring Digits
  – Back/Pre-Dated Entries
  – Entries with Potential Keywords

• Highlight Data Integrity Problems
  – Duplicate Entries
  – Debit/Credit Amount Not Reconciling at Document Level
  – Incomplete Records (Missing Entries)
  – Debit/Credit Amount Not Reconciling at GL Account Level

• Get a complete turn-key solution in place rapidly
  – Customize and deploy in 4 – 6 weeks
  – Integrate and organize data across systems
  – Leverage prebuilt analytics scripts and integration technology
  – Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) delivery Model
Reporting Dashboard

Facilitates Trends, Correlations &, and Drill-Down on Interactive mode

Dashboard Overview
Descriptive trend-based analytical insights into the Debit/Credit movement of the journal entries in a given period (month-on-month) for all the account headers, such as expenses, cash, assets, payroll, etc., allowing the users to drill down to the specific transactions occurring in that account. Any exceptions or outliers in the movement of these balances are highlighted.

It allows the user to make multiple selections to compare various accounts providing insights into the data which that empowers the controllers to make the right decisions which in turn result in a smooth financial closure. FRA presents the information in an analytical format in time series to identify relevant patterns and the areas of control failure based on Trial Balance (TB) and Journal Entries (JEs).

Controllers can identify potential risks in conflicting functions such as record payments and post journal entry, process vendor invoice and record AP payments, recording acquisition of fixed assets, etc.

User activity analysis provides the auditor with details on Users and Transactions who have access to conflicting business functions (risks). It gives the auditor the flexibility to select user-wise transaction information of business functions.
As company management begins to better understand the role that balance sheet account reviews can play in detecting and preventing financial statement misstatements, significant deficiencies and material weaknesses, they will see the need to improve both the timing and overall quality of these review processes.
Dissecting the data further

The monthly balance movements can be simultaneously analyzed at two levels:

1. **Financial Statement Level**, where each financial statement line (cash, revenues, cost of sales) can be analyzed on a monthly basis.

2. **General Ledger Level**, where the monthly balance movement of every account can be analyzed to identify the outliers, and hence avoid the risk of misstatements at the time of a financial close.

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**Transaction Scrutiny**

Transaction Scrutiny provides details of selected transactions and enables the controllers to select dynamic input parameters for further review and finding out the root cause of any misappropriation in the balance.

The transactions at times are pre/post datedpostdated to a financial period which may mean that there has been a misstatement or a restatement – posing as a threat to a smooth financial close.

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There is tangible value to be gained by investing in improving the last mile of finance. The intangible benefit of preserving shareholder value by reducing the negative financial impacts of misstatements and restatements may yield even higher value as CFOs sign balance sheet with more confidence.

There is also significant value to be gained from improvements in last mile of finance through efficiency. The intangible benefits, even though difficult to measure, may be even higher: confidence in the numbers, better decision-making, and motivated accountants.
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Contact

Rohit Mahajan
President
Risk Advisory
rmahajan@deloitte.com

Kedar Sawale
Partner
Risk Advisory
ksawale@deloitte.com

Johar Batterywala
Partner
Risk Advisory
jobatterywala@deloitte.com

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