Power BI for the Data Systems Administrator

Gina Meronek
@equerystrian
About Me: Gina Meronek

BI Technical Consultant

- Database design & development
- Business Intelligence & Data Analysis Architecture
- Team resource planning & management
- ~20 years in IT
- Loved Power BI since Power View

@equerystrian
Agenda

- Power BI Poll & Terms
- Why Model Administrative Data
- Demos
- Q & A
- Resources
- Slides & Demo files will be available!
How familiar are you with Power BI?

A. I know it’s a buzzword, that’s it.
B. Some of the analysts I know use it, looks cool?
C. I’ve tinkered with it a bit.
D. I use it all the time!
Power BI Ecosystem

Our focus today

Power BI Ecosystem

Power BI

Dashboards
Reports
Datasets
Dataflows
Premium
Embedded

Authenticated Users

Power BI Report Server

Data Gateway

DirectQuery Data Connection
Refreshed Data Connection
Data Connection
Workflow

Created by Dustin Ryan
http://SQLDusty.com

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Why Model Admin Data?

DMV’s are great* for What’s Happening NOW
*If you know exactly how to interpret the results
*If the problem is happening right now

Reference queries are great* for getting the details
*Sometimes in painful detail
*Hope you don’t want details AND grouped info

Built-in SSMS reports are great* for quick information
*Assuming you ONLY have exactly those questions

Third Party Tools are Magical*
*Assuming you have the budget for all your servers
Data Models: Change Your Mind Without Bothering the Servers

- Time interval questions
- Rolling behavior into categories
- Asking questions different ways
- Comparing Now to On Average*
- Looking for the holes
- Combining data sourced from many places & structures
Data Visualizations

“I’ll know it when I see it”

- Trends & proportions
- Patterns over time
- Step back & drill through strategically
- Share the answers with stakeholders in relatable terms
Demos
Forget pepperoni - mushroom is Britain’s most liked pizza topping (65%), followed by onion (62%) and then ham (61%).

Source: YouGov.co.uk/news/2017/03/0 ...

Image Credit: Thea Boodhoo https://twitter.com/tharkibo/status/1140677572453257222

Right Tool, Right Time

- Data volume
- Data security
- Sharing options
- Less is More
Power BI Official Learning New features & training

Power BI Documentation organized by role

Power BI GitHub demo files from Power BI team

Power BI Community forums, blogs, feature voting

Power BI User Groups online and in-person

Matthew Roche: Power BI Program Manager at Microsoft
Power BI Days Virtual & in-person, recordings available on YouTube channel

Ruth Pozuelo Martinez both free and paid content available at Curbal.com, outstanding how-to videos posted regularly on her YouTube Channel

Mike Carlo & Seth Bauer of PowerBI.Tips: how-to’s, tricks, and patterns

Meagan Longoria: great blog posts and a Power BI Usability Checklist
Melissa Coates: especially good resource for Azure + Power BI administration

Eugene Meidinger: perspective on the BI tools universe, Pluralsight author

Adam Saxton & Patrick LeBlanc of Guy in a Cube: Regular videos of new features and how-to’s, see also Featured Channels

Rob Collie & Team of PowerPivotPro.com: great books, training, & blog posts especially this one
Gina Meronek

ginameronek@gmail.com

https://www.linkedin.com/in/ginameronek/

@equerystrian