Enhancing Data Discovery Through SDMX
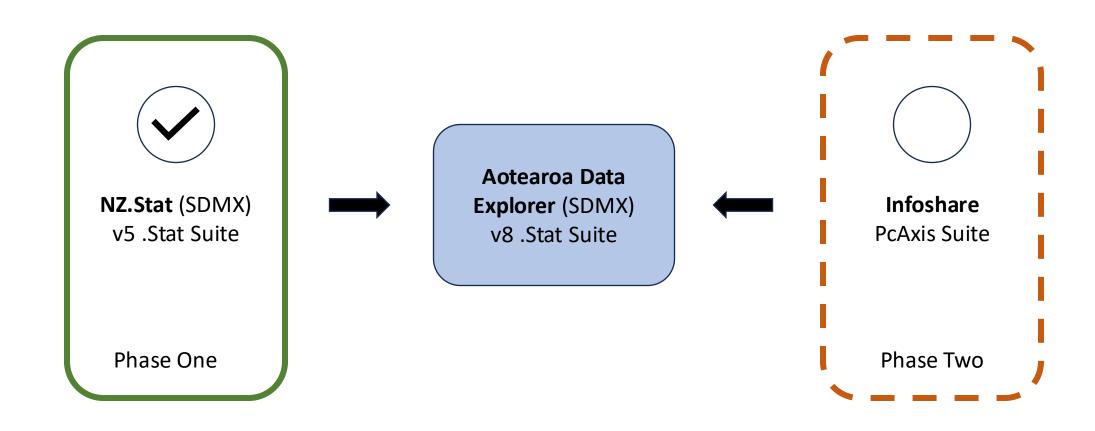
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Modernising Customer Data Tools at StatsNZ

NZ.Stat (SDMX)

v5 .Stat Suite

Phase One

Aotearoa Data Explorer (SDMX)

v8 .Stat Suite

Infoshare

PcAxis Suite

Phase Two

Phase One: Rapid Migration off NZ.Stat

- A high priority need to shift off the NZ.Stat (v5 .Stat suite) platform with speed and without burdening the business after a 4-week production outage.

- NZ.Stat was customised so upgrades were difficult.

- Intentionally descoped metadata improvements and data modelling.

- Implemented ETL technology solution for rapid platform transition. Required no change from data producers.

What We Have Learned So Far

- Inadequate metadata hinders ADE search/navigation.

- Clearer titles, descriptions, and categories will enhance discovery.

- Governance gaps: tool ownership without content accountability.

- Having a beta customer group with early access enables feedback that improves the solution before go-live.

Phase Two: Strategic Migration of Infoshare

- Customer centric data search and discovery is a high priority before larger volumes of data are migrated.

- A strong focus on improving customer facing metadata.

- Establishing SDMX and metadata capability via a center of excellence.

- Upgrading ADE with container architecture and automated DevOps.

Unlocking Value through SDMX

- Data modelling using SDMX will improve our understanding of data.

- Better design, following guidelines, improves discovery and user experience.

- .Stat suite + FMR Workbench integration provides us with a streamlined process.

- SDMX governance balances organisational goals and team autonomy.

Advice for Others

- Start small and iterate to manage complexity and ambiguity. The most useful beginning steps may not be obvious.

- Separate data migration from data modelling.

- Building and maintaining SDMX capability and working with open-source software is difficult. Invest in capability early and leverage the global SDMX community.

- Ensure that momentum is carried past the end of a project.

Questions?

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