

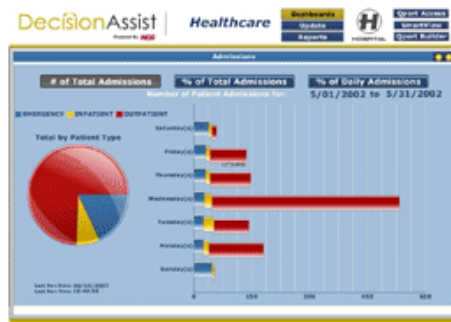
# DecisionAssist

Packaged Business Analytics Solutions



Production data is a tremendous source of information for middle managers, sales and customer service representatives, accountants, and others. You couldn't run your business without it. But for deeper insight, you also need a multi-level data model that supports the very different perspectives on customers, revenue, expenses, and overhead that exist at the different levels of your management structure.

Historically, building this type of data model required an extensive research and development effort. Consequently, your company may be missing insights that can come from the effective use of business intelligence. NGS's *Decision Assist* packaged business analytics solutions give you an opportunity to change that - faster than you thought possible.



### What is Decision Assist?

*Decision Assist* solutions are ready-made business analytics and reporting models built for the IBM System i. Each *Decision Assist* solution includes a DB2 for i5/OS data mart designed to include the data most commonly used to support a specific business analytics and reporting need, a Web portal user interface, a set of Web-based performance dashboards and multi-dimensional models that graphically present the needed information, pre-defined and ready-to-run spreadsheets and reports, and complete documentation. NGS also provides comprehensive training, hotline support, and ongoing software maintenance to ensure long-term value.

**Currently, NGS offers three Decision Assist models:**

**Decision Assist – Financial Performance:** for more effective financial management and reporting

**Decision Assist – Business Performance:** for insight into sales, customers, and inventory

**Decision Assist – Healthcare:** a financial analytics and reporting solution for community hospitals and clinics



### We're Unique - Can We Customize a Decision Assist Solution?

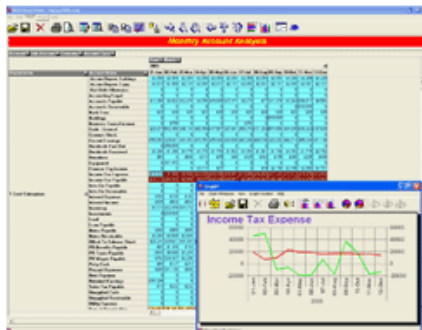
*Decision Assist* solutions can be easily customized and extended to meet other needs. They integrate with and enhance the presentation of DB2 for i5/OS data through the use of your Web browser, Adobe Flash, Microsoft Office, and the NGS-IQ Business Intelligence solution. No programming is required to modify the solution. Developers can work from Windows, Web browser, and 5250 user interfaces. The only limit is your imagination and the data you have available.



### **Do We Need a Decision Assist Solution?**

Business intelligence tools can empower non-technical business users to do work that previously required the support of an IT staff member. But the real payoff from business intelligence comes when you enable business users to go beyond ad-hoc queries and production reporting. A packaged business analytics solution makes this possible.

Production databases, particularly those associated with robust System i-based ERP and financial software, are very complex. Understanding the data flow through such a system requires skill and experience. Additionally, some of the useful details needed for analysis at one or more levels of management are usually lost during posting from a sub-ledger to the general ledger. The structure of the business analytics data model is much simpler for business people to understand because it's organized to mirror the way they think about the business and to contain the level of detail they need.



### **Decision Assist: The Shortest On Ramp for Analytics**

Using a *Decision Assist* business analytics solution as the basis for your business intelligence project enables you to start your work much closer to the finish line. You have sample dashboards, reports, and multi-dimensional views that your users can immediately evaluate. It's always easier for people to tell you what needs to be changed or added to the samples than it is for them to describe their needs from scratch. The development cycle is greatly simplified, and risk is reduced. This is because the data model, and/or its output, can be extended and customized over time, yet you get quick, tangible results from a model designed to satisfy the most common business intelligence requirements in your industry or functional area.

### **Summary**

While production reporting based on live data is always going to be essential to business operations, the *Decision Assist* business analytics solutions offer a cost-effective approach to business intelligence. They simplify development, shorten implementation time, reduce risk, and enable companies to benefit from the experiences of others with similar needs. Let us show you how a *Decision Assist* solution can help your company perform more effectively.

For more information, please view our Webcast, "[Understanding the Benefits of a Packaged Analytical Model.](#)"