



CUSTOMER STORY

ANALYTICS



Afcons turns data into smart insights using Qlik®



About Afcons Infrastructure

Afcons Infrastructure is a leading global engineering, procurement, and construction company with a proven track record executing large, complex, and high-value projects across multiple sectors, including marine, roads and highways, railways, bridges, hydro, and underground works.

Afcons needed a smarter way to monitor project performance and resource utilization in real time. It developed in-house project management and operational excellence dashboards using Qlik, which have transformed how project managers, core teams, and leadership access and interpret data. The results include faster decision-making, efficient resource allocation, and improved productivity – key factors in completing projects ahead of schedule.

“Qlik allows us to monitor key resources such as equipment, inventory, manpower, and finances in a single view, enabling project managers and core teams to manage costs, act quickly, and plan ahead.”

Giridhar Rajagopalan, Deputy Managing Director, Afcons Infrastructure



Customer Name
Afcons infrastructure

Geography
India, Africa, Middle East

Industry
Engineering & Construction

Function
Finance, IT, Supply Chain Management

Challenges

- Gain greater visibility into performance indicators
- Improve monitoring of productivity and efficiency
- Consolidate and integrate data from multiple sources

Solution

Afcons worked with Qlik Partner Exponentia.ai to develop dynamic Qlik dashboards covering project management and operational excellence.

Results

- Information review times cut to just hours
- Reports are now available on demand, replacing manual preparation
- Processes that once took weeks can now be completed in less than a day



Project monitoring and reporting gaps

Over 15 years ago, Afcons became one of the first infrastructure companies to deploy SAP, amassing several terabytes of data. The company set out to transform this wealth of information into actionable cues to drive new levels of excellence and productivity, but first it had to overcome some barriers.

“A key challenge was the limited real-time visibility into project performance indicators. Without immediate access to updated data, project managers often struggled to identify potential issues and make timely, informed decisions,” says Sandeep Desai, Executive Vice-President at Afcons Infrastructure. “Another hurdle was the difficulty in consolidating data from multiple sources. Information was scattered across various systems, leading to inefficiencies and preventing a unified, reliable view of project progress.”

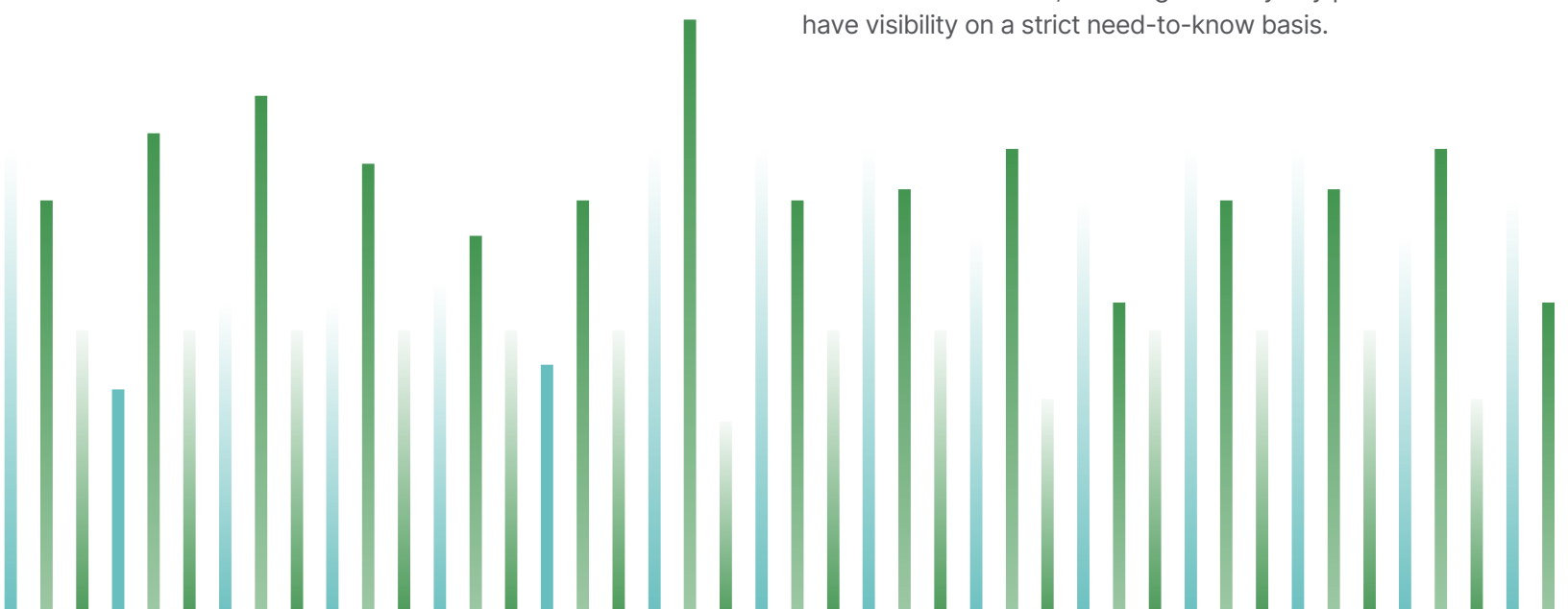
Afcons’ reliance on static reporting systems further restricted proactive decision-making. Reports were based on delayed information, so managers had limited ability to anticipate risks or respond effectively to evolving project needs.

“Monitoring productivity and operational efficiency also proved time-consuming,” Desai adds. “Manual processes not only slowed down reviews but also reduced the overall effectiveness of performance oversight.”

Finally, conflicting data sources resulted in inconsistent project overviews, causing stakeholder misalignment and impacting overall project coordination.

Data-driven dashboards promote project excellence

Afcons worked with Qlik Partner Exponentia.ai to address these challenges. Together, they developed project management and operational excellence dashboards using Qlik to integrate data from multiple sources such as SAP and allied systems. These dynamic insight panels are access-controlled, ensuring that only key personnel have visibility on a strict need-to-know basis.



“We are witnessing a visible cultural shift. Teams now focus on analyzing data to make informed decisions, rather than spending time preparing it. This transformation has enhanced both efficiency and impact across projects.”

Sandeep Desai, Executive Vice-President, Afcons Infrastructure



By consolidating information into a unified platform, Afcons has transformed project monitoring and reporting into a more transparent, efficient, and proactive process.

“The project management dashboard plays a critical role in tracking and managing operational performance,” explains Giridhar Rajagopalan, Deputy Managing Director at Afcons Infrastructure. “It tracks equipment use, fuel, productivity, and budgets, while also showing past performance trends and forecasts for the rest of the project.”

In addition, the panel keeps a close watch on manpower deployment, comparing it with budgetary provisions, and highlighting key performance indicators on project health, including monthly cost variances at resource level.

Meanwhile, the operational excellence dashboard offers broader project and organization-wide perspectives by consolidating data from diverse sources into a single integrated view. It tracks parameters such as productivity, learning and development, wastage, adoption of lean principles, financials, and health, safety, and environmental metrics, as well as other measures aligned with Afcons’ operational excellence framework.

“With Qlik, we see all critical resources such as equipment, inventory, manpower, and finances in a single view, enabling project managers and core teams to manage costs, act quickly, and plan ahead,” Rajagopalan adds.

Qlik turns data into actionable insights to identify improvement areas, facilitates informed discussions, and enables proactive measures through real-time information sharing. By replacing static reports with dynamic, integrated dashboards, Afcons now makes faster, more informed decisions and delivers projects more effectively.

The transformative impact of dynamic dashboards

The introduction of dynamic dashboards has provided project managers with 360-degree visibility, allowing them to monitor progress and track all key performance indicators in real time. This has enhanced situational awareness and enabled more informed decision-making.

“Another significant benefit has been improved financial control,” Rajagopalan says. “Instant access to critical insights has strengthened oversight, giving teams the ability to take corrective action quickly and efficiently.”

The shift from static reports to real-time insights has also resulted in substantial time savings. Manual reporting processes have been replaced, freeing up resources for higher-value activities.

“We are witnessing a visible cultural shift,” notes Desai. “Teams now focus on analyzing data to make informed decisions, rather than spending time preparing it. This transformation has enhanced both efficiency and impact across projects.”

On project sites, productivity has improved markedly. By closely monitoring cycle times, project teams are now able to intervene proactively and reduce inefficiencies. The dashboards have also enhanced forecasting capabilities, with look-ahead features empowering teams to plan resources more effectively and anticipate future needs.

Perhaps the most notable outcome within the organization is around reporting, which has moved from inconsistent sources to a unified, data-driven system that creates a single source of truth.

"This has ensured stronger alignment across teams, while management review presentations are now conducted directly through the dashboards," says Desai. "Qlik tools are playing a key role in further embedding a performance-focused culture at Afcons."

Make game-changing analytics accessible to everyone

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About Qlik

Qlik transforms complex data landscapes into actionable insights, driving strategic business outcomes. Serving over 40,000 global customers, our portfolio leverages advanced, enterprise-grade AI/ML and pervasive data quality. We excel in data integration and governance, offering comprehensive solutions that work with diverse data sources. Intuitive and real-time analytics from Qlik uncover hidden patterns, empowering teams to address complex challenges and seize new opportunities. Our AI/ML tools, both practical and scalable, lead to better decisions, faster. As strategic partners, our platform-agnostic technology and expertise make our customers more competitive.

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About Exponentia.ai

Founded in 2014, Exponentia.ai is redefining how businesses use data and AI for impact. What started as a bold vision has now evolved into a leading global AI consulting firm, acclaimed for its expertise in GenAI, modernize AI and data platforms, AI product engineering, and AI and analytics visualization services and offerings.

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