Three Things you Should Know Before you Download Pentaho

Pentaho Business Analytics and Data Integration is a feature rich, extremely flexible, enterprise-class solution. Pentaho offers a 30-day trial of the full version of our software to enable you to try before you buy . Before you download Pentaho, here are three things you should know:

Number One – You Have Options

While Pentaho does offer you the ability to download and test drive the full version software for free, many people aren't aware that there are other several paths to evaluating Pentaho, including:

1. **Demonstration** – Pentaho demonstrates the software and use cases to your team. Prior to the demo, a call is scheduled with you to understand your requirements so that we can demonstrate the capabilities that speak directly to your use case. This demo uses our sample data.
2. **Custom Demonstration/POC** – Pentaho can take your data and build-out a custom demonstration that shows how Pentaho can be used to solve your critical business use case(s). The great part about this option is if you decide to establish a relationship with Pentaho, you get to keep all the assets built for you during this engagement.
3. **Self-Directed POC** – The Self-Directed POC involves downloading Pentaho, installing it on your own machine, establishing your connection(s) and building your content. We do offer limited free evaluation support to help you through this process. Since you will be working with an enterprise-class software solution with no formal training, this option takes the most time.

With these options in mind, you can now make a better decision about whether you actually need to download Pentaho.

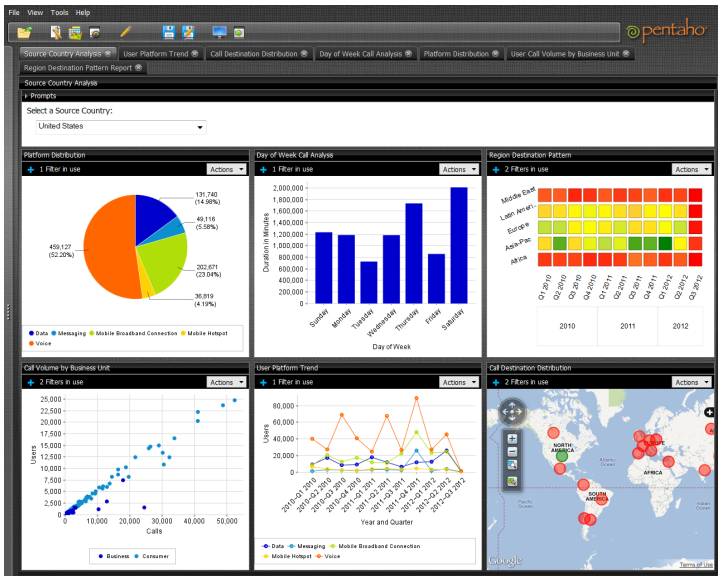
Number Two – Have a Plan

As with any enterprise-class solution, it is important that you have a plan to help guide you through what you will do once you download the software. The most difficult part of any project, whether implementing a data warehouse, building a custom software package to take to market, or even evaluating software, is gathering your requirements. While gathering requirements can

sometimes be challenging and time consuming, it can save your organization time and expenses in the end by ensuring you have a solution that will meet your needs.

At the end of the day, your purpose for downloading Pentaho is to evaluate whether or not Pentaho can meet your needs. Without a clearly defined, written requirements document, it is virtually impossible to do a proper evaluation that will lead in a confident answer.

It is important that when you have these requirements documented that you review them to ensure that they are as quantitative as possible. This will help you definitively decide if the different capabilities in Pentaho fir your needs.



Number Three – Don't Boil the Ocean

In order to do an evaluation in 30 days, you need to have the appropriate expectations of what you can accomplish in that time frame. Pentaho offers some very aggressive go to market strategies for our customers, such as our Eight Week Go-To-Market package. These packages are delivered by people who are well versed and have received formal training in Pentaho. Downloading Pentaho will give you access to a 30-day full version of our software and your POC should reflect that same time frame. Common things that prospects do in order to complete their evaluation in 30 days include:

1. Limiting the dataset to a subset of data, roughly between 250,000 to 1,000,000 rows of data. This will ensure you do not need to spend a lot of time with performance tuning exercises.
2. Choosing the most common one or two use cases to prove out. While in a perfect world it would be nice to be able to prove out all your use cases, typically doing so would take more than 30 days and would result in a production application.
3. Working with Pentaho to communicate use cases so that we can give you the proper guidance on how to effectively build them out using Pentaho.

To learn more about Pentaho, visit our website **pentaho.com** or call +1 (866) 660-7555.

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