Abstract:
The purpose of this Information Technology Policy (ITP) is to establish enterprise-wide standards and policies for Business Intelligence (BI) core infrastructure technologies. Establishing standards will provide guidance to agencies as they plan for new application development projects or make investments in existing applications.

Business Intelligence applications provide historical, current, and predictive perspectives of business operational data. Business operational data is typically extracted for operational data stores, transformed, and loaded into a data warehouse, although business requirements will sometimes justify working from operational data.

From the context of this policy, BI core infrastructure is treated separately from data warehousing. (See ITP-INF004: Data Warehousing Policy.) Additionally, this policy does not address loosely coupled technologies that are typically found in BI implementations, such as reporting and dashboards. (See ITP-INF011: Reporting Policy and ITP-INF012: Dashboard Policy.)

This policy addresses BI technologies centered on Online Analytical Processing (OLAP) engines, data mining, modeling, and business content tools for extraction, modeling, searching, and information retrieval.

STD-INF010A: Business Intelligence Product Standards provides guidance to agencies on the current standards and the status of other BI solutions that are being used or being considered for use.

GEN-INF010B: Business Intelligence Product Availability provides information on the availability and licensing of current BI product standards.

General:
This ITP applies to all departments, boards, commissions and councils under the Governor’s jurisdiction. Agencies not under the Governor’s jurisdiction are strongly encouraged to follow this policy.

Policy:
Agencies are to leverage the BI solution provided by Integrated Enterprise Systems (IES) for Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) applications when the IES BI solution meets agencies business requirements. ERP applications include financial, human resources, customer relationship management, supplier relationship management, platform life cycle management, supply chain management, and material management enterprise applications.

Agencies requiring BI solutions for non-ERP related applications are to use one of the current standards as defined in STD-INF010A.
Refresh Schedule:
All standards identified in this ITP are subject to periodic review and possible revision, or upon request by the Enterprise Architecture Standards Committee (EASC).

Exemption from This Policy:
In the event an agency chooses to seek an exemption, for reasons such as the need to comply with requirements for a federally mandated system, a request for waiver may be submitted via the Commonwealth of PA Procurement and Architectural Review (COPPAR) process. Requests are to be entered into the COPPAR Tool located at http://coppar.oa.pa.gov/. Agency CIO approval is required. Contact your agency CoP Planner for further details or assistance.

Questions:
Questions regarding this policy are to be directed to RA-ITCentral@pa.gov.

Policy Supplements:
STD-INF010A: Business Intelligence Product Standards
GEN-INF010B: Business Intelligence Product Availability

References:
ITP-INF004: Data Warehousing Policy
ITP-INF011: Reporting Policy
ITP-INF012: Dashboard Policy