

# Why Data is the Core to a Future Finance Architecture

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January 11, 2023



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Accountants and  
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in Business



# Webinar Features and CPE Credit



Asking Questions



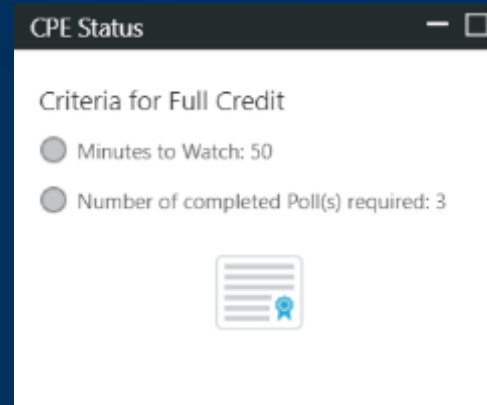
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Help



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# Moderator

**Terry Mormile, CPA, CAE**  
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# Featured Presenter

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# Featured Presenter

**Alan Berkley**  
Director of Business Architecture  
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# Learning Objectives

1. Discover why data is key to a modern finance function.
2. Explain the criticality of a subledger in a finance architecture.
3. Recognize the importance of the finance team's ownership of accounting data flows.
4. Identify how different data types should be treated in a finance architecture.
5. Summarize the three key parts of an ideal finance architecture.

# Agenda



Are CFOs focused on the right problem?



Why data is key to the success of the Finance function



The criticality of a subledger in a Finance architecture



The finance architecture of the future



3 key parts of an ideal Finance architecture



# About Aptitude Software

Specialist provider of digital finance, subscription, revenue & compliance software solutions

- We design, build and deploy high-performance solutions for the CFO Office of enterprise and mid-tier companies
- Our solutions create valuable business insight by providing a unified view of finance
- Our teams are made up of Former Big 4 consultants, CPAs and accounting operations specialists who work alongside experts in systems integration and finance automation

120+ Enterprise Global Clients



6 Offices across 3 Continents



## Poll Question 1:

Which is the biggest challenge facing your Finance team as it relates to systems?

- a. Lack of business agility due to legacy and siloed systems
- b. Increasingly high cost and maintenance requirements of legacy systems
- c. Time spend on manual processes and work arounds
- d. Lack of confidence in the accuracy of finance data

# Poll Question 1 Results: (Placeholder)

# Are CFOs focused on the right problem?

## Typical approach:

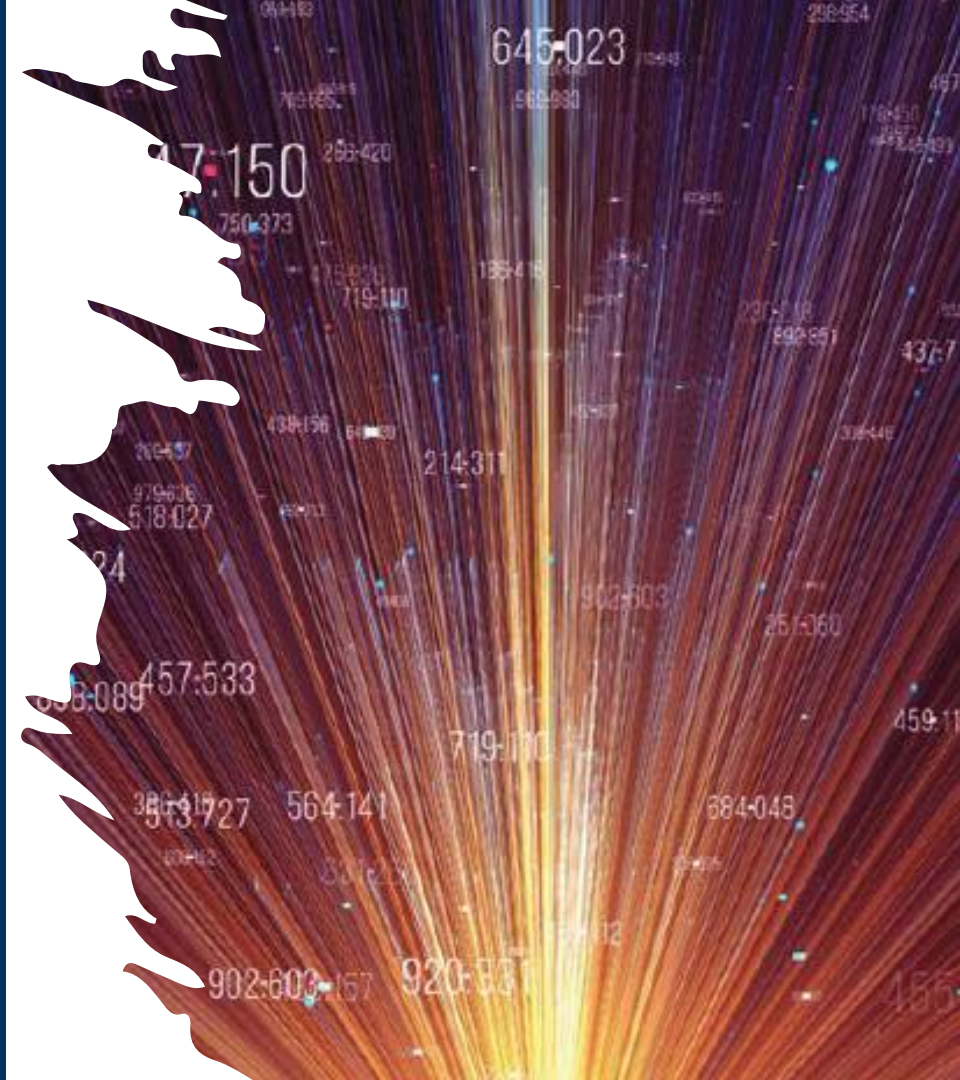
Investment in Reporting & Analytics →  
Improved Analytics & Data Driven Insights

## Problem with this approach:

Data problems & manual processes limit the benefits of new Reporting & Analytics capabilities

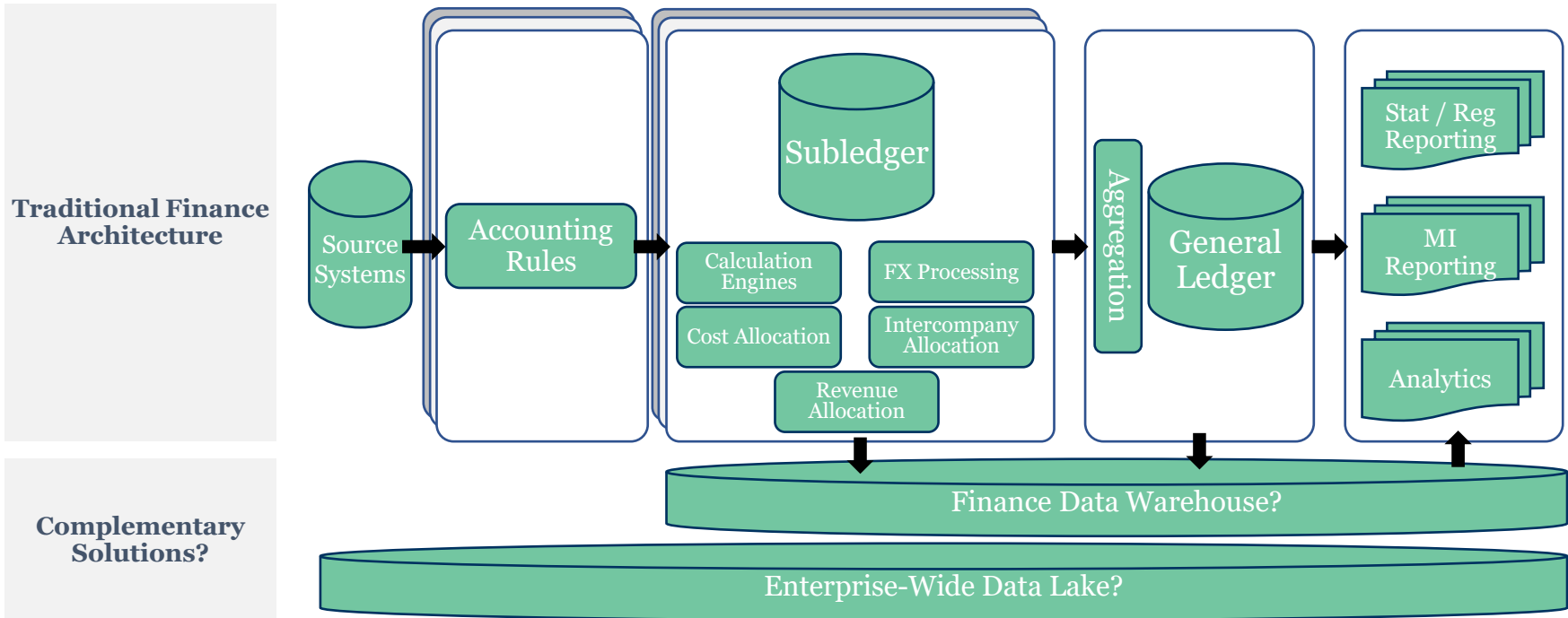


Why data  
is key to  
the current &  
future success  
of the Finance  
function



# What does data mean to a Finance function?

The *data nirvana* of a Finance function is a singular, accurate, consistent, granular, and reconciled dataset that has sufficient data coverage to support all internal and external stakeholder needs for structured information and insight.





# **The criticality of a subledger in a finance architecture**

- **Highly Granular**
- **Audited**
- **Accurate version of financial  
truth**

## Poll Question 2:

How much is your finance function struggling with the scale and complexity of your GL?

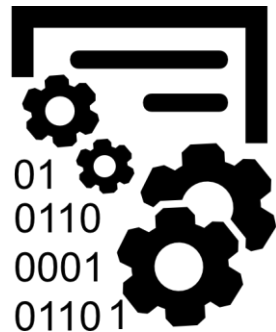
- a. Not at all
- b. A little
- c. It's a growing concern
- d. A lot

## Poll Question 2 Results: (Placeholder)





# How different data types should be treated in a finance architecture



Accounted  
vs.  
Non-accounted Data

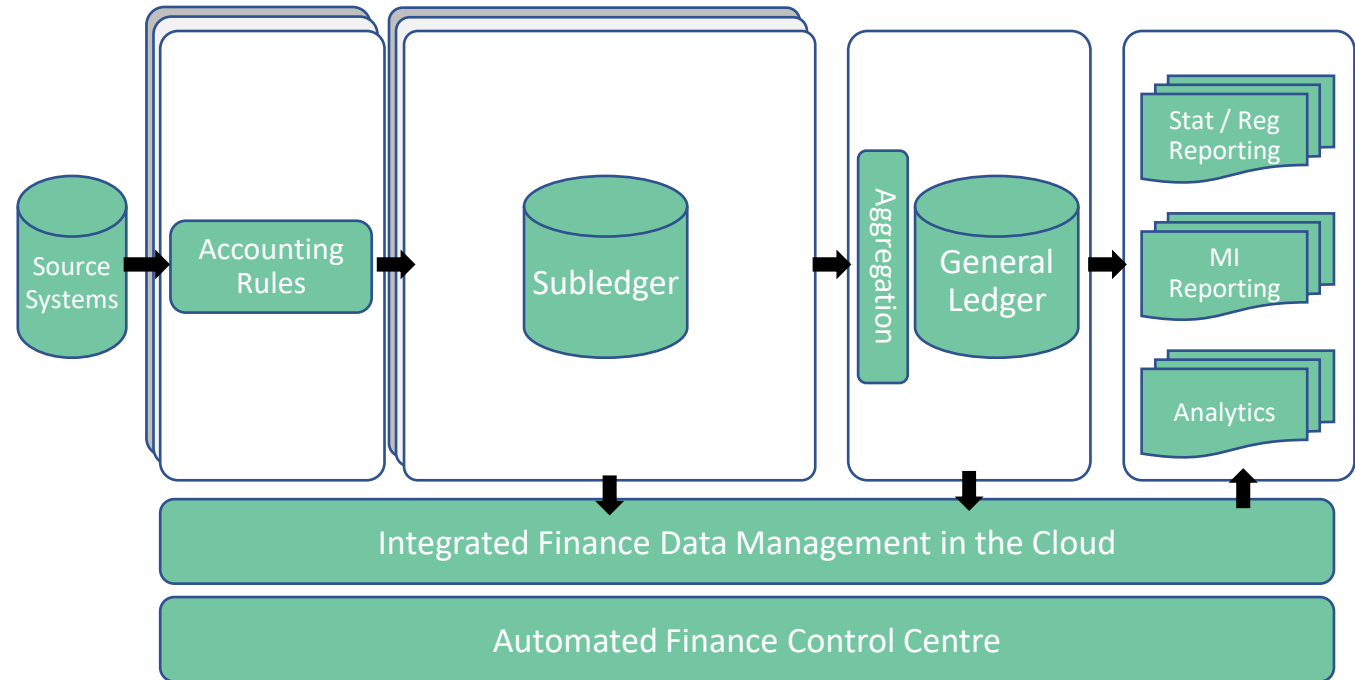
# The Finance Architecture Future

Finance Owned

Cloud Based

Modular

Scalable



## Poll Question 3:

Where are you with preparing your finance architecture for the future?

- a. Just researching and learning
- b. It's being considered by my organization, but nothing set in motion
- c. The project is approved, but we have not yet started
- d. We have started our 'future ready' finance architecture project
- e. We are in the middle to late stages of the project
- f. Our project is complete

## Poll Question 3 Results: (Placeholder)

## 3 key parts of an ideal finance architecture

- **Control**
- **Automation**
- **Transparency**



## Poll Question 4:

Looking ahead what would benefit your finance function most?

- a. Automation of manual processes to increase efficiency and reduce risk
- b. A centralized, trusted and accessible standardized data model
- c. Real-time finance – removal of batch processing/month/quarter end processing so a ‘continuous close’, real-time reporting
- d. Gaining access to trusted data to support FP&A and forward-looking activities

## Poll Question 4 Results: (Placeholder)

# Questions and Answers



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# Final Reminders

- ▶ **Complete the Evaluation poll** – 2 options
  - On your screen
  - Evaluation Survey icon at the bottom of your console
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  - Click the “CPE” icon at the bottom of your console
  - or
  - Click the link in your post-event e-mail
- ▶ Please print a copy of the CPE certificate for your records.
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