CASE REFERENCE · INDUSTRY & INFRASTRUCTURE

Ivanhoe Mines

Microsoft



Ivanhoe Mines	Industry & Infrastructure	Engage · Design	• Microsoft Fabric • Power BI • OneLake • Fabric Pipelines
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POWER BUSINESS DECISIONS WITH CLOUD SCALE ANALYTICS

One Fabric platform for Ivanhoe Mines, from geology to procurement

An end-to-end Microsoft Fabric and Power BI programme that moves Ivanhoe Mines' reporting off spreadsheets and onto one governed platform, from geology and procurement to risk, finance and HR.

01

THE CHALLENGE

Ivanhoe Mines develops and operates some of Africa's largest mining projects, and in 2019 became the first mining company in the world to report its local procurement using the Mining Local Procurement Reporting Mechanism. Across procurement, geology, risk, finance and HR, much of its reporting still ran on Excel: files submitted by hand, in layouts that drifted from one submission to the next, then stitched together before anyone could read them. The numbers were slow to assemble and hard to trust, and each function solved the problem its own way. Ivanhoe wanted its data standardised and governed, its reporting automated, and one analytics platform that executives and operational teams could rely on as more of the business came onto it.

02

THE APPROACH

We started with a platform rather than a report. On Microsoft Fabric we built a shared foundation of OneLake, Fabric pipelines and a Bronze, Silver and Gold medallion architecture across lakehouses and a warehouse, then delivered each business function as its own workstream on top of it. Raw data lands in Bronze as it arrives. In Silver it is cleaned, typed and conformed, which is where the inconsistencies of hand-submitted spreadsheets get caught, and we worked with Ivanhoe on standard submission templates so fewer of them arrive in the first place. Gold shapes the data for each business question, and Power BI semantic models sit on top, so every dashboard in a function reads from one governed model. We built the dashboards with the people who use them: geology views for the technical teams, local spend and procurement reporting, enterprise risk dashboards for management, and finance and HR reporting. Behind it all we monitor workspace health, compute, pipelines and governance across the estate, and tune the platform as it grows.

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03 THE OUTCOME

Fabric is now Ivanhoe's enterprise data and analytics foundation, and the work has grown from a single project into a programme. The geology dashboards have been formally handed over, procurement and risk reporting keep growing with new requirements, and finance data ingestion and HR reporting run on the same platform. Reports that used to be assembled by hand from spreadsheets refresh from governed data, and executives and operational teams look at the same numbers. With hundreds of tables and data assets under monitoring, each new workstream starts on a platform that is already in place.

04 RESULTS

- ✓ 5 — business functions reporting from one Fabric platform
- ✓ 3 — medallion layers between raw data and every dashboard
- ✓ 100s — of tables and data assets, monitored and governed

05 SUMMARY & BENEFITS

- ✓ One Microsoft Fabric platform for five business functions: procurement, geology, risk, finance and HR.
- ✓ Power BI semantic models and dashboards built with the executives and teams who use them.
- ✓ Ongoing platform operations: workspace health, compute, pipeline and governance monitoring.
- ✓ A Bronze, Silver and Gold medallion architecture on OneLake, so every dashboard reads from cleaned, governed data.
- ✓ Standard submission templates and quality checks that catch spreadsheet problems before they reach a report.

Want a result like this?
Talk to us about your own challenge — info@firsttech.digital or +27 10 501 0800.

Let's Talk →