

7 success factors for scaling your analytics

Data plays a major part in operations reliability. A well-designed analytics process can take raw plant data and transform it into actionable information that can be used to create more reliable and better performing assets, leading to improved operational efficiency.

AVEVA has identified 7 key factors that enable companies to realize significant improvements in profitability with the successful application of predictive analytics at scale. An analytics strategy should start with a clear definition of the problem, the value in solving the problem, and a plan to track results over a defined period of time.

Your operations can improve with the right analytics and the right approach to operationalize the predictive analytics at scale. Here are 7 questions you should ask that will help set up your analytics program for success.

1 What's your objective?

Define the problem to be solved.

It's often exciting to identify how analytics can technically be applied to solve operational problems, but without a clear definition of the problem to be solved and the expected result, a less than optimized result is likely. In the case of operations, you may be interested in preventing downtime or in optimizing quality assurance, energy efficiency, or asset performance. Choose a problem, spend the necessary time to define it in a detailed way, and solve it.

2 What's the impact?

Define the value of solving the problem.

Once you have an objective in mind, consider how you'll measure it – and what the value impact will be. Ideally, you'll identify a way to recognize the dollar impact in the form of an expected return on investment and its long-term business value.

Reducing costs or increasing profitability puts the value of analytics into clear terms and makes it possible to improve operational efficiency in ways that matter to the business.



3 What's your source of truth?

Define the information sources and types of data that can contribute to solving the problem.

What information is available that could contribute to the desired outcome? Do you have access to the right data at the right levels of resolution to achieve the desired results?

Answering these questions early in the process – and tapping into a digital thread of reliable and trusted data – are crucial to success.

4 What's the right approach?

Define the analytic approach or approaches to solving the problem.

Only now – with your objectives defined, value established, and data sources determined – is it time to figure out which approaches will help you solve the problem.

Depending on the complexity of the problem, you may need to apply advanced analytic techniques, artificial intelligence (AI), or machine learning (ML). AVEVA can provide subject matter expertise and experience to help determine the best approach for your situation.



5 Does it hold up to testing?

Test the analytic approach to confirm it solves the problem.

Now it's time to test your approach against real-world evidence. You should be able to validate your algorithms by applying them to existing data. This step ensures you haven't taken a wrong turn by choosing an analytics strategy that won't be successful at solving your challenges.

If one approach to analytics fails when applied to real-world data, try another, or revisit your data sources to be sure they are accurate and trustworthy. If the results are satisfactory, it's time to move on to the next step.

6 Where else will it work?

Scale the analytics across the business.

Congratulations! By this step, you've developed a data analytics program that contributes to a valuable objective and produces reliable results when applied to trusted, real-world data. You're on your way to improving your operational reliability.

Now it's time to take what you've built and make it go further. Scaling the proven analytics approach to other parts of the business, or other locations, is a way to generate even more value from your investment.

This step requires a key focus on optimizing the deployment, usability, and maintenance of the analytics approach so that the solution can be operationalized at scale. It's important to note that this is often the most overlooked and most important step in creating a successful analytics program at scale.

7 How can it be improved?

Measure and confirm value realization over an extended period of time.

It is critically important to measure the business benefit you are realizing to ensure it aligns with the expected outcome. You should periodically review outcomes to confirm that the analytics approach is continuing to deliver business value. If it's not, determine the cause of the change in results and whether the analytic approach needs to be improved in some way.



Learn more today about how AVEVA can help you achieve operational excellence.

Watch the on-demand webinar, "Scaling Predictive Asset Analytics to Fit Your Business"

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Using these questions as your guide, you can search for the right platform backed with greater clarity about what any good platform should provide.