IBM Controller

Faster Close. Accurate Consolidation. Built-in Compliance.

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Highlights

Addresses the extended close, consolidate, report, and file process.

Delivers a complete, self-service application, managed by finance users.

Seamlessly integrates with planning, budgeting, and forecasting applications.

Handles complex ownership structures effortlessly. Offers a web application for reporting site users.

Provides flexible on-cloud or on-premises deployment options.

IBM Controller is a robust solution designed specifically for financial controllers to simplify and streamline the financial consolidation and reporting process. This self-service application empowers finance teams to manage complex consolidation requirements, ensure compliance with global standards, and deliver accurate, auditable financial results. With flexible deployment options—either on-cloud or on-premises—IBM Controller adapts to the diverse needs of modern organizations, providing a versatile solution for today's dynamic business environment.
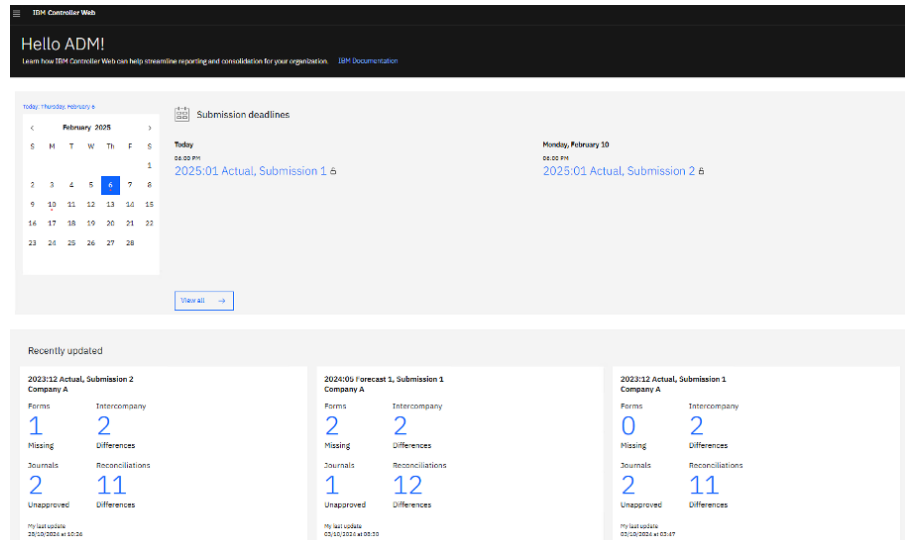

Figure 1: The home page provides an intuitive web user experience with upcoming deadlines.

260+

Access **pre-built standard reports** for financial analytics

100%

out of the box functionalities

Key Features and Benefits

Global Consolidation Capabilities
IBM Controller simplifies the consolidation process, enabling accounting teams to:

•Reduce close and report times to accelerate the close cycle.
•Improve data accuracy for reliable reporting.
•Operate without dependency on IT resources.
•Ensure collaborative and auditable report assembly.
•Access 260+ pre-built standard reports for financial analysis.
•Achieve seamless compatibility with existing IT investments.
•Automate consolidation processes and accounting procedures.
•Centralize financial information in a secure, compliant environment.
•Leverage a modern web application for reporting and consolidation tasks.
•opt for on-cloud or on-premises deployment.

Enhanced Data Collection and Validation
IBM Controller manages all steps required to gather financial information from disparate sources and systems. Data can be entered manually or imported via Excel forms or a web browser. Real-time validation ensures data consistency and immediate error notifications. The intuitive web interface guides users through tasks like intercompany reconciliation and manual journal postings.
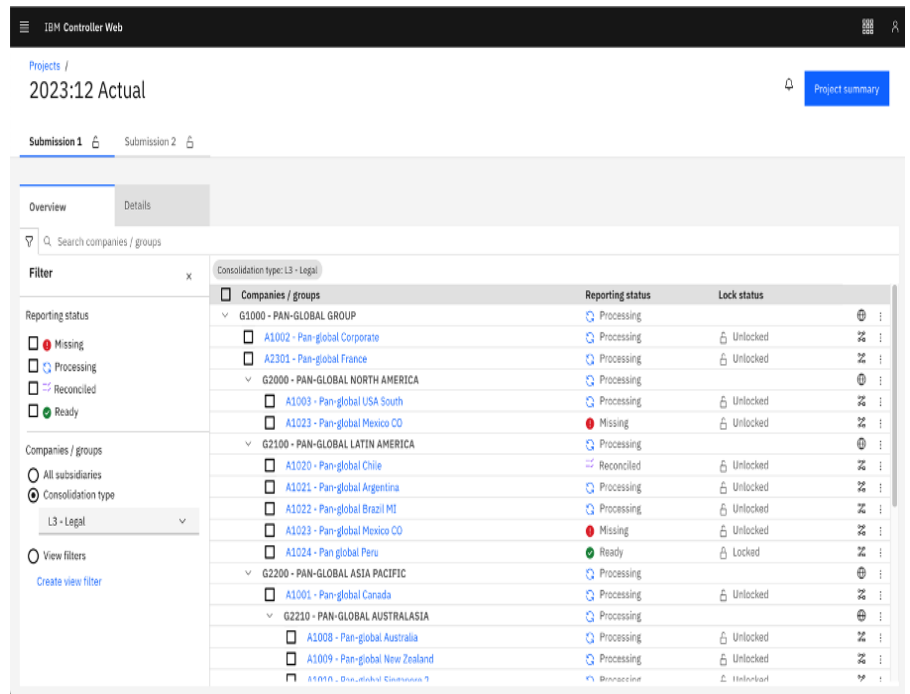

Figure 2: The project overview is an easy-to-use web interface for managing the close process and access the reporting status of each entity.

Data sheet

Comprehensive Audit Trail

Accounting teams can track data flow and maintain an audit trail to support compliance and internal controls. Controller logs application and data changes, enabling users to analyze adjustments and maintain unaltered source data.

Streamlined Allocations and Intercompany Eliminations

Controller's advanced allocation features allow value distribution between accounts, entities, or business dimensions. Intercompany transactions are reconciled at the source, with real-time visibility into counterparty input. Automatic eliminations and detailed intercompany reports further enhance reconciliation efficiency.

Advanced Formula Calculations

IBM Controller integrates advanced formula calculations to derive financial and non-financial metrics. Formulas support in-period and multi-period calculations, facilitating precise data analysis and reporting.

User-Defined Business Rules

Accounting teams can define and execute custom consolidation rules tailored to organizational needs. User-defined business rules (UDBRs) enable unique consolidation scenarios without external workarounds, maintaining control within the application.

Currency Conversion

Controller supports comprehensive currency conversion methods, allowing entities to work in their local currency while consolidating group results in a unified currency. Users can simulate exchange rate impacts, ensuring transparency and accuracy in global financial reporting.

Simplified Close Process Management

IBM Controller automates and guides users through every stage of the consolidation process. Features like color-coded tracking, submission approvals, and version locking streamline the close cycle. Administrators can monitor submissions and enforce compliance through built-in controls.

Adaptability to Organizational Change

IBM Controller's built-in business intelligence accommodates mergers, acquisitions, or structural reorganizations. Changes to entity structures and business rules are applied globally, ensuring consistent and reliable results.

Thanks to IBM Controller, we have been able to reduce the time taken to complete one cycle of data loading from approximately 2 hours to 15 minutes—an improvement of more than 85 percent.

CFO of Major Holdings Company

Reporting and Analysis

Reliable Data for Quality Decision Making
IBM Controller delivers over 250 standard reports, offering insights into financial performance. Integration with IBM Planning Analytics ensures real-time, in-memory OLAP reporting capabilities. Users can monitor KPIs, define success metrics, and link strategies to actionable plans, enabling timely decision-making.

Seamless Integration with Planning
Controller's financial information feeds into enterprise planning processes, enabling rolling forecasts and accurate budget updates. This integration facilitates forward-looking performance management.

Deployment Flexibility: On-Cloud and On-Premises Options

IBM Controller's on-cloud offering accelerates time-to-value while reducing costs.

Organizations can:

- Scale users based on demand.
- Shift costs from capital expenditures to operating expenses.
- Minimize IT infrastructure investments.

Benefits for Finance Controllers

- **Faster Close Cycles:** Reduce the time required to complete the financial close and consolidation.

- **Improved Data Accuracy:** Eliminate errors through automation and validation.

- **Enhanced Compliance:** Ensure adherence to regulatory requirements with built-in controls and audit trails.

- **Informed Decision-Making:** Leverage real-time insights and advanced analytics to support strategic decisions.

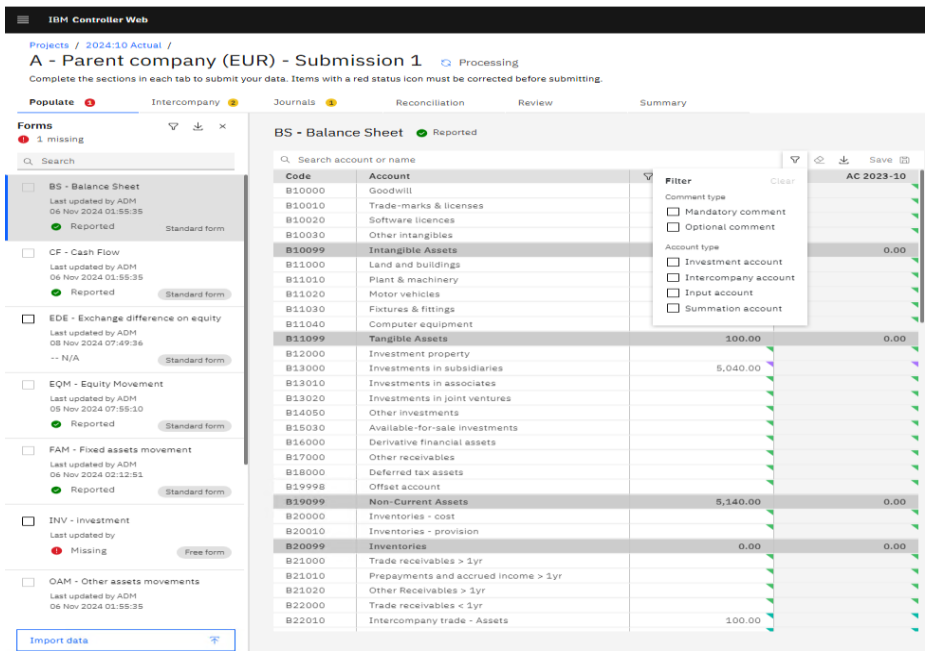- **Reduced IT Dependency:** Empower finance teams to own and manage the solution autonomously.

Figure 3: The company workflow is an intuitive web user experience for reporting sites to complete their tasks efficiently.

IBM Enterprise Performance Management Advantage

IBM Controller integrates seamlessly with Cognos Analytics and IBM Planning Analytics to deliver a complete performance management platform. This ensures comprehensive financial reporting, monitoring, and planning capabilities while maintaining robust security and data access.

Key Capabilities at a Glance

• Automated financial consolidation.
• Flexible reporting and analytics.
• Global compliance support.
• Cloud and on-premises deployment options.

IBM Controller equips financial controllers with a powerful, finance-owned platform to manage the complexities of financial consolidation and reporting. By automating manual processes, ensuring compliance, and delivering actionable insights, IBM Controller enables organizations to achieve greater efficiency, accuracy, and confidence in their financial outcomes.

Learn More Discover how IBM Controller can transform your financial processes by visiting IBM.com

For more information

To learn more about IBM Controller, contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit https://www.ibm.com/products/controller