DataFusion — TM1 & Power BI Connector

Product overview & FAQ

octane IBM

report TM1 data in Power BI like a pro

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DataFusion is the ultimate TM1 and Power BI connector. DataFusion is for Power BI users who are tired of using messy CSV files to manually reconcile data from TM1 to a reporting tool like Power BI.

Like Power BI, DataFusion is a low-code, user-friendly application. DataFusion requires no TM1 development.

Find out more at octanesolutions.com.au/tm1connector

Key benefits

Benefit	What it means for you
Seamless	All connections are web-based and integrate without the need for a centralised database.
Lightweight	Sync what you need when you need it – control which datasets you want synced with Power BI.
Reliable	DataFusion eliminates messy CSV files that lead to inaccuracies and late reporting.
Safe	DataFusion simply picks up and drops the data discretely from TM1 to Power BI – your data is not stored.

Enjoy everything, unlimited

Available on monthly or annual subscriptions. The annual option is promoted on the webpage with a 16% saving.

- Power BI, Qlik and Tableau
- Unlimited users
- Unlimited data
- Unlimited links
- Unlimited servers – dev, prod, wherever

Ready to get started? Start a free trial

How it works

Once you set up a free or paid version of DataFusion, users can begin connecting TM1 with Power BI. Rather than sync every dataset from TM1 with Power BI, users decide what is important and choose which datasets and metadata to sync using links generated in the DataFusion App.

1. First-time users will be asked to download and run a Windows-based app. Users will need to contact their IT department for credentials before running the app.

2. Once open, key in the credentials provided by IT and choose a dataset or metadata to be linked. Click Get Link to generate the link code.
3. Copy and paste the link code in Power BI. A link is specific to a dataset or metadata you need synced.
4. Power BI stores a library of DataFusion links. Once a dataset is linked in Power BI, it will not need to be linked again in future.
5. Once a link is added, syncing can begin. Sync the dataset using scheduled syncs from Power BI, or manually trigger the sync at any time from within Power BI. Synchronisation will begin shortly thereafter.

FAQ – setup & compatibility

What analytic applications can I integrate with TM1 using DataFusion?

Microsoft Power BI, Qlik and Tableau.

Do I need a separate server for DataFusion to be installed?

No. You can install DataFusion where your TM1 server is located. In fact, you can elect to store TM1 on any local server you choose.

What version of OS do I need to be running on the server?

DataFusion supports all versions of Windows Server.

Do I need to increase HDD and RAM on the TM1 server?

No. DataFusion is a lightweight app and occupies less than 100 MB.

Does it work with TM1 cloud and on-premises?

Both. The features of DataFusion work across all instances of TM1.

Does it work with other applications like Cognos Framework Manager?

No. DataFusion pulls data directly from TM1 only.

FAQ – data, security & subscriptions

Do you store our data?

No. DataFusion simply picks up and drops the data discretely from TM1 to Power BI.

Is this a SaaS product?

Yes. However, whether you are running a cloud or on-premise instance of TM1, you will need to host a small application on a local server of your choice before DataFusion will work properly.

Is there a free trial?

Yes. DataFusion is free for 60 days. If you decide to continue using DataFusion, you can switch to a paid subscription to avoid a DataFusion service outage.

How long does it take to set up a free or paid version?

It takes one hour to set up the free subscription. Octane will host an online meeting and assist you to install DataFusion on a local server. Switching to the paid version takes even less time: replace the old licence file with the new one on the server.

FAQ – how it works & support

How does it work?

DataFusion helps create or generate a link that a user can use to pull data from TM1 cubes to Power BI. DataFusion does not keep track of all the links it has generated.

Does data sync in real time and how often?

The sync is not real-time. Sync can be set up to occur at regular intervals from Power BI, or it can be manually triggered from within Power BI.

How do I know whether the sync is working?

When a user clicks Refresh manually from within Power BI, a pop-up message displays how many records are extracted from TM1. For auto refresh, there is no mechanism to tell the user that the refresh has completed successfully.

Is support available in case DataFusion stops working?

Yes. Support will reply within one business day. Historically, once DataFusion is working on your server, users rarely need to ticket a problem thereafter.

Useful downloads

- Base user guide
- CAM user guide
- Cloud user guide
- Technical sheet

Support

Support is available for free and paid subscriptions, 24x7. Octane replies to tickets within one business day; on most occasions, replies are received within a few hours.

Users can ticket problems via a secure dashboard or by emailing support@octanesolutions.com.au

Troubleshooting

Double-clicked the EXE and nothing happened for some time. Why?

It might take a few seconds for the application to start because the Flask server can take a short while to get up and running and initiate communication with PA / TM1. Avoid repeatedly double-clicking the application while waiting for it to appear.

My reports are taking a long time to refresh. What can I do to speed this up?

Dashboard refreshes can become queued based on server activity when multiple customers request refreshes at the same time. Each dashboard component's source report must run, calculate and transform into the dashboard whenever it refreshes. More complex source reports take longer. Contact support for best-practice and troubleshooting assistance.