

# Cognos Certification

## A Cognos Certification Study Guide for **Cognos 8 Planning Professional**

The Cognos 8 Planning Professional Exam covers key concepts, technologies, and functionality of the Cognos products. In preparation for an exam, we recommend a combination of training and hands-on experience.

Earning the COGNOS 8 PLANNING PROFESSIONAL certification requires passing one (1) exam: Cognos 8 Planning Professional. The course supporting this certification is Cognos 8 Planning Professional Workshop.

The mandatory prerequisite for writing the Cognos 8 Planning Professional exam includes the successful attainment of the following role-based certification:

- Cognos 8 Planning Application Consultant (CP0-112) – OR –
- Cognos Planning 7.3/8.1 Application Developer and Administrator (CP0-110)

The following information will provide you with targeted areas of study to help you prepare for the exam. We also have provided sample questions that represent the format and content of the Cognos 8 Planning Professional exam. Answering these questions correctly does not guarantee that you will pass the actual exam.

### EXAM INFORMATION

Exam Number	CP0-210
Exam Title	Cognos 8 Planning Professional
Number of questions	57
Format	Multiple choice – single response
Passing score	75%
Time	60 minutes
Cost	\$ 10,000 USD (voucher reduces cost to \$ 200 USD at registration)
Registration	<a href="http://www.prometric.com/Cognos">http://www.prometric.com/Cognos</a>

### KEY TOPICS

- Design and Iterative Development
- Design for Ease of Use and Maintenance
- Examine Linking
- Analyst Design Considerations
- Contributor Design Considerations
- Design Security
- Integrate Cognos 8 Planning with Cognos 8 BI

### **Design and Iterative Development**

- Describe the iterative development process

### **Design for Ease of Use and Maintenance**

- Identify elements of design that make a model easier for planners to use and know why they are recommended
- Identify elements of design that make a model easier to maintain, and know why they are recommended
- Explain the advantages and disadvantages of the various Analyst data sources
- Identify the most appropriate method of bringing data into Contributor, depending on the circumstances
- Explain why Manager administration screens are beneficial to model design and maintenance, and what makes an effective Manager screen

### **Examine Linking**

- Determine when to use each type of Contributor link
- Explain at a high level how to tune administration links
- Identify scenarios where multiple applications would be better than one

### **Analyst Design Considerations**

- Know what to weight by when using Weighted Averages
- Understand the difference between the Time Averages - Zero function and the Force to Zero function
- Understand when and how to apply the "blank if zero" option
- Identify D-Cube sizing considerations
- Know when and why it might be useful to use the full e.List in Analyst, and when to use a dummy e.List

### **Contributor Design Considerations**

- Identify factors that can impact client performance in Contributor
- Explain when to use NO DATA and cut down models
- Understand and identify rules and considerations around the e.List in Contributor
- Identify what to consider when creating and maintaining access tables, and explain the impact that the settings can have on performance
- Know what the Model Size Reader is and its purpose

### **Design Security**

- Explain basic security design considerations for Access Manager
- Explain what the Access Manager Batch Maintenance tool and the Access Manager Application Programming Interface (API) are, and the purpose of each

### **Integrate Cognos 8 Planning with Cognos 8 BI**

- Describe (at a high level) the process of integrating Cognos 8 Planning with Cognos 8 BI
- Describe all data extraction and reporting routes from Cognos Planning
- Identify Contributor data sources
- Identify the basic differences between the model types used in integration
- Configure published containers, CDS, and workflow data sources
- Explain the purpose of each studio of Cognos 8 BI

## SAMPLE QUESTIONS

1. Which statement below best describes the advantage of using the established naming conventions for Analyst objects?
  - A. The objects must be named using these conventions; otherwise the model will not work.
  - B. The naming conventions assist the end user to correctly enter the data.
  - C. The naming conventions help administrators to understand the model.
  - D. The naming conventions ensure that reports are in the right format.
2. Which design consideration is of LEAST concern when focusing on the needs of reviewers rather than planners?
  - A. Providing help text
  - B. Using Planner-only cubes
  - C. The need to allow Reviewer Edit
  - D. Ensure high-level summary cubes are provided
3. End users have noticed that Contributor Web grid performance is unusually slow. What could be causing this problem?
  - A. Many cubes have been specified as Planner Only.
  - B. The client computers have low random access memory (RAM).
  - C. Reviewer edit has been enabled in the Contributor Administration Console.
  - D. Contributor help text has been added in the Contributor Administration Console.
4. Contributor Data Server (CDS) gives users real-time access to Contributor data found in what type of datastore?
  - A. Published container datastore
  - B. Contributor application datastore
  - C. Planning Application Domain (PAD) datastore
  - D. Planning Application Domain (PAD) common datastore

ANSWERS: 1-C; 2-A; 3-B; 4-B

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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