metadata management, data cataloging & data governance

create a single, business-user-accessible and understandable view of data while ensuring controlled access, compliance and trust

alation
collibra

about this constellation shortlist™
data has become the lifeblood of organizations, powering insight into the latest business conditions, accelerating business decisions, driving better customer experience and powering new business models. yet the task of ensuring that data is accessible, secure and well governed has never been more challenging. data-generating applications are multiplying and moving into the cloud, self-service initiatives are opening up access to data to more users, and data lakes are now measured by the tens or hundreds of terabytes if not petabytes.

about constellation research
as an award-winning silicon valley-based strategic advisory and futurist analyst firm, constellation research serves leaders and organizations navigating the challenges of digital strategy, business-model disruption and digital transformation.

constellation works closely with solution providers, partners, c-suite executives, board of directors, and its constellation executive network of buy-side leaders to lead the way in research coverage and advise clients how to achieve valuable business results.

the good news is that metadata management vendors have emerged that can provide visibility into data and related assets—whether on-premises, in the cloud or spread across hybrid or even multicloud deployments—while also ensuring comprehensive data governance. enterprise data catalogs have gained traction as the way to make data more visible to all users. leading metadata management vendors also address data governance needs such as standardization of metadata, tracking of lineage, stewardship and enforcement of data policies.

the name of this shortlist has been changed from “data cataloging” to “metadata management, data cataloging

4 solutions to know

ibm
informatica
and Data Governance” to reflect today’s broader metadata management demands. IBM has been added to the list on the strength of IBM Watson Knowledge Catalog’s integration of catalog and governance capabilities as well as its growing adoption by customers. Waterline Data was dropped from the list. Constellation will monitor whether Hitachi Vantara, which acquired Waterline in Q1 2020, will step up the catalog product’s governance capabilities.

Threshold Criteria
Constellation considers the following criteria for these solutions:

• Find data and metadata across multiple sources products create a centralized reference index of data that is easily accessible to technical and business users
• Machine learning automatically discovers data assets and detects usage patterns
• Collaboration capabilities enables technical and business users to rate and review data assets, annotate what’s known about them and, if authorized, reject or modify tags and classifications
• Business glossary integration for users to better understand the definitions of data identified in the data catalog when glossaries are integrated or supported
• Supports and enhances data lineage, data governance, data access control, service-level and business rule insights, and enforcement capabilities

The Constellation ShortList™
Constellation evaluates more than a dozen solutions categorized in this market. This Constellation ShortList is determined by client inquiries, partner conversations, customer references, vendor selection projects, market share and internal research.

• Alation
• Collibra
• IBM
• Informatica

Frequency of Evaluation
Each Constellation ShortList will be updated once per year. There could be an update after six months, should the analyst deem it necessary.

Evaluation Services
Constellation clients can work with the analyst and research team to conduct a more thorough discussion of this ShortList. Constellation can also provide guidance in vendor selection and contract negotiation.

Business Themes

- Data to Decisions
- Technology Optimization

To learn more:
Visit www.constellatior.com/ShortList or email shortlist@constellatior.com

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Doug Henschen
Vice President and Principal Analyst

Doug Henschen focuses on data-driven decision making. His Data-to-Decisions research examines how organizations employ data analysis to reimagine business models and gain a deeper understanding of customers. His research acknowledges the fact that innovative data-driven applications require a multi-disciplinary approach, starting with integration and orchestration technologies, including next-generation data platforms, continuing through business intelligence and analytics, and harnessing third-party data enrichment and cutting-edge machine learning and deep learning techniques.