

What you need to know about seven popular business insight and financial reporting apps

The table outlines some of the key facts users need to know about seven popular business insight and financial reporting apps. The options listed here are by no means exhaustive. A product's inclusion should not be regarded as an endorsement by Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand. Information included here has come from the relevant vendors or a product expert.

Product	Description	Target segment	Cash-flow forecasting	Budget forecasting	Periodic financial reports for clients	Customisable reports for printing	Goal setting	Alerts triggered by financial performance	Multi-entity reporting consolidation?	Financial performance dashboards	Integrates with non-financial databases	Custom data visualisations?	Granular user access controls	How frequently does the app sync with accounting software
Castaway Cloud	Castaway is a comprehensive cash-flow forecasting software. Its three-way reporting and modelling approach retains the integrity of forecasts with double-entry accounting. Reports and dashboards help tell the story of a business.	SMEs and their accountants and advisers	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Manual
Fathom	Fathom is an integrated solution that lets users track, visualise and understand business performance and KPIs. It performs three-way cash-flow forecasting and creates custom management reports that present results in a clear and compelling way. It easily consolidates results from multiple companies and can compare and rank companies, franchisees or clients.	Businesses and their advisers	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Daily
Float Cash Flow Forecasting	Float gives an accurate picture of past, current and future cash flow and allows users to drill down to any movement in a forecast to see the specific transaction driving it. Flexible budgeting lets users create forecasts and scenarios for any business situation and track these against actuals pulled through from the accounting platform.	Start-up/scale-up founders, financial controllers, virtual CFOs, bookkeepers and accountants	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Real time
Futrl	Futrl guides better business decisions by taking all the financial data that a business creates to build accurate financial predictions. It assists SME owners to make plans for the business's next month, quarter and year.	SMEs	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Daily
Power BI	Microsoft Power BI is a suite of business intelligence, reporting and data visualisation products and services. Power BI can help connect disparate data sets, transform and clean the data into a data model and create charts or graphs to provide visuals of the data.	Large, enterprise, corporate entities and SMEs when scaled	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Daily with integrations, e.g. Etani
Spotlight Reporting	Spotlight Reporting is a powerful management reporting tool designed to help clients or businesses make informed decisions. It can consolidate up to 75 client organisations with multiple currencies. It includes an extensive chart gallery with templating, customisation and white-labelling options. Users can drive action and share insights with an action plan and pre-populated executive summary. Spotlight Reporting integrates with leading accounting systems and Excel.	Accounting firms, business owners, CFOs, franchises and not-for-profits	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Manual
Syft Analytics	Syft Analytics is a financial reporting and data analytics app that integrates with accounting software. Syft provides clear visualisations of complex financial information, making data easier to understand and act on. Features include forecasting and audit tools, HQ overview, automated reporting and graphical visualisations.	Accountants and bookkeepers	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Daily