10 Ways Qlik Catalog Enhances Your Qlik Solution
Access to data and the ability to uncover new insights quickly is critical to your business strategy success.

Yet on-demand availability to analytics-ready data is still too hard for too many. That’s why Qlik® is simplifying on-demand access to analytics-ready data. Whether you need to get more people more information with data integration tools or uncover new insights faster with 3rd generation analytics, Qlik has you covered.
Qlik Catalog

Qlik Catalog® is a key component of the Qlik end-to-end vision of Active Intelligence, a state of continuous awareness that drives real-time, actionable insights based on the very latest data. That’s because Qlik Catalog is an integral part of both the Qlik data integration and analytics platforms. And it radically simplifies how three roles in your organization organize, prepare and deliver data:

- **Data architects and engineers** can easily understand the quality and contours of the data and make adjustments, if needed.
- **Data stewards** now have the tools to easily manage who can get to what data.
- **Data consumers** are now empowered to interact with more data, thus increasing their overall data use.

Let’s take a closer look at how each of these roles benefits from Qlik Catalog.
How Qlik Better Equips Data Architects and Engineers

A catalog must be populated before anyone can use it, and that’s the job of your data architect or engineer. So, these users need to understand the exact content and condition of all onboarded data and make adjustments, as necessary.

1. Automatically populate your catalog

It’s hard enough to catalog all of your data when it doesn’t move. But it can be even tougher as data migrations, such as moving to the cloud, become more common. Fortunately, Qlik Catalog is automatically notified every time Qlik Replicate®, utilizing Qlik Enterprise Manager, begins migrating data to a new repository. That means your data engineers and architects don’t have to worry about updating your catalog with information about new data sources. It just happens – and in real time.
Automate your data validation, profiling and quality checking

Knowing your organization has a potentially relevant dataset is great. But that doesn’t mean your data is clean or that your users can easily understand what’s in it. Qlik Catalog lets your data architects and engineers not only onboard data quickly and easily but also automatically convert, validate and profile this information. This gives your data architects and engineers an immediate understanding of the quality of the dataset and from there, they can implement automated cleansing operations, if needed.

And if metadata on the source is available, Qlik Catalog can directly import and use it during the onboarding process. If metadata isn’t available, it can easily be created with automated assistance. Qlik Catalog also generates a statistical profile for every field of data within the catalog so you can quickly understand the shape of the data.

The onboarding process categorizes records as Good, Bad and Ugly

**Good records**
Pass all quality tests. All fields in that record match or comply with expected values based on the validation rules.

**Bad records**
Records have a corrupt record structure that often surfaces as not enough or too many fields.

**Ugly records**
Records may match the record format but some of the field data is problematic.
3 Prep your data, as needed

Because you have profiled and validated your data with Qlik Catalog, you may also discover that you need to transform your data before it can be considered analytics ready. Qlik Catalog has a simple and intuitive environment for your data architects and engineers to define a graphical dataflow to modify one or more datasets using operators such as Transform, Filter, Join, Aggregate, Sort, and Union. Once your architects and engineers create this dataflow, they can test it interactively and then save it for automated, scheduled execution.
How Qlik Improves the productivity of Data Stewards

Data stewards are essentially your data librarians. They manage who can get to what data. Qlik Catalog helps them be more effective gatekeepers by defining and enforcing data naming conventions, data usage policies and security standards for all of your data consumers.

Qlik Catalog doesn’t play favorites with data formats. It can easily recognize a wide variety of content and structures, regardless of where data resides – in a major cloud platforms, on premises or a hybrid of the two. Organizing everything in Qlik Catalog makes it simpler for your data stewards to monitor and control data access.
Effectively manage a role-based, secure shopping experience

Qlik Catalog is built for the enterprise. It includes a robust set of lineage, governance and administrative capabilities that simplify operations while keeping your data safe. A role-based, secure shopping experience ensures that your users only have access to authorized data. For example, if your marketing and human resources data are assigned to different groups, members of one group cannot access the other’s data.
6 Selectively protect personal information

Your data stewards need to balance your organization’s desire for more data with the need to protect personal details such as personally identifiable information (PII). With Qlik Catalog, data stewards can fine-tune – down to the field level – which data elements are visible to different groups of users. PII and other sensitive information can be masked using a variety of obfuscation methods. For example, all managers within your company could be permitted to access general employee data but PII such as a government ID number would appear as random characters. Only certain HR employees would be allowed to see the actual ID number. Qlik Catalog features encryption and masking capabilities that meet stringent regulatory and industry requirements such as HIPAA, PCI DSS, FISMA, and GDPR.
How Qlik Empowers Data Consumers

Your data consumers are getting more sophisticated. Although there are still many data viewers – people who simply look at pre-defined dashboards and charts – a growing number of your data users want to do more. They’re looking to tweak existing apps, share data with others or explore different datasets to uncover potential new insights. Qlik Catalog empowers more of your users to find and share data by themselves as well as helps increase your overall data usage by making it easy for everyone to share information.

7 Shop for your data

Instead of sending a request and waiting for your IT or BI team to fulfill it, your advanced analytic users can shop for new data using Qlik Catalog. It offers a comprehensive view of the data’s quality, operational and usage metrics as well as lineage and other user-defined properties. With Qlik Catalog, your users can finally quickly and easily browse data and pick for themselves.
Publish to any of your BI tools

While Qlik is the ideal choice for data analytics, your organization may choose to use more than one BI tool. So Qlik Catalog works with those, too. As your users add data to their “shopping carts” in Qlik Catalog, they can not only publish it directly into Qlik Sense, but also to other BI tools, data repositories or even other applications. Because Qlik Catalog has such a wide selection of targets, it can be the one solution everyone uses to deliver data to many different applications.

Qlik Catalog can directly publish to many tools including:

- Qlik Sense Enterprise Client-managed – Create a new app or add data to an existing app
- Qlik Sense Enterprise SaaS – Add data to the cloud Hub
- A file in Qlik QVD format
- Microsoft PowerBI Premium
- Microsoft PowerBI Pro
- Tableau Desktop
- Amazon Redshift
- A file in Microsoft Azure Data Lake Store (ADLS)
- A file in an FTP server
- A file in an FTP server (using secure SSH tunnel)
- A file in Amazon S3 storage
- An object within Azure object storage option WASB (Windows Azure Storage Blob) - with or without SSL certificates
- A file in the Hadoop file system (HDFS)
- Entities that are registered to Hive tables on top of HDFS
- Any RDBMS (via Sqoop transfer)
Maximize your QVD files visibility and reuse

QVD files – with their many benefits – are widely used in Qlik solutions. But as the number of QVD files grow, organizing them and optimizing their use can become more challenging. Fortunately, Qlik Catalog understands the content of QVD files just like many other data sources or files. This lets your data consumers easily find and select the QVDs they need without having to navigate complex folder hierarchies or remember file naming conventions.
Bi-directional translation of your QVD data

Because Qlik Catalog understands QVD files, your data consumers also have the ability to “unlock” QVD data so it can be used by other applications or BI tools – not just Qlik Sense. Your data consumers also can convert any dataset into a QVD file. This can expand the possibilities in how your organization uses QVD files. For example, you could publish data from a QVD file into Microsoft PowerBI or publish data from a mainframe into a QVD file.
Days, Not Months, to Analytics Ready Data

Tightly integrated with both Qlik Data Integration and Qlik Sense, Qlik Catalog simplifies and speeds the profiling, organization, preparation and delivery of trustworthy, actionable data. Results are in days, not months with Qlik Catalog. Empower your business with on-demand access to analytics-ready data for faster answers and accelerated discovery.

Learn more about Qlik Catalog
Qlik’s vision is a data-literate world, where everyone can use data and analytics to improve decision-making and solve their most challenging problems. Qlik provides an end-to-end, real-time data integration and analytics cloud platform to close the gaps between data, insights and action. By transforming data into Active Intelligence, businesses can drive better decisions, improve revenue and profitability, and optimize customer relationships. Qlik does business in more than 100 countries and serves over 50,000 customers around the world.