

# Acxiom's Data Quality Scorecard Solution

**MIT IQ Industry Symposium  
Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA  
July 18-19, 2007**



# You Cannot Improve What You Cannot Measure

“Without a systematic way to conceptualize and address the data quality issue, organizations are left to grapple with this problem in an ad hoc, piece-meal manner.”

– *MIT Total Data Quality Management Program*

# Overview

Acxiom's Data Quality Scorecard Solution (DQSS) helps companies determine if their data is incomplete, inaccurate or invalid. Companies equipped with this kind of knowledge can make better data decisions – such as whether to decrease the amount paid to vendors, augment their data or eliminate redundant data processing.

# Purpose

- Acxiom's Data Quality Scorecard Solution helps clients understand the condition of their customer, prospect or operational data
- Whether high or low, data quality is always relative to the data's intended use. We approach data quality with a strategic, multi-dimensional view appropriate to the data's business use. This strategic management also minimizes "accidental" discovery of deficiencies

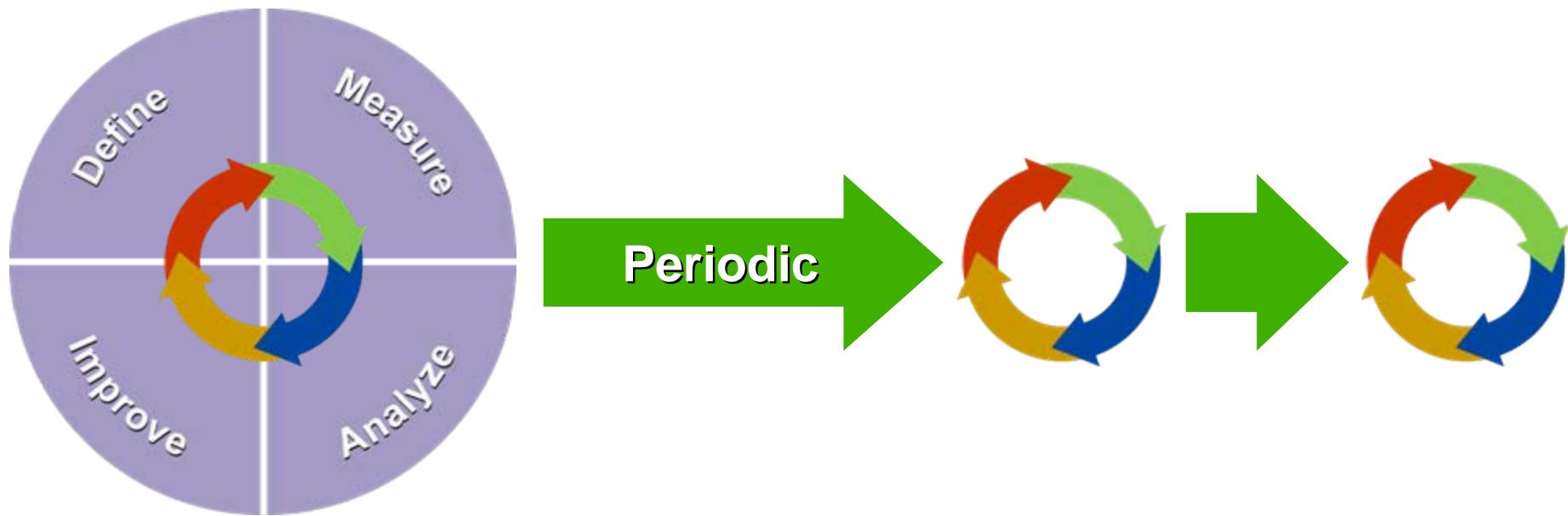
# Data Quality

Data Quality Challenges	Data Quality Management Benefits
Data quality issues often recognized too late in the data integration process	DQ issues exposed through <b>monitoring</b> rather than accidental discovery
Complex, dynamic data environments introduce many points of failure	Unnecessary production costs are reduced through automation
Business impact of data is often not reflected in “off-the-shelf” solutions	“Fitness for use” is built into the daily DQ management. Key metrics are monitored through a central repository
Data sources introduce changes that impact data stores or individual marts	Changes are exposed early, reducing the impact on your data marts. Periodic, quantifiable measurements ultimately reduce expense for poor inbound data quality
Tactical solutions solve immediate problems without identifying and fixing underlying issues	DQ infrastructure supplements “one-time” assessments and pinpoints where the problems originate
Regulatory non-compliance or decreasing customer confidence is often rooted in vague data quality definitions	DQ management system provides statistical evidence

# Solution Components

- Professional consulting with Acxiom data quality specialists to research existing data quality processes, design client-specific data quality metrics and create a Data Quality Scorecard that meets their business needs
- A complete repository system for input, storage, scoring, archiving and dashboard-reporting of data quality metrics and scorecards
- Optional data quality products (Acxiom's Data Quality Toolkit) that can be automatically integrated into the client's scorecard system

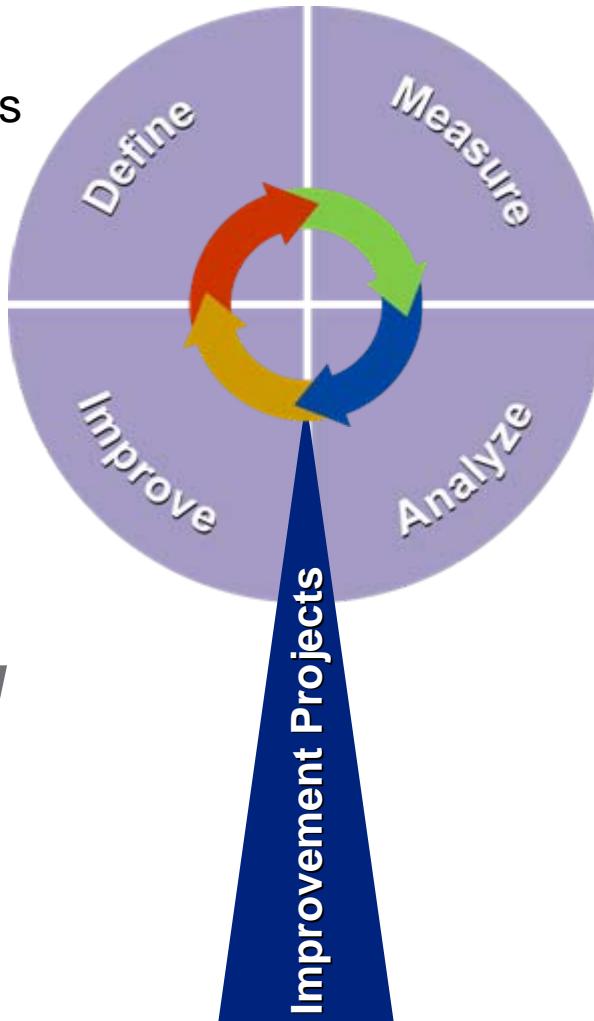
# Strategic Approach: Total Data Quality Management (TDQM)



# DQSS and TDQM Working Together

## *Professional Services*

- Data Quality Assessments and Consulting
- Metrics Defined for:
  - Data Access
  - Data Accuracy
  - Data Completeness
  - Data Consistency
  - Grouping Accuracy



## *Measurement Utilities*

- Data Validator
- NameCheck
- AccuCheck
- Opticx®
- AddressAbility®
- Hygiene
- Other Custom Applications

## *Improvement Potential*

- Data Augmentation
- Analytic Capabilities
- Data Integration
- Etc.

## *Professional Services*

- Data Quality Consulting
  - Analyzing Failures
  - Utilizing Advantages
- Metric Trending

Proceedings of the MIT 2007 Information Quality Industry Symposium

# DQSS in Practice (Single Touch Point or Database)

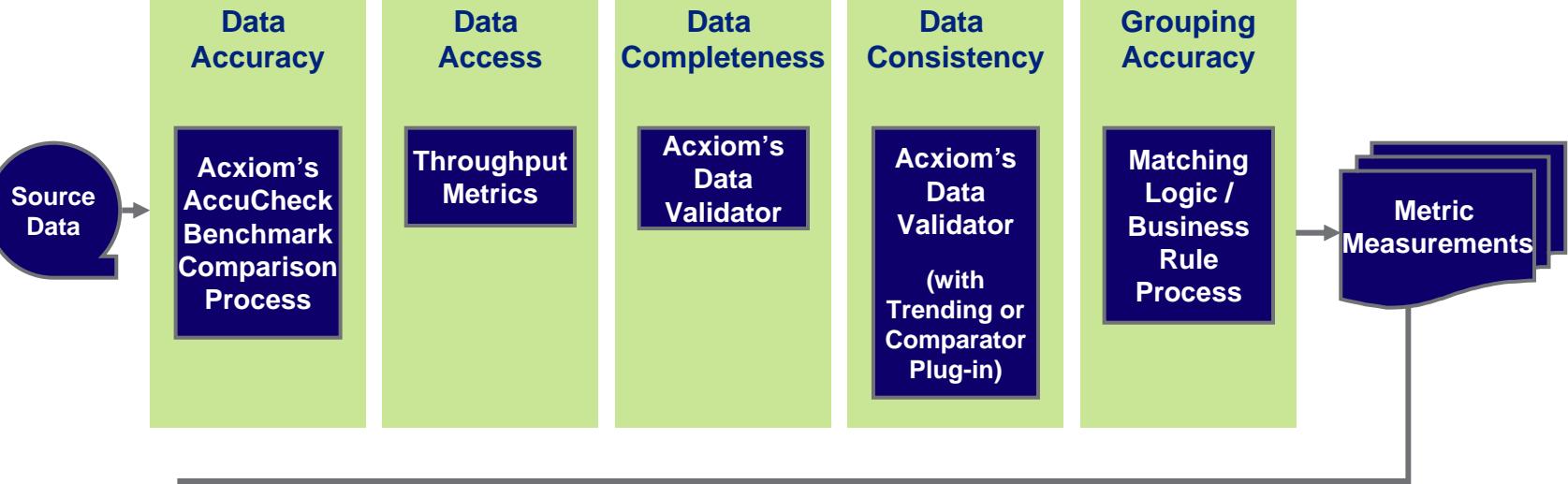
Define

## Discovery, Analysis and Metric Design Services

- Define Data Quality Dimensions
- Define Metrics, Goals, Thresholds

Measure

### Axiom CII Services: Batch or Grid-Enabled

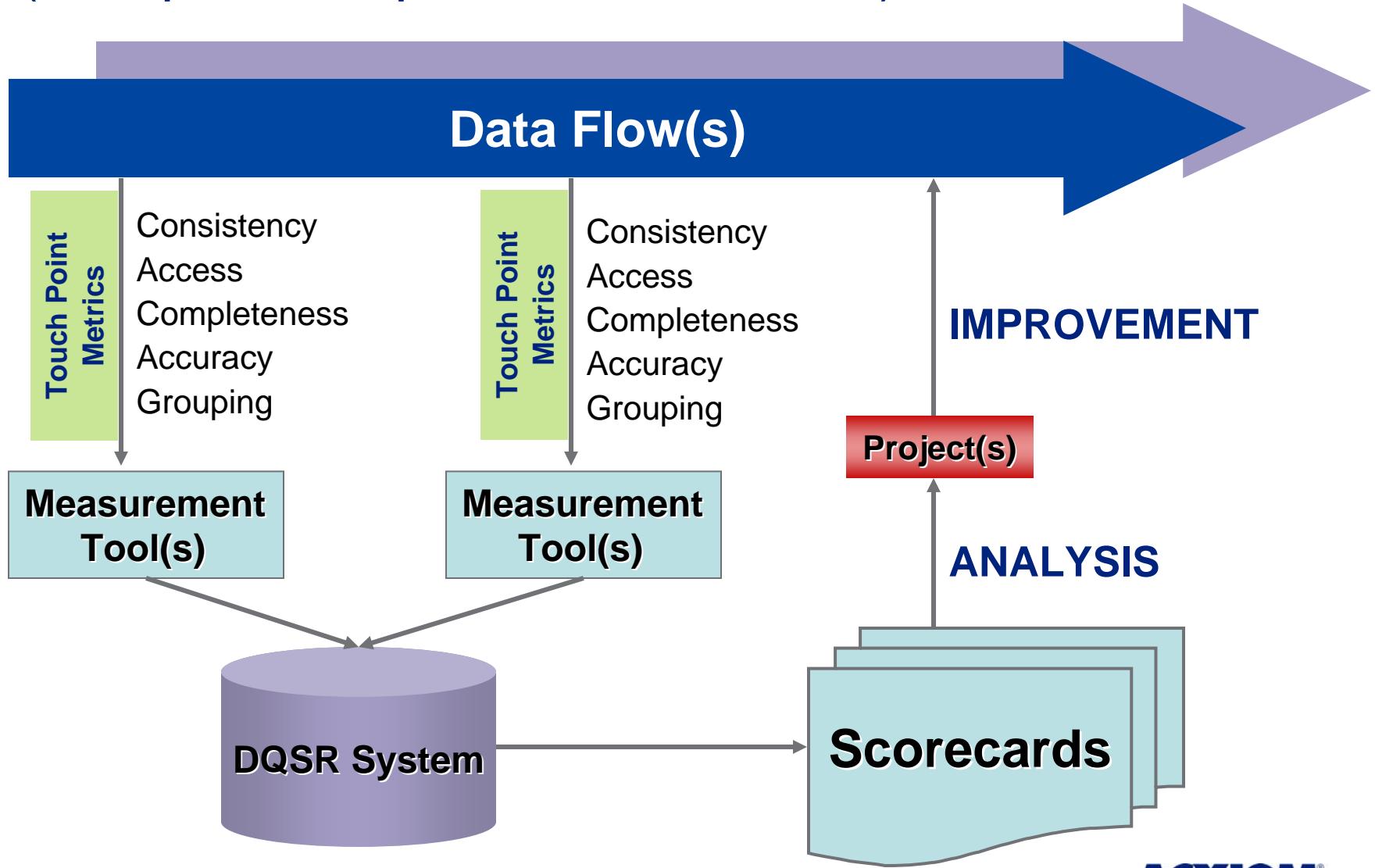


Analyze and Manage

### Data Quality Scorecard Repository System

- Scorecard Reports generated and displayed
- Measurement values and quality scores calculated and stored
- Data Quality trending graphs generated
- Key business metrics monitored regularly

# DQSS Across the “Data Factory” (Multiple Enterprise Touch Points)



# DQSS Across the “Data Factory”

- *Business Need:* Improve the approach to data quality assurance on the client’s credit card services, “Operational Data Store.”
- *Problem:* Current data management lacked methods to measure data quality in a consistent manner so that issues could be addressed proactively. This created situations resulting in:
  - lost revenue opportunities
  - unnecessary source data expense
  - decreased customer satisfaction
  - lack of end-user confidence in the system of record data
  - additional regulatory scrutiny and fines

# DQSS Across the “Data Factory”

- *Project Strategy:* Apply an industry best practice approach in the form of a **Data Quality Scorecard Solution** to measure, analyze, and ultimately improve data quality.
- *Objective:* Identify and implement custom data quality metrics for the client’s operational data infrastructure and use metrics to identify improvement opportunities.
- *Scope:* Project consisted of consulting & analysis services and measurement system including Scorecard Repository.

# Data Quality Scorecard Solution (DQSS)

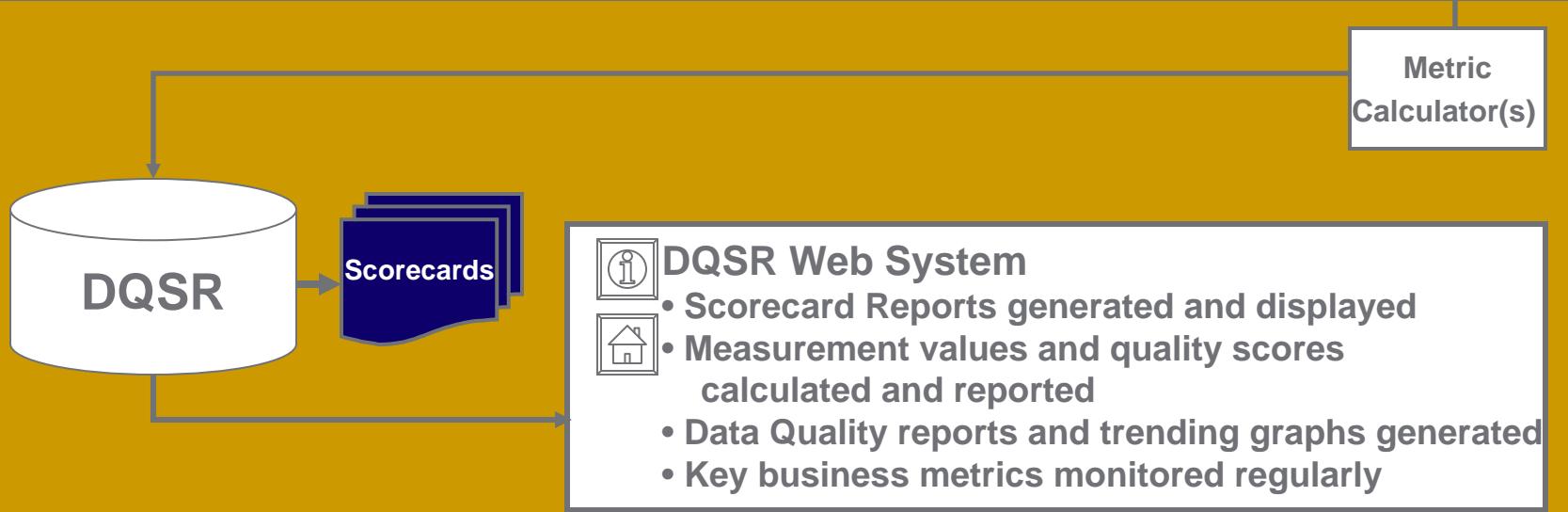
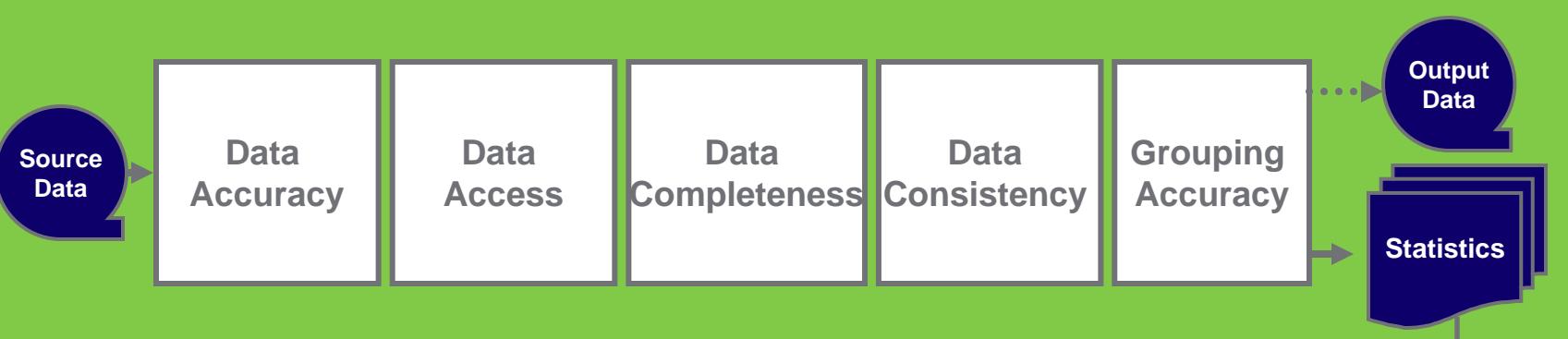
## Discovery, Analysis and Metric Design Services

- Define Data Quality Dimensions
- Define Metrics, Goals, Thresholds

DEFINE

MEASURE

ANALYZE AND MANAGE



# Discovery Process--Metric Design

## Initial Data Quality Assessment

## Define Data Quality Metrics

**Objective:** Acxiom DQ consultants gathered information about the selected data, processes, and client data quality goals for Phase 1.

**Methodology:** Conducted interviews with the client's DQ Team; determined the data quality goals and requirements; prioritized the metrics with rankings. For the highest-ranking issues, Acxiom recommended measurement methods.

### Client Discovery Participation:

- Identified the principal DQ Scorecard Champion who would have the authority to approve (sign-off on) the final set of metrics
- Identified members of their DQ team with knowledge to assist in the analysis (e.g., data stewards, SMEs, or business/end-users)
- Prepared discussion around existing or desired data quality requirements and goals.
- Educated their DQ Team using Acxiom-provided reference material in advance of the on-site consulting visit.

**Objective:** Reached agreement (sign-off) on the metric definitions for the projects and agreement on which of those would be implemented in the production process using Acxiom Products & Solutions.

**Methodology:** Consultants prepared the set of metrics and submitted to client's DQ Scorecard Champion for approval.

**Deliverable:** Metric Design Document and Metric Calculator Algorithms were produced for 22 metrics spanning 15 database tables.

# Metric Design Document

Technical specifications are detailed within the deliverable for each client-specific metric



Metric Name	DQ Dimension	Measurement Tool
Account Balance Integrity	Accuracy	Comparator

System: OIS  
Touchpoint: OIS Core Tables

Metric Interval (Frequency of calculation): Daily

Metric Description: Verification that the current account balance in the Account table is equal to the current balance in the Transaction\_Balance table.

Goal: 0% (variance) If "less than" (e.g., "# days or less")  
Max: 0%  
Failure: 10%

Table(s): Account  
Transaction\_Balance

Column(s): Account.Current\_Balance  
Transaction\_Balance.Current\_Balance

Algorithm Requirements:  
Sum of Account.Current\_Balance where Current\_Balance > 0 = Sum of Transaction\_Balance.Current\_Balance. Metric Value is the difference in sums expressed as a percentage of the Account.Current\_Balance.

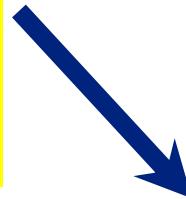
Technical Specification (Metric Calculator Design):

Two Comparator report values:

X = Value of SUM(Account.Current\_Balance) where Current\_Balance > 0  
Y = Value of SUM(Transaction\_Balance.Current\_Balance) where Account\_Key > 0  
M8 = ((ABS(x - y)) / x) \* 100

# Metric Classification

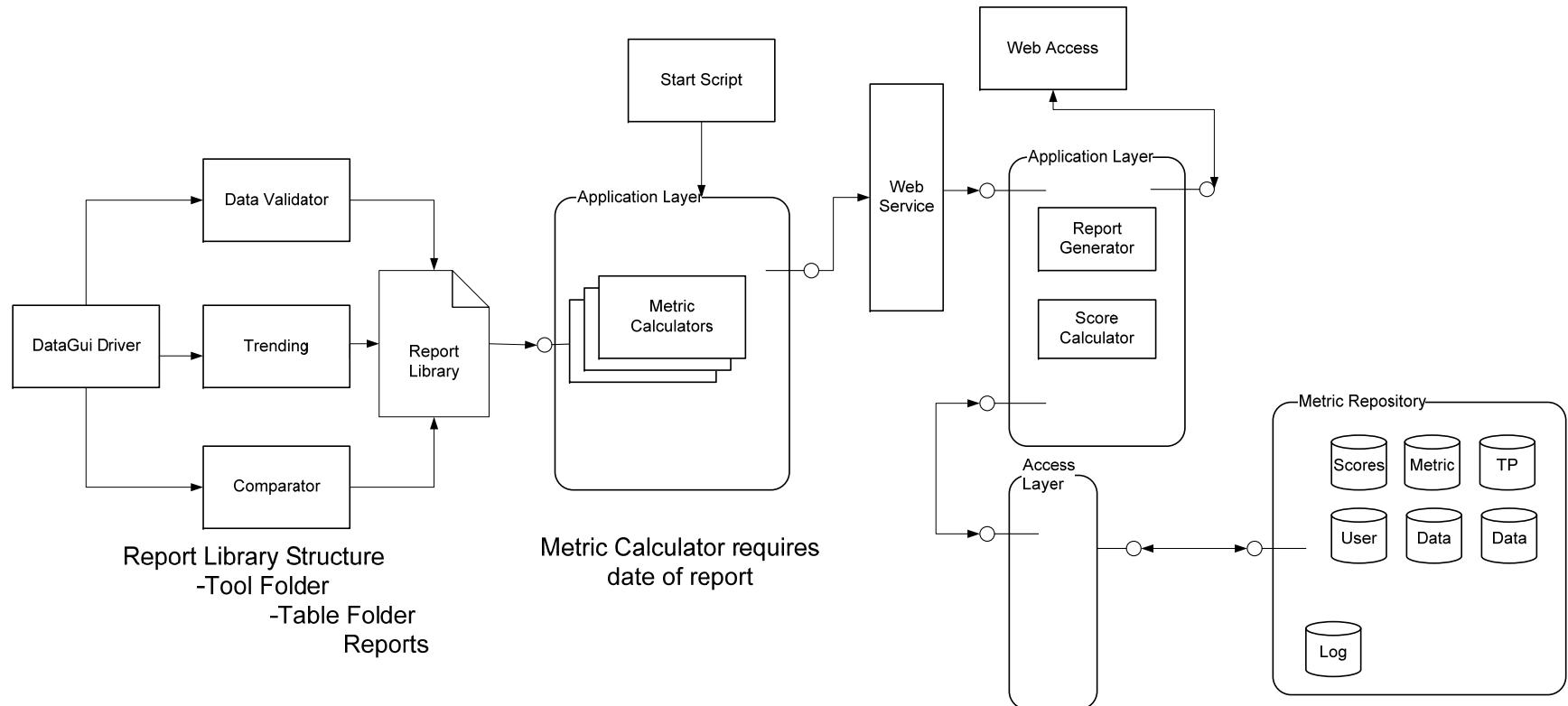
Metrics were prioritized and ranked, then classified according to DQ Dimension and recommended measurement tool



Metric ID	Metric Name	DQ Dimension	Measurement Tool
M8	Account Balance Integrity	Accuracy	DV-Comparator
M11	Cardholder Demographic Verification, Postal Area Code	Consistency	Data Validator
M25	Event Distribution	Consistency	DV-Trending

# DQSS Implementation

## Logical Context Diagram



# Data Quality Scorecard Repository Executive Summary Dashboard



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what you cannot measure.



- DQSR System Home
- Log Off DQSR System
  
- REPORT OPTIONS**
- Reports Dashboard
- Metric Calculator Logs
  
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- View Scorecards
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- Repository Administration
  
- SUPPORT INFORMATION**
- DQSR Reference Guide
- About DQSR System
  
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**Reports Dashboard**

Click on the title tab to open the report in a new browser window.  
[REFRESH REPORT](#)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: PAST 7 DAYS**

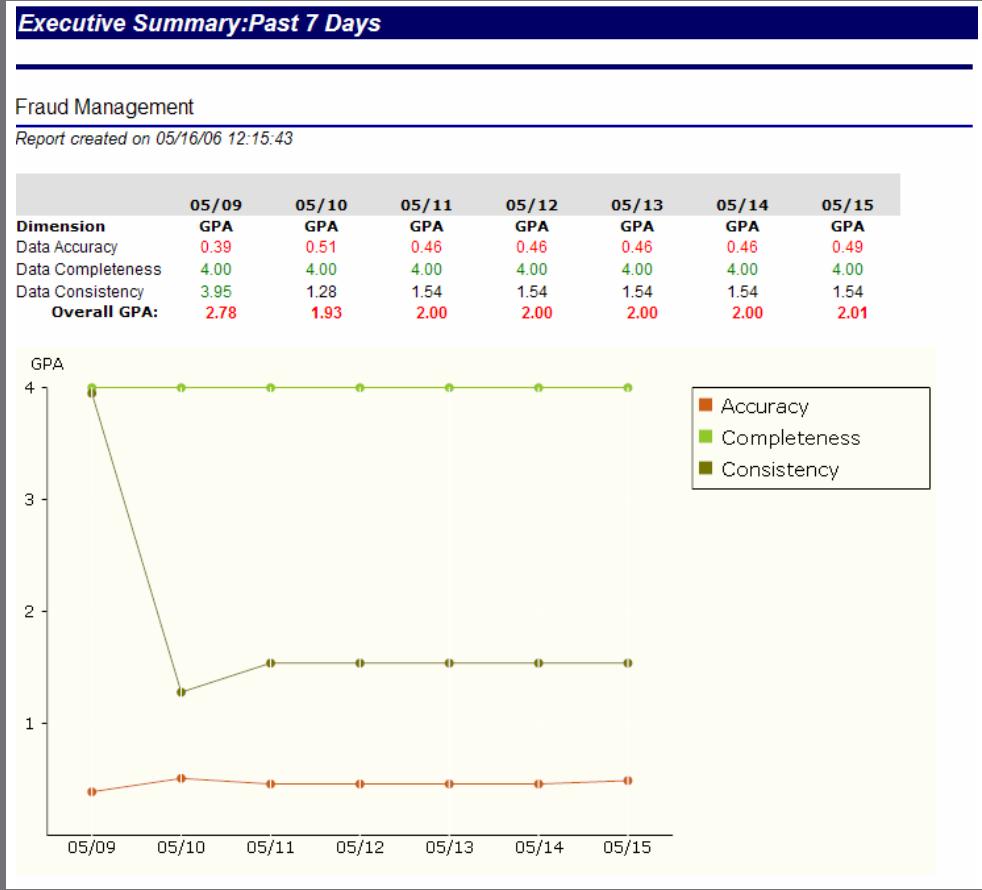
Report created on 05/16/06 12:15:43

Dimension	05/09	05/10
Data Accuracy	0.39	0.51
Data Completeness	4.00	4.00
Data Consistency	3.95	1.28
<b>Overall GPA:</b>	<b>2.78</b>	<b>1.93</b>

**METRIC SUMMARY: PAST 7 DAYS**

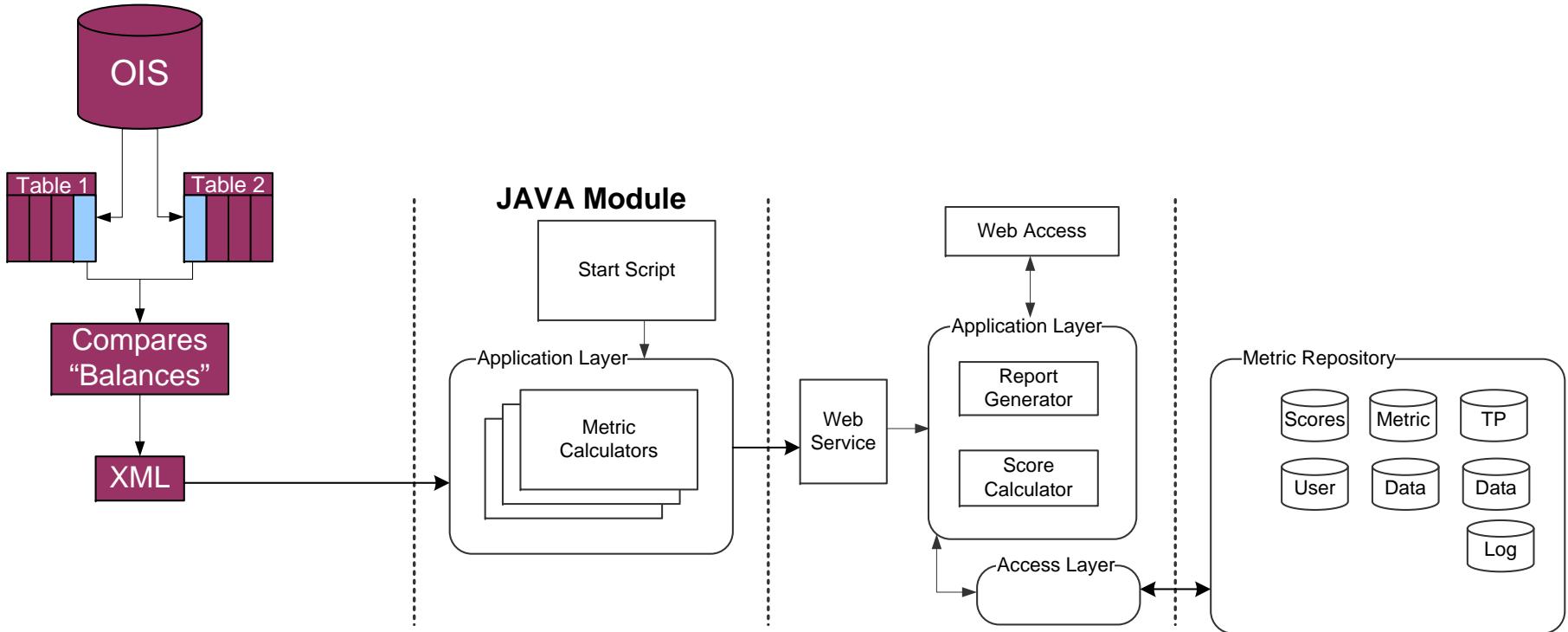
**Data Accuracy**

Metric Name	Interval	Goal
Chart	M8	D
Chart	M21	M



## “M8: Account Balance Integrity”

*Accuracy: Verification that the current balance in the Account table is equal to the current balance in the Transaction\_Balance table.*



# M8 Data Validator-Comparator Report

**Total Records:** 7 of 7

**Condition(s):**

CURRENT\_BALANCE > 0  
ACCT\_FLAG > 1

TRANSACTION_BALANCE.CURRENT_BALANCE
84146
103201
75625
46250
75613
124023

**Total Records:** 7 of 7

**Condition(s):**

CURRENT\_BALANCE > 0  
ACCT\_FLAG > 1

ACCOUNT.CURRENT_BALANCE
84146
103201
75605
46250
75613
164023

**Job Summary**

Description	Summary
Version	2.1
Date/Time	2006-05-07 14:14:03

**Job Summary**

Description	Summary
Version	2.1
Date/Time	2006-05-07 14:13:58

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Data Validator Report

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Data Validator Report

## M8 Metric as entered into DQSR

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**Add, Edit, Delete, Or View Metrics**

[ADD A METRIC](#) [VIEW ALL METRICS](#)

<b>MetricID:</b>	194
<b>System:</b>	Financial Services
<b>Touchpoint:</b>	Fraud Management
<b>Metric Name:</b>	M8
<b>Dimension:</b>	Data Accuracy
<b>Goal:</b>	0
<b>Failure:</b>	10
<b>Max:</b>	0
<b>If LessThan:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Interval:</b>	Daily
<b>Include in GPA:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Metric Description:</b>	Account Balance Integrity. Verification that the current balance in the Account table is equal to the current balance in the Transacation_Balance table. Sum of

[SAVE](#) [DELETE](#) [UNDO](#)

# “M8” Metric Scorecard displayed in DQSR

DQSR  
SYSTEM

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**Data Accuracy**

	MetricName	Interval	Goal	< Max	Fail	Act	QS	Act	QS	Act	QS	Act	QS	Act	QS	Act	QS	
<a href="#">Chart</a>	M8	D	0	Y	0	10	2.19	87.34	2.31	86.92	5.3	76.45	1.26	90.59	3.25	83.63	1.25	90.63
<a href="#">Chart</a>	M21	M	0	Y	0	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Dimension GPA = 0.49

**Data Completeness**

MetricName
<a href="#">Chart</a> Customer identification
<a href="#">Chart</a> M2

Dimension GPA = 4.00

**Data Consistency**

MetricName	Interval
<a href="#">Chart</a> M20	05-03
<a href="#">Chart</a> M13	05-06
<a href="#">Chart</a> M14	05-09

Dimension GPA = 1.83

M8

Goal Met: Passed (Green), Failed (Yellow), Failed (Red)

Date	Score
05-03	87.34
05-03	86.92
05-03	76.45
05-06	90.59
05-06	83.63
05-06	90.63
05-06	90.63
05-09	87.97
05-09	69.52
05-09	92.03
05-09	82.68
05-12	-
05-12	-
05-12	-
05-15	87.58
05-15	77.92

03	05/04	05/05		
QS	Act	QS	Act	QS
-	-	-	-	-
00.00	100	100.00	100	100.0

05/05	05/06		
Act	QS	Act	QS
88.19	0.00	81.2	0.00
56.2	65.43	25.3	30.36
91.74	95.87	85.24	90.84

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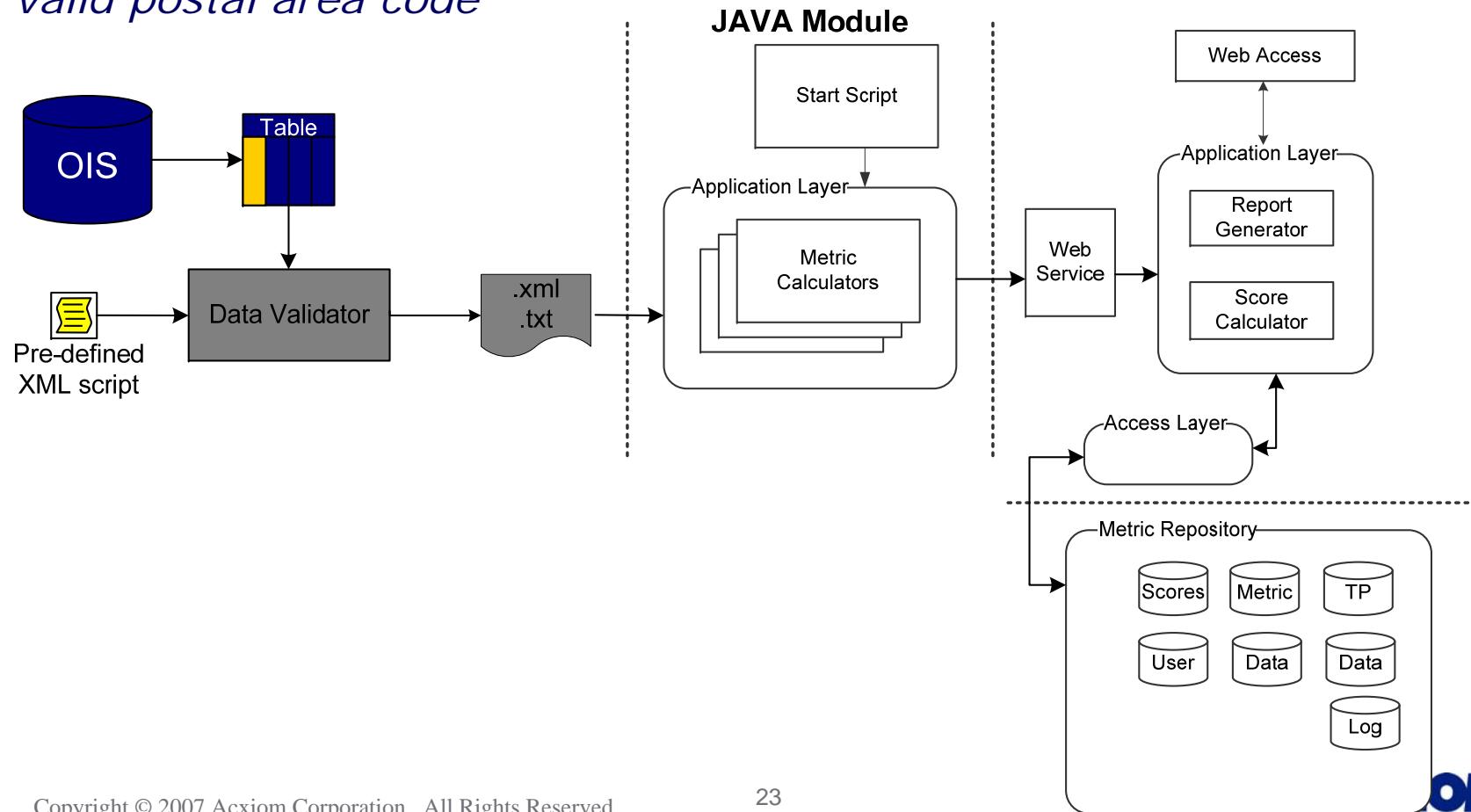
22

PG 467

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## M11: Demographic Verification/Postal Area Code

*Completeness: Every cardholder has a valid postal area code*



## “M11” Data Validator Reports

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\* DATA VALIDATOR VALUE COUNT REPORT \*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

Time: Tue May 09 10:20:23 2006

Program Version: 2.0

File: stdin

Record Length: 15

\*\*\*\*\*

Total Number of Records: 1000

Element Name	Record Count	% of Total	Value Found (or Range)
POSTAL_AREA_CD	502	50.20%	Blank
	39	3.90%	Invalid
	495	45.90%	Valid ()

## “M11” Data Validator Reports

```
*****
*** DATA VALIDATOR SUMMARY OF VALUES PER ERROR ***
*****  
Time: Tue May 09 10:20:23 2006  
Program Version: 2.0  
File: stdin  
Record Length: 15  
*****  
  
Total Number of Errors: 39  
-----  
Element Name          Error Count    % of Total   Element Content  
-----  
POSTAL_AREA_CD          3        0.20%    7221  
                         1        0.10%    857964257  
                         1        0.10%    72205-2687  
                         1        0.10%    75205-  
                         3        0.20%    72212-2227  
                         1        0.10%    75024 -  
                         1        0.10%    75224-  
                         1        0.10%    7221  
                         1        0.10%    85020-138  
                         1        0.10%    752240
```

# “M11” Data Validator Reports

***** *** DETAIL OF VALIDATION ERRORS *** *****					
Record Number	Field ID	Element Name	Error Count	Element Content	
12	001	POSTAL_AREA_CD	1	7221	
14	001	POSTAL_AREA_CD	2	7221	
15	001	POSTAL_AREA_CD	3	857964257	
19	001	POSTAL_AREA_CD	4	72205-2687	
20	001	POSTAL_AREA_CD	5	75205-	
22	001	POSTAL_AREA_CD	6	72212-2227	
43	001	POSTAL_AREA_CD	7	72212-2227	
50	001	POSTAL_AREA_CD	8	75024 -	
53	001	POSTAL_AREA_CD	9	75224-	
68	001	POSTAL_AREA_CD	10	72212-2227	
76	001	POSTAL_AREA_CD	11	7221	
80	001	POSTAL_AREA_CD	12	85020-1328	
83	001	POSTAL_AREA_CD	13	752240	

DEFINE

MEASURE

ANALYZE &amp; MANAGE

## “M11” Metric as entered into DQSR

**DQSR SYSTEM**

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**Add, Edit, Delete, Or View Metrics**

[ADD A METRIC](#) [VIEW ALL METRICS](#)

**MetricID:** 209

**System:** Financial Services

**Touchpoint:** Marketing

**Metric Name:** M11

**Dimension:** Data Consistency

**Goal:** 90

**Failure:** 50

**Max:** 100

**If LessThan:**

**Interval:** Daily

**Include in GPA:**

**Metric Description:**  
*Tip: You may want to include the metric formula in your description.*

Cardholder Demographic Verification, Postal Area Code

[SAVE](#) [DELETE](#) [UNDO](#)

 This screenshot shows the 'Add, Edit, Delete, Or View Metrics' page of the DQSR System. On the left is a vertical navigation menu with sections like 'REPORT OPTIONS', 'SCORECARD OPTIONS', 'ADMINISTRATIVE OPTIONS', and 'SUPPORT INFORMATION'. The main form has fields for MetricID (209), System (Financial Services), Touchpoint (Marketing), Metric Name (M11), Dimension (Data Consistency), Goal (90), Failure (50), Max (100), If LessThan (unchecked), Interval (Daily), and Include in GPA (checked). A note at the bottom says 'Tip: You may want to include the metric formula in your description.' Below the form are 'SAVE', 'DELETE', and 'UNDO' buttons.

# “M11” Metric Scorecard displayed in DQSR

**DQSR SYSTEM**

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**REPORT OPTIONS**

- DQSR System Home
- Log Off DQSR System

**SCORECARD OPTIONS**

- View Scorecards
  - Metric Scorecards
  - Touchpoint Scorecards
- Scorecard Administration

**ADMINISTRATIVE OPTIONS**

- Repository Administration

**SUPPORT INFORMATION**

- DQSR Reference Guide
- About DQSR System
- Change Your Password

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**Data Comp**

**Chart**

**Dimension GPA**

**Data Cons**

**M11**

Goal Met Passed Failed Not Applicable

Date	Failed (Yellow)	Passed (Red)
05/03	67.32	43.84
05/06	78.58	32.64
05/09	92.44	51.92
05/12	-	11.78
05/15	-	-

**05/01 05/02 05/03 05/04 05/05 05/06**

05/01	05/02	05/03	05/04	05/05	05/06
QS	Act	QS	Act	QS	Act
1.65	89.3	56.40	16.29	10.29	19.51
12.32	37.16	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

**MetricName Interval Goal < Max Fail Act QS Act**

MetricName	Interval	Goal	< Max	Fail	Act	QS	Act											
M18	D	0	Y	0	5	41.23	0.00	71.01	0.00	58.57	0.00	17.38	0.00	26.84	0.00	85.16	0.00	87
M24	M	0	Y	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
M25	D	90	100	60	66.67	67.78	38.75	38.75	17.57	17.57	50.05	50.05	26.85	26.85	81.27	84.82	26	
M11	D	90	100	50	28.85	34.62	36.53	43.84	58.36	67.32	45.02	54.02	71.23	78.58	27.2	32.64	9	
M12	D	90	100	50	27.84	33.41	95.23	97.62	91.74	95.87	32.51	39.01	5.25	6.30	37.12	44.54	36	

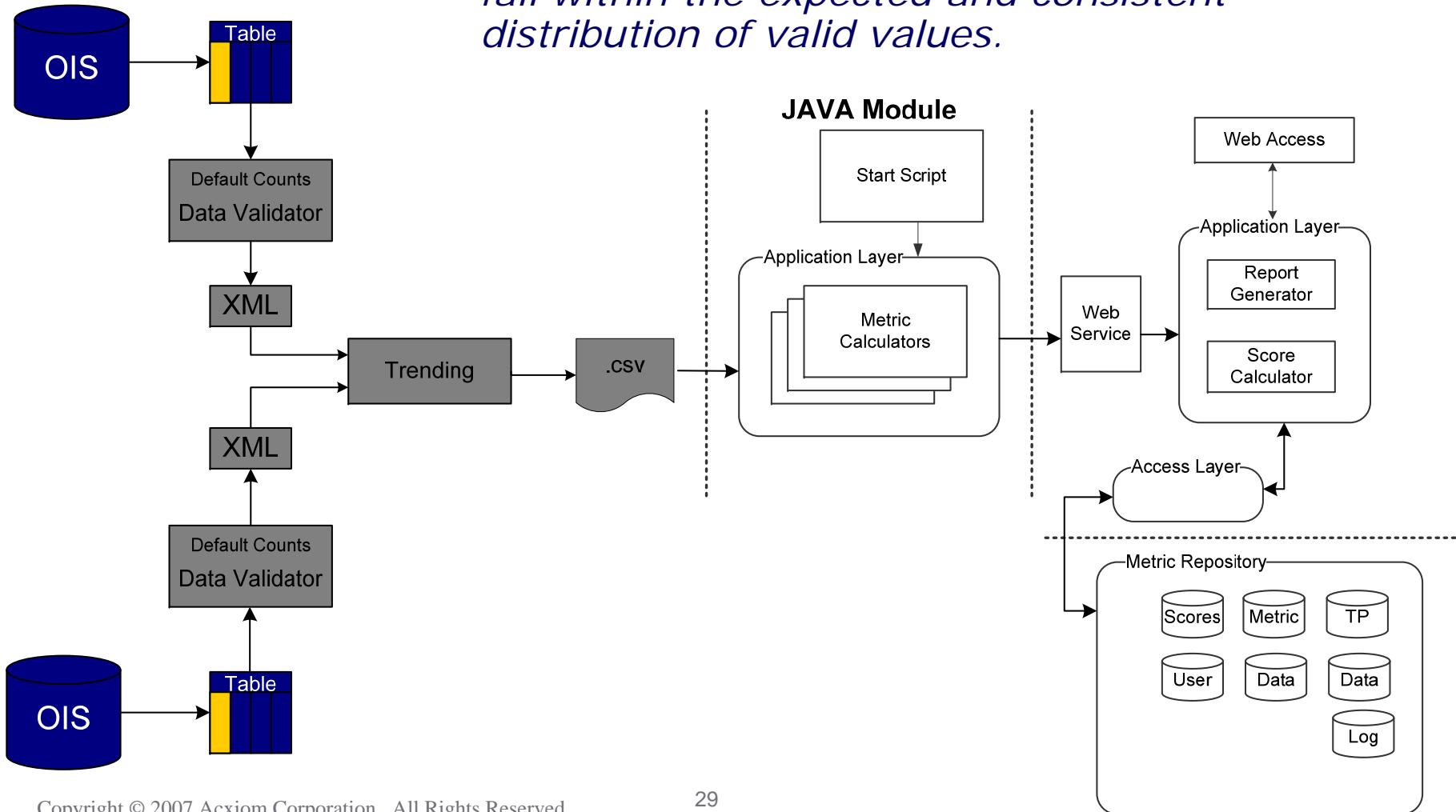
Dimension GPA = 1.94

**Data Access**

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## M25: Event Distribution

*Consistency: Verification that all "Event Types" fall within the expected and consistent distribution of valid values.*



# “M25” Trending Report

M25rpt.ValueCount.txt05092006

Total Records: 1045

M25rpt.ValueCount.txt05082006

Total Records: 1005

MAINTENANCE\_EVENT\_TYPE

Argument
Blank
0
1
2
3
4

5/9/2006	
Count	%
0	0.00%
230	22.01%
203	19.43%
201	19.23%
200	19.14%
211	20.19%

5/8/2006	
Count	%
0	0.00%
200	19.90%
203	20.20%
201	20.00%
200	19.90%
201	20.00%

Difference	
Count	%
0	0.00%
30	15.00%
0	0.00%
0	0.00%
0	0.00%
10	4.98%

## “M25” Metric as entered into DQSR

The screenshot shows the DQSR System interface with the following details:

- Metric ID:** 203
- System:** Financial Services
- Touchpoint:** Marketing
- Metric Name:** M25
- Dimension:** Data Consistency
- Goal:** 90
- Failure:** 60
- Max:** 100
- If LessThan:** (checkbox)
- Interval:** Daily
- Include in GPA:** (checkbox) checked
- Metric Description:** Event Distribution  
*Tip: You may want to include the metric formula in your description.*

Buttons at the bottom: SAVE, DELETE, UNDO.

# “M25” Metric Scorecard displayed in DQSR

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- Metric Calculator Logs

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MetricName	Interval	Goal	< Max	Fail	Act	QS	Act	QS	Act	QS	Act	QS	Act	QS	Act	QS	Act	QS	Act
<a href="#">Chart</a> M10	D	0	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<a href="#">Chart</a> M16	D	100	100	95	93.3	58.93	3.36	2.12	84.94	53.65	89.3	56.40	16.29	10.29	19.51	12.32	37.16		
<a href="#">Chart</a> M23	M	0 Y	0	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

Dimension GPA= 0.29

**Data Consistency**

MetricName	Interval	Goal	< Max	Fail	Act	QS	Act	QS	Act	QS	Act	QS	Act	QS	Act	QS	Act	QS
<a href="#">Chart</a> M18	D	0 Y	0	5	41.23	05/01	05/02	05/03	05/04	05/05	05/06							
<a href="#">Chart</a> M24	M	0 Y	0	1	-													
<a href="#">Chart</a> M25	D	90	100	60	66.67													
<a href="#">Chart</a> M11	D	90	100	50	28.85													
<a href="#">Chart</a> M12	D	90	100	50	27.84													

Dimension GPA= 1.94

**Data Access**

MetricName	Interval	Goal	< Max	Fail	Act	QS
<a href="#">Chart</a> M29	D	0 Y	0	1	23.88	05/

Dimension GPA= 2.98