# Attitude, Language and Approach Keys to CIO Success

Frank De Sa
Chief Information Officer
Just Group











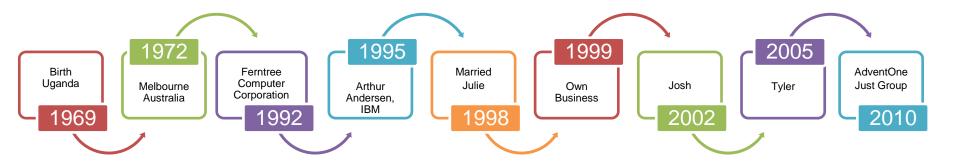








#### **About Me**



















#### portmans





























#### peteralexander





- 7 Brands
- ~1,200 physical stores
- 15 online storefronts
- ~10,000 staff
- Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Malaysia, United Kingdom, Ireland

#### IT Vision

"To be the Retail IT Benchmark fostering business improvement by providing solutions with a friendly can do attitude."











### History of IT



- Known traditionally as 'geeky'
- Maturity of IT Software & Services
- Now everything is a 'Service' but are we still 'geeky'?













#### The Sizzle

- Our customers don't need to know how to weave cotton into denim to value a pair of jeans
- Those outside IT do not need to understand how technology works in order to get value from it
- IT is the 'black box' that turns technology into value for our business











### Language



- Why does IT call 'the business', 'the business'?
- Alignment we are in the business of Retail
- Don't speak in tongues!
  - Cloud strategy → best customer experience/performance
  - ML/Al/Big Data → price optimisation, accurate product allocations
  - Micro services/API led → supply chain visibility
- Only one customer!















# Never Enough!

- There will never be enough cloud computing power to deal with poor software
- There will never be enough storage to deal with digital hoarders
- There will never be enough data and analytics if you don't know your business











### Business Intelligence in Retail

- Today we have more data than we have people to analyse it
- There are so many tools yet people struggle to find the information they need
- 4 examples:
  - 1. Real time sales timely decision making
  - 2. Retail Dashboard a deeper look down to store level
  - 3. Loss Prevention Dashboard finding patterns
  - 4. Alerts what does 'normal' look like













#### Our BI Architecture

- Teradata Datawarehouse, Retail Logical Model, Semantic Layer
- MS OLAP Cubes, Excel
- Power BI, SSRS
- Google Big Query





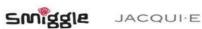














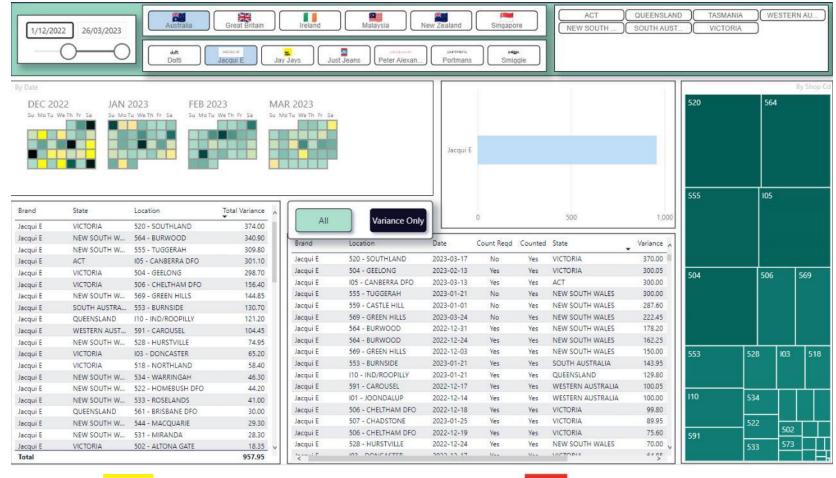






















#### Potential Career Paths

- Technology Vendor e.g Google, MS, SAP, Salesforce, System Integrator/Consulting Firm
  - Delivery Developer, Analyst, Project Manager, Tester, Security
  - Sales Pre-sales engineer, Account Manager
  - Focus selling stuff
- Internal Technology Department
  - Similar delivery roles
  - Focus business direction, customer and how technology can assist

(I mixed both!)













## What Our Industry Needs

- Lifelong learners
- People that can apply technology to a problem domain
- People who are excited by technology but not to the point that they forget what business they are in
- Experimenters
- Thinkers
- Communicators













## Modus Operandi



- People, Kind, Approachable, Helpers
- Laugh a lot!
- Monitor your business heart beat!
- Do not take away your teams ability to think!
- Consolidate vendors (and drive them), maximise investments
- You don't need a new one of everything!

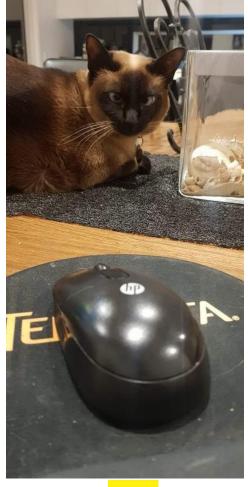












### Thank you!









