POLESTAR ANALYTICS

Modernizing **QlikView Authentication** for a **Global Building Materials GCC**

Replacing Ping Federator MFA with Google SAML — across Dev, QA & Production — in 6 weeks.

Fixed-Cost Engagement Model

3 Environments Dev · QA · Prod

~6 Weeks Delivery Timeline

Google SAML New Auth Standard

Client Overview

The client is the **Global Capability Center (GCC)** of a leading **global building materials company** with operations across more than **70 countries** and a workforce of approximately **70,000 employees**. Its shared services organization supports enterprise-wide business functions and manages critical analytics through QlikView.

As part of a broader identity modernization initiative, the client sought to replace its legacy authentication framework with a unified Google SAML-based approach, improving security, simplifying identity management, and aligning its BI environment with enterprise authentication standards.

The Core Problem

1. **Ping Federator Dependency :** QlikView MFA relied entirely on Ping Federator — a legacy federated identity provider creating operational and vendor lock-in risk.

2. **Authentication Misalignment :** Client's broader organisation was standardising on Google MFA. QlikView was an outlier — creating two separate auth management workflows.

3. **Not a Simple Config Change :** Migration required SAML setup, custom authentication flow, Authenticate.aspx customisation, and coordinated rollout across 3 environments.

6 Workstreams.
3 Environments.
One Clean Migration.

Custom Auth Web Page

Designed and built a custom web page for the QlikView authentication flow — replacing the Ping Federator-served page with a Google SAML-compatible experience.

Google SAML IDP Connection

Configured the Identity Provider (IDP) connection between QlikView and Google SAML — establishing the trust relationship required for federated authentication.

SAML Config in QlikView Files

Applied SAML configuration directly within QlikView configuration files — ensuring the application layer correctly delegates authentication to Google.

Server Config: Dev, QA & Prod

Executed server-level configuration changes across all three QlikView environments — Development, QA, and Production — in a sequenced, tested rollout.

Authenticate.aspx Customisation

Zero-trust cloud architecture, centralized metadata governance, and Databricks serverless migration.

Production Go-Live Support

Zero-trust cloud architecture, centralized metadata governance, and Databricks serverless migration.

Data & Analytics Operations: From Manual Chaos to Automated Control

Before - Ping Federator

- **QlikView Users:** Authenticate via Ping Federator MFA
- **Ping Federator:** External federated identity provider managing MFA
- **QlikView Servers:** Dev / QA / Production — each dependent on Ping
- **Auth Management:** Separate from Google — two identity landscapes to maintain
- **Risk Profile:** Vendor lock-in + legacy dependency in critical BI platform

After - Google SAML

- **QlikView Users:** Seamless login via Google MFA — familiar, consistent
- **Google SAML IDP:** Single, enterprise-standard identity provider
- **QlikView Servers:** Dev / QA / Production — all aligned to Google SAML
- **Auth Management:** Unified with org-wide Google identity — one landscape
- **Risk Profile:** Ping Federator dependency eliminated entirely

What We Built

Development	QA / Testing	Production

Project Cost Intelligence & Workforce Analytics

IT & IAM Security Team

Reduced authentication footprint

- Ping Federator dependency fully eliminated
- Authentication landscape simplified to Google-only
- Reduced attack surface: one fewer external IdP to maintain
- Aligns QlikView with enterprise-wide IAM standards

BI / Analytics Users

Zero disruption to QlikView access

- Existing dashboard access preserved post-migration
- No retraining required — Google MFA is already familiar
- Consistent login experience across all BI tools
- Production go-live executed without reported access failures

IT Infrastructure Team

Cleaner, maintainable QlikView architecture

- SAML config now documented and standard-based
- Reduced vendor dependency in QlikView admin stack
- Repeatable migration pattern for future environments
- Polestar Analytics handled end-to-end — minimal internal load

Business & Leadership

Secure continuity of critical analytics

- Business-critical QlikView dashboards remain accessible
- Auth modernisation completed within fixed-cost contract
- Delivered on 6-week timeline commitment
- Compliance posture improved through auth standardisation

Business Impact Delivered

The client trusted Polestar Analytics to modernise a business-critical authentication layer across their QlikView estate — on time, on budget, with no disruption.

Ping → Google
Auth Migration

~6 Weeks
Fixed Timeline

3 Envs
Dev + QA + Prod

0 Disruption
User Continuity

Sales Story

For Holcim, Polestar Analytics delivered focused authentication modernisation for their QlikView environment — removing Ping Federator, moving to Google SAML/MFA across Dev, QA and Production. IT, Security and BI teams benefited. Business users saw zero disruption.

About Polestar Analytics

Polestar Analytics is a leader in Data, Analytics, AI, and Enterprise Planning helping organizations to unlock intelligent outcomes through our proprietary products like 1Platform, accelerators, and services. Our expertise spans data engineering, data science, agentic and generative AI, and advanced planning for CPG/Retail, Pharmaceuticals, Manufacturing, IT/ITeS, and Financial Services.

Reach out to us today!