COMPANY PROFILE

Transforming information to create insights and predictions.

THE DATA SPECIALIST COMPANY
PBT GROUP VALUE PROPOSITION

- Technology agnostic Data Specialists
- Global expertise, local wisdom and two decades of experience
- A one-stop service offering
- Enabling the value of Data Science
- Flexible service and cost model for the new normal
Technology agnostic Data Specialists

A technology agnostic Data and Analytics specialist organisation

PBT Group provides Data and Analytics services and solutions that enable data-driven insights, and well-timed and informed business decisions that consistently position the Group’s clients ahead of the curve.

Technological integration is a key enabler in providing clients with custom-made services or solutions in support of their organisational objectives. As a technology agnostic Data and Analytics specialist organisation, PBT Group is best positioned to optimise companies’ data platforms without allowing product or technology to limit their options.

PBT Group is a professional services provider to large national and international clients, and one that is focused on transforming data into a tangible asset. PBT Group provides an end-to-end data services and solutions offering, including Data Strategy, Data Engineering, Data Visualisation, Data Analytics, as well as Application Development.
PBT Group has worked in more than 27 countries around the world and has implemented large-scale data projects throughout Africa, the Middle East, Australia and Europe in the banking, insurance, healthcare, telecommunications and retail sectors.

With a staff complement of more than 640 highly skilled professional consultants, PBT Group has a reputation for delivery according to expectations. Worldwide expertise and local wisdom- that’s what makes us different!
PBT Group offers a one-stop service in all aspects of the modern data platform. In alignment with the client’s preferred technology stack, PBT Group will identify and assign the appropriate expertise to achieve the intended objective/s. The Group’s consultant base consists of highly competent Project Managers, Business and/or Data Analysts, Data Modellers, Data Architects, Data Engineers, Data Visualisation Engineers etc. Whilst it can provide the necessary specialist capability and capacity, PBT Group prefers to engage in a mutually beneficial long-term partnership in supporting the client’s overall data strategy.
Thanks to the availability of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML), more companies are focusing their efforts on appointing Data Scientists to extract business value from the data at their disposal. This has subsequently made the role of Data Engineers even more critical as this skill is essential to prepare this data for appropriate use. As organisations are rightly drawn to the benefits that AI and ML can deliver, and while this is essential to transforming data into actionable insights, it is the role of the Data Engineers to get it to that stage.

Therefore, Data Engineering is critical in enabling Data Science. If the Data Scientists are not able to obtain quality data at the right time and in the appropriate format, then it is impossible to perform their roles effectively. Hence, while Data Science unlocks the business value of data, much of the effort to enable this, lies in the engineering component. Data Engineering remains one of PBT Group’s core competencies.
PBT Group’s consultants are certainly au fait with the benefits that remote working arrangements can offer to clients. Over the last decade, the company has delivered a wide range of services from Data Analysis, Data Architecture, Adaptive Data Modelling, Data Engineering, testing, implementation, and overall project management to clients in Africa and the Middle East.

PBT Group has also expanded its remote working experience to its European operations and, with strategic partnerships signed in 2019 with companies in the Netherlands, Ireland, the United Kingdom and Germany, PBT Group is well-positioned to support data-related projects across Western Europe, remotely.

As organisations seek opportunities for cost efficiencies, a remote/hybrid, flexible service model can be successfully obtained via managed services or solutions. The value proposition of a managed services arrangement resides in increased productivity, a reduced management overhead, the flexibility of capacity on demand, as well as the potential to include knowledge transfer and client enablement. When looking to partner with Data Specialists who can provide the right data solutions and expertise through a managed services model that considers remote capability, then look no further!
PBT GROUP SERVICES

Advisory & Strategic
Data Engineering
Data Analytics and Visualisation
Artificial Intelligence
Managed Solutions
Application Development
PBT Group provides services and solutions across most aspects relating to data; and from end-to-end. Whilst the Group’s core expertise historically originated from Data Architecture, Data Modelling and Data Engineering, this naturally expanded to include areas such as Advisory & Strategic, as well as Analytics & Visualisation. PBT Group has also started venturing into the high-end data value streams like Artificial Intelligence (AI) and intends to grow its expertise within this area.

In addition to this – and complementing the data services offered - PBT Group also has an Application Development competency mainly involved with Mobile Application Development within the financial sector.
PBT Group’s principal Data & Analytics consultants have 10 or more years of experience in the data world. This collective experience is complemented by strong Data Governance & Management frameworks that are specifically aimed at dealing with the enterprise complexity of the modern data environment.

PBT Group can perform a readiness assessment of the client’s data journey and consult on modernisation initiatives, assist in the development and implementation of a data strategy, and advise on any associated cloud-based approaches and supporting technologies required.

PBT Group has extensive experience across multiple industries and technologies, implementing successful data pipelines and solutions that span across Data Lakes, Operational Data Stores, Data Warehouses, Advanced Analytics, Data Science, Big Data, Data Visualisation, Cloud and DataOps. The Group’s Data Engineers are well equipped to utilise modern data processing techniques such as data streaming, data wrangling, data vaults etc.

Furthermore, PBT Group can provide Cloud-based services and consulting for most of the major cloud vendors, e.g.

Consultants keep abreast with changing technologies and industry best practices via ongoing training, certifications and as guided by the PBT Innovation division.
Analytics and Visualisation are mainstream consumer areas of stored/prepared data. Data can be consumed either from the raw Data Lake, or from some prepared, modelled data area.

The PBT Group experts are well versed in the methods of consuming and analysing large data sets, for e.g. Data Science, or more traditional Analytics outputs like dashboards, reports, and self-help slice-and-dice front ends. The Group's Data Visualisation Engineers are familiar with many of the Visualisation tools available and provide significant value add in all aspects of analysis, user experience, data insights and in telling a data story.
Artificial Intelligence

In the business world, Artificial Intelligence (AI) is an emerging reality. Its adoption is tightly linked to business maturity. AI is commonly defined as the area of computer science that emphasises the creation of intelligent machines that work and react like humans.

As an extension of its Data Engineering and Advanced Analytics competencies, PBT Group has expanded its service offering into areas of Data Science and AI.

Application Development

The PBT Group Application Development competency assists organisations to deliver custom applications that focus on system integration, software, web, database, collaboration, business process management and mobile app development.

The PBT Group team has been fundamental in the creation/enhancement of a mobile banking app used by millions of banking clients.
PBT Group’s service offering is based on the following engagement models:

- **Engaging a team/part-team in collaboration with the client to deliver a solution via a formalised project.**
- **Providing relevant expertise, e.g. Data Engineers, Business and/or Data Analysts, Data Visualisation Engineers, Data Architects, Project Managers on an ‘as needed’ basis as professional services.**
- **Providing a pre-defined service, e.g. BAU, functional, technology specific, support, as a managed service.**

PBT Group is not just a “provider of resources” – the brand prefers to be an active, and valuable contributor in the client’s data strategy, execution and realisation thereof – in a practical, cost-efficient manner.

**Professional Services**

PBT Group provides data specialist professional services to clients who require additional capacity and/or expert capability with their existing data platform environments. The Group’s consultant base consists of a variety of the mentioned roles, technology skills, and in-depth industry experience.
PBT Group has completed many successful end-to-end data platform, Business Intelligence (BI) and Advanced Analytics projects. Where required, the brand has also provided the on-going maintenance and support after the project. These projects have varied in size and complexity. PBT Group has successfully completed some of the largest data projects on the African continent. The Group’s specialists and project managers have significant experience in the design, construction, implementation, and maintenance of Data and Analytics solutions.

And, the Group’s track record of successful delivery is built on more than 20-years of experience and a well-defined approach that considers the strategic objective, whilst enabling iterative value-add.

PBT Group’s practical project experiences are represented in many of its Use Cases, some of which have been published on the Group’s website, www.pbtgroup.co.za, or can be provided on request.

PBT promotes a few principles of Data & Analytics initiatives, namely

- Confirm business ownership - appropriate project structure
- Understand business goals and tangible objectives - requirement specification, defined scope
- Think Big, Start Small - conceptual architecture
- Confirm client’s readiness - readiness assessment, quality checks
- Phased, iterative delivery cycles - early and continuous business value add
- Well-managed and open communication - appropriate project management
- Enable / contract knowledge - & IP transfer

PBT will always align with the client’s preferred technology stack and methodology
PBT Group’s Managed Services and Solutions offering originated from a large-scale project across 20 countries, with the need to support the associated operations with 1st (day-to-day ‘running’ of the solution), 2nd- and 3rd line support, as well as maintenance (small enhancements) activities to keep the solution relevant. The support model provided the required flexibility of onsite vs. remote support, or a hybrid thereof, as well as more informal vs. formalised, Service Level Agreement (SLA) based support – depending on the operation’s size and budgetary constraints.

PBT Group has subsequently successfully expanded these services to non-support related, functional areas for various local and international clients. The diagram provides a summary of the managed services utilisation/application and associated value proposition PBT Group offers. A managed services and solutions engagement is an attractive consideration as it provides flexibility, on demand capacity and expertise, as well as cost efficiencies associated with a remote working model and limited management overhead.
Managed Services and Solutions

Value Proposition
- Increased productivity
- Predictable cost structure
- High level of technical expertise
- Focus on core business, whilst empowering and enabling end users
- Utilise PBT’s experience and expertise
- No direct resource management & overhead
- Knowledge transfer and enablement

1. Complex environments
2. Support 1st, 2nd, 3rd line
3. Service demand within BAU environment
4. Service functional area
5. Add-on capacity and technical expertise
6. Local and international
7. Onsite and remote
PBT Group has established long term, strategic partnerships with many of its clients. Such an engagement positions the Group to provide value added services including:

- **The PBT Graduate Programme**, facilitated by the PBT Academy.
- **Training** through the PBT Academy, e.g. BI Business Analysis, Data Modelling, Data Engineering.
- **A specialised Skills Development Programme** customised for the client’s requirements and environment.
- **“Burst capacity”** enabling short term capacity on demand.
- **Knowledge sharing** via the Group’s extensive consultant base and expertise related to industries, technologies and best-practices, locally and abroad.
THE PBT GROUP JOURNEY

1998
Founded as Prescient Business Technologies, a specialised information management company.

2006
Rapid developments in the company structure, together with the need to align operations with the Group's vision of its future potential and acquisitions, lead to Prescient Business Technologies renaming to PBT Group.

2008
PBT Group (Australia) established in Melbourne.

2009
Strategic Medical Systems, a provider of specialist healthcare management solutions and services, established in 1998 as part of the PBT Group of companies, renamed to PBT Insurance Technologies (PBTit), to better reflect the wider application of its services and align itself with the PBT brand.

2010
PBT Group listed on the JSE, through a reverse listing via the Wooltru cash shell.
PBT Group acquires three specialist technology-focused companies: BI-Blue Consulting, a recognised leader in SAP Business Analytics and Enterprise Information Management, CyberPro Consulting, a leading Microsoft software services company, as well as Technique Business Intelligence Software, an IBM business partner and technical solutions authority.

Prescient listed on the JSE through a reverse listing via PBT Group, continuing to operate through its two main subsidiaries, Prescient Holdings (financial services) and PBT Group (information management services).

Following the downscaling and subsequent exit of the Africa and Middle East operations, PBT Group shifts its international focus to the United Kingdom and Europe, including Ireland. Through this, PBT Group Europe, with its head office in Amsterdam, Netherlands, was established.

Prescient disposes of its financial services arm, renamed to PBT Group and continues its listing on the main board of the JSE as a focused listed IT entity.

PBT Group (UK) established as an extension of the Company’s services internationally.
PBT Group’s clients are mainly medium to large, national and international organisations and reside within a variety of industries, e.g. financial, insurance, telecommunications, retail etc. PBT Group has long-standing relationships with most clients and has become a key contributor to some clients’ data strategy and data implementation initiatives.
An extract of some of PBT Group’s clients, locally and abroad.

**Financial**
- Absa
- Capitec
- Coronation
- DirectAxis
- FNB
- Investec
- Nedbank
- Nimble Group
- RCS
- RMB
- SARB
- Silica
- Standard Bank
- Wesbank
- WFS

**Insurance**
- Bryte
- Discovery
- Hollard
- Liberty
- MMI Holdings
- Old Mutual
- Sanlam
- Santam

**Telecommunications**
- MTN
- Telkom
- Vodacom

**Retail**
- Clicks
- Pepkor
- Pernod Ricard
- Pick ‘n Pay
- Pioneer Foods
- Shoprite
- TFG
- Woolworths

**Other**
- AfroCentric Health
- Business Connexion
- Bytes
- Cornastone
- DENIS
- Europcar
- Medscheme
- Pepkor IT
- SASOL
- SITA

**International**
- 6 Degrees
- AIB
- Asset Insight
- AkzoNobel
- Brakes
- Cargill
- Data Growers
- Givaudan
- Greencore
- IBG
- ING Bank
- Johnson & Johnson
- Mauritius Commercial Bank
- Primark
- Stryker
- Walraven
- Well
- Xenos
- Yorkshire Building Society (YBS)
PBT Group’s technology agnostic approach ideally positions us to provide data services and solutions irrespective of, but in alignment with, the client’s preferred technology stack(s), and to assist clients with the technology integration of their data platforms. The Group’s consultants are Data Specialists who apply best-practice principles irrespective of the technology. PBT Group works in close collaboration with various technology/product partners to ensure that all consultants are well-trained and certified in numerous technologies.

The below provides a view of some of the technologies that have been used in the many successful projects and data initiatives PBT Group consultants have been fundamental in implementing.
Largest Data & Analytics programme - the ultimate delivery achievement

Customisable remote services in support of cost optimisations

A tale of many clouds
Largest Data & Analytics programme - the ultimate delivery achievement

Quality data remains a critical asset to every business across the globe. In 2009, PBT Group built its first integrated data warehouse solution for a well-known South African mobile company. This initiative evolved into a journey of uncharted territory through 20 countries across Africa and the Middle East.

The objective was to implement a standardised Business Intelligence solution across all operations. For 8-years, PBT Group ventured into unique environments, with great diversity in language and culture, even war-torn countries. The entire life cycle of this meta data driven solution, based on an adaptive data model, was mainly performed in a remote manner.

This comprehensive Data and Analytics platform eventually processed enormous data volumes of more than 160 million subscribers daily, with PBT Group providing 24/7 centralised, remote support. As organisations today are reeling to adjust to the new normal, the Group’s consultants have become accustomed to being present, while not visible – a model the Group has successfully tried and tested over a number of years.

"The Group’s consultants have become accustomed to being present, while not visible"

More than 160 million subscribers 
24/7 Centralised remote support
The client is a £1.5 billion revenue organisation and leading manufacturer of convenience foods and supplies a wide range of chilled, frozen and ambient foods to customers in the United Kingdom.

PBT Group provided Data Engineering, Data Modelling, Analysis and Agile Management skills for a project carried out in 2019, to consolidate data, resulting from the company’s growth through acquisitions. The data was sourced from various siloed ERP, manufacturing, supplier and product management systems to build a consolidated corporate data mart. The total team working on the project ranged from 18-30 people during the various phases of the project. This project was a successful use case in the efficiency and cost effectiveness of remote work, where the offsite PBT Group staff worked with the client’s onsite business and subject matter experts at their various manufacturing and IT locations in the UK. PBT Group’s consultants worked collaboratively with the client from the United Kingdom, Ireland, Netherlands, Spain and South Africa.

The use of video conferencing, ability to connect to remote servers in UK data centres and Azure cloud, complemented by quality skills, minimal time difference, as well as effective English communication, proved the feasibility of remote working. This initiative provided a solid foundation for the client to be prepared for the new ways of working required during and after the recent global pandemic crisis.
A tale of many clouds

PBT Group’s ability to adapt to different technologies and enable significant business benefit can be demonstrated through the successful Use Cases below.

Azure Data Warehouse Modernisation
A proposal and design were presented to the client to start adopting a cloud-based architecture of a full modern data analytics platform on Azure. Cloud provisioning allowed the project to start virtually immediately. The client’s most urgent needs could be met in two short agile phases and value was derived in a matter of weeks. The long-term architecture and design principles also laid the foundation while growing the analytics platform into maturity.

GCP Metadata driven ETL
The client’s Lost Sales Calculation took between 30 minutes to 3 hours per department, for 45 departments. This calculation now runs in less than 10 minutes for the entire organisation. Analysts can maintain the ETL by simply editing SQL that they are familiar with, while the solution can be parameterised in a flexible way to perform ad hoc runs. This implies that planners can add new prices and redo their planning run at the push of a button.

AWS DataIKU Workflow Optimisation
In order to do stock optimisation simulation, this client’s data needed to be transformed and validated in a series of complex steps. Using the DataIKU API, these repetitive steps could be automatically generated, which reduced the validation and selection development time by an order of magnitude, while also automatically taking care of naming standards and best practices across all validation processes.

Azure provisioned - Data Factory, Data Warehouse, MSSQL services, SSIS, Python, Blobstore.

Google Cloud Data Store (to store the ETL task definitions and dependencies), Google Cloud Bigquery (to do the Big Data processing), Google App Engine, Google Cloud Functions. Scheduled either via App Engine cron, or Composer (Apache Airflow). Engine developed in Python 3.

AWS, PostgreSQL, DataIKU, Python.
The Group’s key differentiators can be summarised as follows:

- **PBT Group** has been a Data Specialist organisation for more than 20-years.

- PBT Group provides custom made services and solutions to best meet its clients’ business needs.

- Data Engineering is a key enabler to Data Science and remains one of the Group’s core competencies.

- Being technology agnostic, PBT Group is best positioned to optimise clients’ data platforms without allowing product or technology to limit their options.

- PBT Group has more than 5,300,000 hours of data and information management experience.

- The Group has implemented projects and provided services in 27 countries.

- The PBT Group data expertise spans across many industries.

- The Group’s most important assets are its more than 640 experienced consultants.

- PBT Group provides flexible service and cost models for the new normal of work.
THE PBT GROUP FAMILY

PBT Group South Africa
PBT Group Europe
PBT Group Australia
PBTit
PBT Group South Africa (previously Prescient Business Technologies) was established in 1996 and are technology agnostic Data Specialists offering custom-made Data and Analytics services and solutions that transform information to create valuable insights and predictions for business success.

As a leading Data & Analytics and Information Specialist company, PBT Group provides services and creates solutions that capitalise on data-driven insights, to make well-timed, intuitive business decisions that consistently position the Group’s clients ahead of the curve. PBT Group is a data specialist that takes ownership of a client’s challenges – transforming the client’s data into a tangible asset that will greatly assist in streamlining the client’s business operations as well as their predictive and analytical capabilities.
PBT Group Australia

Based in Melbourne, the Claims-Tech team enables clients to optimise their claims management capability and take advantage of automated claims assessing and real-time straight through processing. Its clients are then able to deliver consistent, accurate benefit determination, in turn providing their customers with a fast, accessible and reliable claims processing service they deserve.

The Claims-Tech team have unparalleled knowledge, experience and specialist expertise in the Australian Private Health Insurance industry at an operational and business systems level. The team also hold deep practical experience with developing and implementing core claiming systems and integrating them into the broader enterprise. The team’s understanding of Australian health industry data is leveraged into its complementary Data Migration, Business Intelligence and Analytics capabilities and offerings.

PBT Group Europe

PBT Group Europe, with its head office in Amsterdam, Netherlands, was established in 2018. PBT Group has been working with clients in European markets for a number of years – and with the rapid expected growth in the EU Data Economy, PBT Group recognised the immense opportunity this offers and the decision was taken to formally establish presence in the EU with a local footprint.

With strategic partnerships signed in 2019 with companies in the Netherlands, Ireland, the United Kingdom and Germany, PBT Europe is well-positioned to support data-related projects across Western Europe, onsite and remotely.
PBTit’s prime focus is on the health administration sector. The company has over one million hours of Health Care application development and implementation experience. PBTit has a solid track record and in-depth knowledge and experience of the South African, Australian and Botswana Healthcare markets and their related interfaces, boasting a proud number of satisfied customers over a period of more than 20 years.

Being part of PBT Group enables PBTit to draw on various expert skills within the Group, which further strengthens and enhances its solution offering within the Healthcare sector.

**PBTit provides:**

- A stable and reliable software platform managing millions of medical aid lives at a very competitive price.
- Solid medical aid administration experience.
- A proven and stable technology platform.
- Uniquely customised products as per client requirements based on standard modules.
- Constant rejuvenation of products.
- Customised version of the client’s software.
THANK YOU

Transforming information to create insights and predictions.