CRYSTAL REPORTS*

SAP BusinessObjects
Business Intelligence Solutions
Crystal Reports



WORK WITH DATA

INTERACTION, INTEGRATION, AND EXPLORATION

With Crystal Reports® software from the SAP® BusinessObjects™ portfolio of solutions, you can empower end users to explore reports interactively, create compelling reports with stunning visualizations, and develop powerful data "mashups." You can save time when designing reports with the improved report designer and enjoy comprehensive report deployment. Start publishing personalized reports to thousands of recipients in one action, and reduce your cost of ownership with Crystal Reports Server 2008 software and SAP BusinessObjects XI 3.1 solutions. You benefit from access to any data source, working with a flexible and powerful report designer and the support of a strong developer community.

Crystal Reports, part of the SAP BusinessObjects portfolio of solutions, is a powerful, dynamic, and actionable reporting solution that helps you design, explore, visualize, and deliver reports via the Web or embedded in enterprise applications. Your end users consume reports with stunning visualizations, conduct on-report business modeling, and execute decisions instantly from the report itself – reducing dependency on IT and developers.

Interact

You can interact with your data by taking advantage of integration with Xcelsius* Engage software and Adobe Flex software. A parameter panel means that you can rely less on developers and your IT department.

Explore Reports Interactively

Integration with Xcelsius Engage software – Make informed decisions with visual what-if scenarios created in Xcelsius Engage and embedded in a report generated with Crystal Reports.



Figure 1: Example of an On-Report What-If Scenario Model

Use sliders, gauges, and dials to visualize the potential outcome of your decisions dynamically – without leaving the report file and without any coding (see Figure 1).

Integration with Adobe Flex software – Take action with operational reporting. Integrate operational workflows in the reports you generate with Crystal Reports by embedding Adobe Flex

applications (Adobe Flash files: SWF) to perform tasks such as database write-back.

Parameter panel – Report designers can build parameter panels in both the report designer and the Microsoft Web Form and Microsoft Windows Form viewers for Microsoft .NET Framework. End users can set parameter values without refreshing data and quickly

view the information they need. Onreport sorting, filtering, and report reformatting in the viewers let users

Render reports in almost any format and enjoy faster and easier integration with industry-specific business processes without any custom coding.

answer more questions with fewer, more flexible reports – significantly reducing their dependency on developers and IT (see Figure 2).



Figure 2: Sample Parameter Panels Built into the Viewer for Microsoft .NET Framework

VISUALIZE DATA

INTEGRATION AND FLEXIBILITY

Visualize

You can visualize your data more easily because of integration with Adobe Flash. Flexible pagination frees you from the limitations of your printer.

Report designers can build parameter panels in both the report designer and the Microsoft Web Form and Microsoft Windows Form viewers for the Microsoft .NET Framework. End users can set parameter values without refreshing data and quickly view the information they need.



Make informed decisions with visual what-if scenarios created in Xcelsius Engage and embedded in a report generated with Crystal Reports.

Create Stunning Report Visualizations

Integration with Adobe Flash – Create stunning visualizations by adding dynamic charts, graphics, and even video files to your reports for compelling, interactive, and information-rich presentations. You can embed the SWF files in the report or link them via a Web site without coding (see Figure 3).

Flexible pagination – Facilitate better online report viewing. Don't let your printer limit you to standard page sizes. Instead, customize reports for page size and page breaks and combine portraitand landscape-oriented pages.



Figure 3: Sample Dynamic Charts Designed in Xcelsius® Engage and Embedded in Crystal Reports®

MASHUP DATA

DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT

Design

You can develop powerful mashups that help you save design time, enabling you to turn data into actionable information.

Develop Powerful Data Mashups

Integrate components designed in Adobe Flash and Adobe Flex without any coding and significantly expand the scope of your application deployment.

An enhanced Web-services driver allows developers to combine the flexibility of XML and Web services with report formatting and visualization by linking report data to sophisticated data mashups. Examples include integration of third-party mapping systems (see Figure 4).

A new driver from salesforce.com inc. gives you access to complete customer data, turning it into actionable business information. Reports using the salesforce.com driver refresh when deployed to the crystalreports.com application.

Save Valuable Design Time

Powerful cross-tabs – Add businesscritical information to your reports without coding. Insert summary, variance, and any other custom calculations into a cross-tab row or a column. This feature is especially useful for financial reports.

Built-in support for bar codes – Save design time and reduce your cost. Convert fields to Code 39 bar codes with a click of your mouse (see Figure 5).



Figure 4: Example of ESRI Mapping Service Embedded in a Report

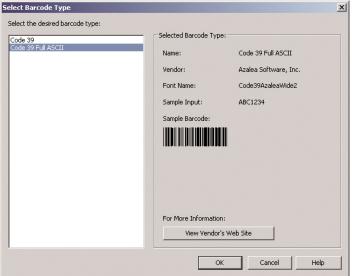


Figure 5: Example of Built-In Support for Bar Codes

DEPLOY DATA

COMPREHENSIVE OPTIONS



Create stunning visualizations by adding dynamic charts, graphics, and even video files to your reports for compelling, interactive, and information-rich presentations.

Deploy

You can use Crystal Reports to deploy your reports to whatever audience you choose. The software offers you comprehensive options for publishing, saving, and exporting your reports.

Enjoy Comprehensive Deployment Options

High-volume publishing – Publish personalized invoices, statements, and other reports to thousands of recipients and lower your administration costs.

With Crystal Reports Server 2008 and SAP BusinessObjects XI 3.1 solutions, you can create multiple reports based on different data sources, load the reports with data, and personalize the reports for each recipient. And you can combine the reports into a single file and then distribute the reports to a dynamic list of recipients – all with a single action.

Reports saved directly to crystalreports.com – Expand your deployment options when you open and save reports directly to crystalreports.com – without dependency on IT.

Improved XML exporting – Render reports in almost any format, and enjoy faster and easier integration with industry-specific business processes without any custom coding. The Extensible Stylesheet Language Transformations (XSL Transformations) embedded into the report file are triggered when exporting to XML.

Integrate components designed in Adobe Flash and Adobe Flex without any coding and significantly expand the scope of your application deployment.

Microsoft .NET report modification software development kit – The report application server (RAS) software development kit (SDK) is now available for users of the Microsoft .NET application programming interface for Crystal Reports without the use of an RAS server. Report modification such as changing, adding, or removing database providers, or adding, removing, or creating report objects, parameters, formulas, and sections can be achieved by accessing the RAS SDK through the Microsoft .NET SDK for Crystal Reports.

OPTIMIZE BUSINESS PERFORMANCE

INSIGHT AND STRATEGY

SAP BusinessObjects Portfolio of Solutions

The SAP BusinessObjects portfolio of solutions helps you optimize business performance by enabling you to close the gap between strategy and execution while addressing business and compliance risks. To manage operations effectively, contain costs, and meet customer demands, you need comprehensive business solutions that provide complete and integrated business information. With insight into every aspect of the business, you can monitor performance, spot inefficiencies, and identify opportunities for growth.

In the face of growing compliance challenges – including environmental, health, financial, trade, border security, waste disposal, and specific customer requirements – you need to build controls and checks into your business processes. Supporting regulatory compliance also requires these processes to be fully transparent.

Turn Insight into Strategy

SAP BusinessObjects solutions are open, action-oriented, and connected. They deliver a complete, intuitive profile of business performance using any data from any application and any platform and ease collaboration to improve decisions and resolve issues. The solutions automatically detect significant risks and performance issues within and beyond the business.



Add business-critical information to your reports without coding. Insert summary, variance, and any other custom calculations into a cross-tab row or a column.

With the SAP BusinessObjects portfolio, you gain broader insight and can align strategy, optimize decisions, and improve risk management, regardless of underlying transactional systems. The SAP BusinessObjects portfolio provides consistent, integrated solutions that are portable and interoperable, transforming the way you work by connecting people and information and optimizing business performance. In short, SAP Business-Objects solutions help you turn insight into strategy and strategy into operational decisions ready for execution.

For More Information

For more information on how Crystal Reports can help you interact with, visualize, design, and deploy your data, please contact your SAP representative or visit us on the Web at www.sap.com/sapbusinessobjects.

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