

The SAP® Business One application, when paired with Crystal Reports® Server from Business Objects, an SAP company, delivers compelling reporting functionality and information access to small businesses. With these offerings, small businesses can get up-to-date intelligence to drive improved decision making.



SAP® BUSINESS ONE AND CRYSTAL REPORTS® SERVER

UNPARALLELED INFORMATION ACCESS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

What Small Businesses Need Today

Small businesses have unique requirements for reporting and information access. One reason for this is they have extremely limited IT resources. To live within its IT budget, a small business must make it easy for its employees to create new reports and modify existing ones. Also critical is enabling them to include relevant information from spreadsheets and e-mail systems.

Another challenge for many organizations worldwide is that they continue to use Microsoft Excel to analyze their business and Microsoft Word to create business documents. However, for those business documents to be valid and effective, organizations must have access to the latest information from their powerful business management software when working with the Microsoft Office applications running on their laptops and desktops. Today, a business must provide up-to-date, high-quality data across the spectrum of its applications to significantly enhance the productivity and effectiveness of its employees.

Further, many organizations have created portals and want reports to be included and automatically refreshed for their employees there. And organizations want to ensure that sensitive data does not fall into the wrong hands. As part of this security measure, they must be able to specify which roles within the organization can see certain reports or specific information within reports.

The SAP® Business One application and Crystal Reports® Server from Business Objects, an SAP company, address these requirements extremely well, meeting the full range of needs any small business might have. The resulting breadth of functionality supports not only basic reporting but lets you create custom views of business performance and display them with sophisticated formatting. What's more, introducing these solutions together into your business is straightforward. SAP Business One supports full integration with Crystal Reports Server right out of the box.


Business Objects
an SAP® company

SAP Solution Brief
SAP Solutions for Small Businesses and Midsize Companies

THE BEST-RUN BUSINESSES RUN SAP™

SAP
®

Empowering the Small Business: Reporting and Analytics

Using SAP Business One in combination with Crystal Reports Server delivers extra convenience, because you get their broad range of functionality delivered side by side. Paired, the solutions support comprehensive reporting and analytics and enable users to easily create and modify reports without support from the IT department, while delivering low total cost of ownership.

“Paired, SAP Business One and Crystal Reports Server support comprehensive reporting and analytics and enable users to easily create and modify reports without support from the IT department.”

Comprehensive Reporting

Together, SAP Business One and Crystal Reports Server allow companies to create, manage, and deliver reports either over the Web or embedded in other applications, including portals. The solutions provide comprehensive reporting for the business processes supported by SAP Business One, which include sales, purchasing, production, accounting, and management. You can choose how you want a specific report to display the information – in tabular format, as a chart, or as a graph. The reports allow you to drill down into transactional details, while preserving security at user, group, and

report levels. In this way, sensitive information at the aggregate or detailed level is ensured. SAP Business One and Crystal Reports Server come with an offline viewer that lets mobile workers review reports even when they are disconnected from the network – in client meetings or on a business trip, for example. As a result, they can always stay in touch with their business wherever they are.

Report Creation and Modification

Using SAP Business One together with Crystal Reports Server, small businesses get support for all steps in the reporting process – from data access and report design to integration of reports in portals and applications. With their support, you can create new reports or customize existing reports with minimal IT overhead. For example, by taking advantage of layout and design controls, you can create reports in an unlimited variety of layouts that include interactive drill-down functionality and sophisticated formatting – without writ-

ing any code. Additionally, a component repository lets you share and reuse common report elements such as business views, text objects, graphics, and formulas to accelerate the report development process. When paired together, SAP Business One and Crystal Reports Server enable you to access data easily from non-SAP sources, such as spreadsheets, real-time data feeds, log files, and Microsoft Outlook, while hiding database complexity.

Information Access

With SAP Business One and Crystal Reports Server, you can access critical business information any way you require it and at any time, even from your familiar Microsoft Office applications and Microsoft Office SharePoint Server. Crystal Reports Server provides flexible and unconstrained control over database connectivity. With it, you can directly access relational, XML, online analytical processing (OLAP), and

Figure 1: The Report Component Repository

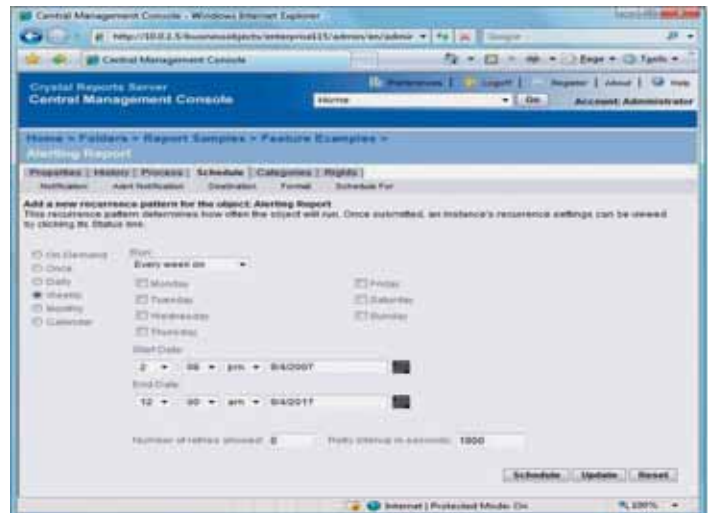


in-memory data as well as databases, enterprise applications, files, logs, and program elements. It gives you the choice of using native, Object Database Connectivity (ODBC), Java Database Connectivity (JDBC), or Microsoft Object Linking and Embedding (OLE) database software to establish connectivity. You can even write your own Structured Query Language (SQL) commands for more control over how data is queried.

With SAP Business One and Crystal Reports Server, you can produce cogent, up-to-date reports on demand or at a prescheduled time and e-mail those reports, distribute printed copies, or save the reports to a shared directory on a server. Integration with system directory services such as Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) ensures security, while allowing you to access the information anywhere and anytime. By using these products in tandem, you will be able to base your decisions on factual and insightful information as a routine part of your work.

“Today, a business must provide up-to-date, high-quality data across the spectrum of its applications to significantly enhance the productivity and effectiveness of its employees.”

Figure 2: Scheduling, Creation, and Publishing of Reports



Benefits

Together, SAP Business One and Crystal Reports Server deliver compelling reporting functionality that is sold and supported by over 4,000 resellers and partners. The fact that the solutions work so well together will significantly increase your productivity, whether you are developing new reports or customizing existing ones. SAP Business One and Crystal Reports Server will help you access information from multiple data sources. With their support, you will be able to get up-to-date information from your software to make the right decisions. Furthermore, sensitive data within your organization will be visible only to the people authorized to see it.

Find Out More

Are you interested in learning more about the synergy between SAP Business One and Crystal Reports Server and how they can give you insight into your business to make the right operational and business decisions? If so, contact your SAP Business One sales representative or visit us online at www.sap.com/solutions/sme/businessone/index.epx.

Summary

The SAP® Business One application, when paired with Crystal Reports® Server from Business Objects, an SAP company, delivers compelling reporting functionality and information access to small businesses. With these offerings, small businesses can get up-to-date intelligence to drive improved decision making.

Challenges

- Fulfill reporting and information requirements despite extremely limited IT resources
- Make it easy for employees to create new reports and modify existing ones
- Enable employees to include relevant information in reports from spreadsheets and e-mail systems

Supported Business Processes and Software Functions

- Comprehensive reporting – Deliver up-to-date, high-quality data from business management software to the office applications used to analyze the data and produce reports
- Reporting process – Get support for all steps in the reporting process, from data access and report design to integration of reports in portals and applications
- Transparent data access – Directly access relational, XML, online analytical processing (OLAP), and in-memory data as well as databases, enterprise applications, files, logs, and program elements

Business Benefits

- Increased productivity through intuitive user interfaces
- Quick adoption across all levels of the organization due to role-based information access and process integration
- Accelerated user acceptance due to seamless integration with Microsoft Office applications
- Improved decision making based on factual and insightful information
- Low total cost of ownership

For More Information

Call your SAP Business One sales representative or visit us online at www.sap.com/solutions/sme/businessone/index.epx.

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