

CRYSTAL REPORTS SERVER

OVERVIEW

Using corporate data to drive business performance is a key growth driver for many small and mid-sized organizations. Not only must you transform data into decision-making information, you must also be able to securely, efficiently, and easily share it with decision makers – ideally without any additional burden on your IT resources. Crystal Reports® Server is designed to do exactly that.

Crystal Reports Server is a complete reporting solution that helps small and mid-sized organizations create, manage, and deliver reports via the web or embedded in enterprise applications. It addresses all steps in the reporting process including data access and report design, report management and delivery, and report integration with portals and applications.

Crystal Reports Server comes with one year of technical support and product maintenance services that allow customers to leverage telephone and online access to our global network of support centers.

TRANSFORMING DATA TO INFORMATION

Harnessing the valuable data in your databases can be a daunting task, especially with so many different users and their individual requirements for data presentation. Crystal Reports Server is a complete solution to this problem.

Crystal Reports Server includes Crystal Reports XI, the world standard for report creation so you can address any report formatting and layout requirements. Once your reports are created, Crystal Reports Server will distribute them formatted the way you want. Business users can access the reports through the InfoView portal in Microsoft Office or through other existing portals (example: Sharepoint).

Accessing any Data

Crystal Reports Server provides flexible and unconstrained control over database connectivity. It includes more than 35 data drivers for direct access to relational, XML, OLAP, and in-memory data. Report authors can choose from native, ODBC, OLE DB, and JDBC connectivity to databases, files, logs, enterprise applications, or program elements. You can even write your own SQL commands for more flexible control over how the data is queried.

In addition to directly accessing your data source, Crystal Reports Server includes the powerful Business Views semantic layer. This enables the application of per-user row level security to the data, for both on-demand and scheduled reports.

Turning Data into Information

Using the Crystal Reports design tool, you can design reports that meet the most demanding requirements. Charts, maps, grouping, and sorting combine to create reports with a professional, pixel-perfect appearance. Whether designing for printed output or for online consumption, Crystal Reports will transform data to actionable information for your organization.

Crystal Reports integrates cleanly with Crystal Reports Server by storing common report elements (like text objects, SQL commands, custom functions, and bitmaps) in the Crystal Reports Server repository for easy reuse. This will dramatically reduce your costs associated with report maintenance.

Distributing Information

Your users can connect with the information they need using:

- The web-based InfoView portal: For immediate publishing of Crystal Reports to the web. Users can self-serve and run reports within their own secured view of the system.
- Recurring schedules: Administrators and end users can schedule reports to be refreshed, printed, or emailed on a recurring basis.
- The integration of Crystal Reports Server with Microsoft Office: Your Microsoft Office users can now incorporate trusted, validated reports into their Microsoft Office 2000, 2003, XP, and 2007 documents.
- Portal Integration Kits: Access to reports hosted on Crystal Reports Server from Microsoft Sharepoint 2003 and Java-based portals from Oracle, IBM, and BEA.

MANAGE CRITICAL BUSINESS REPORTS

Crystal Reports Server provides an efficient alternative to manual report processing and delivery. It allows you to securely deploy, manage, and deliver critical business reports to the right people—without impacting your IT resources.

Security Models

Take advantage of the user, group, and report-level security models to protect your sensitive information. For rapid deployment, Crystal Reports Server also supports third-party security entitlement databases like LDAP, Kerberos, Netegrity Siteminder, and Windows NT/Active Directory. And it includes a web-based administration console that makes it easy to set up, configure, and manage your reporting system remotely.

Automatic Report Scheduling

Use the flexible scheduling capabilities to minimize the burden on your IT infrastructure. With automated time-, event-, and calendar-based report processing, you can schedule large reports to run overnight – directing database traffic to non-peak times.

Publish Existing Crystal Reports to the Web

Crystal Reports is the world standard for reporting, so it's likely that you already use Crystal reports somewhere in your organization...most successful businesses do. The report publishing wizard in Crystal Reports Server will locate these reports, setting up scheduling and security options at the same time. Then you can provide your end users with a single URL for instant, secure access to a customizable portal for report viewing and interaction.

Empower End Users to Self Serve

Crystal Reports Server reduces reliance on your IT department by enabling end users to easily access and interact with reports over the web. The intuitive InfoView web-based portal allows end users to navigate among the reports they are authorized to see. They can view reports, refresh and filter report data – with the option to print and export reports to PDF, RTF, and Excel for additional analysis.

NEW IN CRYSTAL REPORTS SERVER XI R2 SP2

Crystal Reports Server XI R2 SP2 includes a Live Office component. This will allow you to take full advantage of the reporting power of Crystal Reports and your existing Microsoft Office Suite. It also provides full support for the Microsoft Vista operating system for client-side applications.

Integration with Microsoft Office Suite provides:

- Support for the major recent versions of Office including Microsoft Office 2000, 2003, XP, and 2007
- An easy and efficient way to embed accurate, refreshable corporate data within Microsoft PowerPoint, Excel, and Word documents

BUILT ON A PROVEN, TRUSTED PLATFORM

Crystal Reports Server is an integral part of our unified business intelligence (BI) product suite. It is based on the same underlying infrastructure as BusinessObjects™ Enterprise, our proven, trusted BI platform. If your business grows and your needs evolve to require query, analysis, dashboards, scorecards, data integration, or OLAP capabilities – you can migrate existing Crystal Reports Server and settings to BusinessObjects Enterprise (for larger deployments), or to Business Objects Crystal Decisions® (for mid-size deployments).

Crystal Reports Server is also available for independent software vendors to incorporate into their applications and redistribute. Crystal Reports Server is available for deployment on a Windows 2000 or 2003 platform, or a Red Hat 4.0 Advanced / Enterprise Server or SuSe Linux 9.0 Enterprise Server platform. Crystal Reports Server client components now support Windows Vista.

To learn more about Crystal Reports Server, visit our website at www.businessobjects.com/crystalreports.

businessobjects.com

insight.businessobjects.com

© 2007 Business Objects. All rights reserved. Part # WS005-C

