## **CRYSTAL REPORTS**<sup>®</sup> SERVER

SAP Product Brief SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Solutions

**Crystal Reports Server** 

## MANAGE, SHARE, AND DELIVER CRITICAL BUSINESS INFORMATION USE A SINGLE-SERVER SOLUTION FOR REPORTS AND DASHBOARDS

Today small organizations and departments around the world are tasked with enabling better decision making among their staff, customers, and suppliers. To be successful they require a simple, reliable solution to help them manage, share, and deliver critical information in a secure and timely manner. Crystal Reports<sup>®</sup> Server software provides the right functionality and pricing level to meet these requirements in a singleserver solution that can reduce the long-term cost of ownership.

## Combine Reports and Dashboards in a Single Server

Performance dashboards deliver highlevel summary information in a visual format that is easy to understand and use. Crystal Reports Server combines dashboards from Xcelsius<sup>®</sup> software with reports designed with Crystal Reports software.\* This enables you to both view the summary information and understand the details behind it by drilling down to the transaction-level data. And you view the dashboard summaries and the drill-down information all in one place.

### Data-Driven Publishing

Use Crystal Reports Server to publish personalized reports such as invoices, statements, and marketing materials to thousands of recipients. You can base a single Crystal Reports document on multiple data sources and personalize it for each recipient. You can then combine multiple documents into a single file (such as Adobe PDF) and distribute the single file to a dynamic list of recipients.

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Figure 1: Xcelsius® and Crystal Reports® Content Hosted on Crystal Reports Server

\* Xcelsius and dashboard support are available for named user licenses only.

Crystal Reports® Server software helps you securely view, share, schedule, and deliver reports designed with Crystal Reports software and dashboards from Xcelsius® software. Using one server to manage both reports and dashboards reduces implementation and operational costs.



Crystal Reports Server combines dashboards from Xcelsius software with reports designed with Crystal Reports software to enable you to both view the summary information and understand the details behind it.

#### Microsoft Office Integration

Crystal Reports Server includes SAP<sup>®</sup> BusinessObjects<sup>™</sup> Live Office software to help you embed accurate, refreshable corporate data within Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Excel, and Microsoft Word documents and improve the quality of your information. SAP BusinessObjects Live Office software supports integration with all major recent versions of Microsoft Office.



Figure 2: SAP<sup>®</sup> BusinessObjects<sup>™</sup> Live Office: End-User Interface

### Microsoft SharePoint and IBM WebSphere Integration

Using Crystal Reports Server, view and schedule reports within Microsoft SharePoint or IBM WebSphere to integrate your Crystal Reports and Xcelsius documents with your existing portal.

#### Security Options and Roles

You can secure reports and dashboards at the user, group, object, and folder levels. In addition, data-level security is available through the business views semantic layer of Crystal Reports Server to help you expose report data only to those users with appropriate rights. You can assign security rights to a specific security role, and you can assign roles to users, allowing multiple users to share the same security settings. This can help reduce cost of ownership.

#### Single Sign-On

You can integrate access to Crystal Reports Server with an existing security Windows Active Directory or lightweight directory access protocol infrastructure so users have to sign on only once, delivering a better user experience.

## Web-Based End-User and Administrator Interfaces

With Crystal Reports Server, end users have instant, secure access to corporate reports and performance dashboards over the Web. Deploy the included end-user portal or use one of the portal integration kits provided. Administrators can also use the Webbased central management console to manage, secure, and configure the software system.

#### Interactive Report Viewer

The interactive, Web-based report viewer included with Crystal Reports Server requires little to no training and enables you to print, export, and drill down into charts and groups. You can take advantage of on-report parameter panels, sort controls, and support for embedded Flash to become more productive and to reduce the number of reports needed to answer critical business questions.



Figure 3: Crystal Reports® Server: End-User Interface

#### Custom Views of the Business

A Web-based dashboard framework gives you the flexibility to personalize information views to support you in your business role. You can set up dashboards, reports, and models using drag-and-drop functionality without the help of IT staff.

#### Collaboration

Threaded-discussions functionality – a fully integrated feature of the included portal – enables you to create and maintain comments on any report accessible in Crystal Reports Server.

## On-Demand and Offline Consumption

Use the crystalreports.com application, sold separately, to provide secure information access via the Web for users inside and outside your organization. And explore your reports interactively even offline with Crystal Reports Viewer software, a free download available separately.

## Report Scheduling

You can set up reports to run at specific times or to be based on specific events. You can also schedule them to generate files in specific formats such as Microsoft Excel, Adobe PDF, and others. Schedule reports for distribution via e-mail, file sharing, or the included portal.

## Report Object Repository

The report object repository stores common report-related formulas, Structured Query Language commands, text objects, and images so that you can reuse them across multiple reports.

## Integration with SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Solutions

Be ready to upgrade to more comprehensive SAP BusinessObjects business intelligence (BI) solutions as your business needs evolve. All the content created with Crystal Reports Server can be migrated to SAP BusinessObjects Edge solutions or SAP BusinessObjects Enterprise software.

### Flexible Licensing Model

A flexible and economical licensing model lets you combine up to 100 named and 100 concurrent-access licenses on a single server to support your long-term growth.

# Leverage the Value of Crystal Reports Server

You can realize a variety of benefits with Crystal Reports Server:

- Simplify deployment with combined report and dashboard management on a single server
- View, secure, share, and publish reports and dashboards over the Web with the included portal
- Expand access to information through integration of Crystal Reports Server with Microsoft Office and portals such as Microsoft SharePoint and IBM WebSphere
- Leverage your existing technologies when you integrate Crystal Reports Server with custom Microsoft .NET and Java applications.
- Publish personalized reports to thousands of recipients
- Answer more questions from a single report with the interactive Crystal Reports Viewer software
- Grow your deployment economically with flexible licensing

## For More Information

To learn more about Crystal Reports Server visit www.sap.com/crystalreports.



With Crystal Reports Server, end users have instant, secure access to corporate reports and performance dashboards over the Web. Deploy the included end-user portal or use one of the portal integration kits provided.

## **QUICK FACTS**

#### Summary

Crystal Reports<sup>®</sup> Server software expands access to critical information by combining management of reports and dashboards on a single server. This lets you communicate both summary dashboard information and supporting transaction-level information to users across your organization. A flexible and economical licensing model supports your long-term growth.

#### **Business Challenges**

- Manage, share, schedule, and deliver critical business information
- Provide interactive reports and dashboards to a wide variety of users in a timely fashion
- Ensure a high degree of information security
- Deliver information in the right format to the right person both within and outside the organization

#### Key Features

- Single server for reports and dashboards Access reports and dashboards over the Web to get the critical information you need all in one place
- Data-driven publishing Deliver personalized reports to a dynamic list of recipients
- Integration with Microsoft Office and Microsoft SharePoint Provide users with information inside the applications they work with the most
- Security and integration Integrate reports and dashboards into an existing security infrastructure

#### **Business Benefits**

- Reduce cost of ownership because there is no need to acquire, manage, and service separate reporting and dashboard tools
- Increase access to information by providing users with dashboards from Xcelsius<sup>®</sup> software for summarized high-level information, and interactive reports designed with the Crystal Reports software for all transaction-level details behind that information
- Reduce costs with flexible licensing that supports your long-term growth

#### For More Information

To learn more about Crystal Reports Server, please contact your SAP representative or visit <u>www.sap.com/crystalreports</u>.

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