

SAP Business Objects XI 3.1 Reporting Solutions for SAP BW and R/3 Environments PART 1 OF 2

KEY LEARNINGS FROM IMPLEMENTATION

SUCCESS FACTORS

1 – Implementation strategy (Piece meal vs. Big bang implementation), 2 – TCO (total cost of ownership) and Integrated corporate reporting environment (data and product integration across heterogeneous environments), 3- Infrastructure impact, 4- System administration and SSO, 5 - Developer adaptability, 6- End-user experience (VIP – visual, interactive and personal), 7– Click Streaming (aka Story boarding) dashboards with Webi / Crystal, 8 – Internal and external Web access, 9 – Network latency, 10 – Deciding which BOBJ XI 3x tool to use for reports and executive dashboards?

BACKEND AND FRONT-END DATA INTEGRATION OPTIONS

1 – **Backend:** a) Universe (powerful semantic layer) , b) Voyager Connection, c) Crystal Connection, d) Live Office connection, e) Query as web service and f) Web Services Connection 2 – **Front-end:** a) SAP Portal, MS Share Point Portal and Web Sphere Portal integration b) Merge data from heterogeneous data sources including SAP BW, R/3, Microsoft MSAS, Oracle DB and flat-files using Webi and Voyager c) Universe Query using Live Office

BOBJ XI 3x – WHAT'S COOL!

1 – xCelsius dashboards can directly read BEx queries to create dashboards, 2 – Data Federator 3.1 SQL can read BW repository data directly by-passing OLAP engine with support to BWA and BW security, 3 - Info View Portal supports pre-calculation encyclopedia and offline broadcasting, 4 – Web Intelligence reporting tool can merge data from multiple OLAP, RDBMS and flat-files within one report or executive dashboard 5 – Best in class network latency, and more...

SAP BOBJ XI 3.1 – A NEW REPORTING PARADIGM FOR CREATING INTUITIVE SAP BW AND R/3 REPORTS & EXECUTIVE DASHBOARDS

SAP's acquisition of Business Objects has opened up a new paradigm for SAP BW and R/3 corporate integrated reporting. The Business Objects XI 3.x (aka BOBJ XI 3x) version provides rich front-end reporting tools:

- 1 - Web Intelligence
- 2 - Crystal Reports
- 3 - xCelsius
- 4 – Voyager
- 5 – Live Office
- 6 – BO Explorer (data exploration)
- 7 - Advanced Analytics (formerly known as Pioneer – planned release Q4-2010)

The above BOBJ reporting tools can be used to build and deploy visually intuitive reports and executive dashboards rapidly using data.

In addition, BOBJ XI 3.x also provides several innovative options to integrate backend and front-end data within one report or executive dashboard using data from heterogeneous BI (i.e. SAP BW and Microsoft BI), ERP (i.e. SAP R/3, Siebel, etc) and DB (i.e.

What's New in BOBJ XI 3.1 SP3 fix pack 1?

SAP recently released BOBJ XI 3.1 SP3 fix pack 1. **Key Enhancements Include:**

- 1 – Better support for 64 bit Windows and AIX 6.1 Unix environment with LO runtime
- 2 – With SAP BW 7.0 EhP1 (aka 7.01, Xcelsius can directly access SAP BEx query data) for dash boarding
- 3 - Web Intelligence can now use query on query (aka pre-query) to determine complex selections
- 4 - Better change and deployment management of BOBJ report content using enhanced LCM
- 5 - Crystal Reports 2008 Viewer with better report delivery and user interaction and more..

Continued in Part 2..



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Rama Shankar is an SAP BOBJ (incl. BO Explorer), SAP BI/BW, SAP BPC NW and SAP Portal solutions architect with extensive experience with SAP R/3 (incl. several years of experience with SAP BW and Portal) full lifecycle implementations. Rama has worked on several end-to-end implementations of SAP BOBJ for SAP BW, SAP R/3, SAP BPC NW 7.x, MS BI and Oracle DB environments in the beverages industry, state agencies and pharmaceutical industry.