

Technology Partner Program

Solution Brief: APOS BI Tools from APOS Systems Inc.

APOS Systems Inc.

- Extend BusinessObjects XI and Crystal Enterprise with APOS BI Tools
- No-obligation demo downloads at www.apos.on.ca
- Custom SDK development

Extending BusinessObjects XI Crystal Enterprise

- AddressBook Gateway
- Archive Manager
- Bursting Manager
- Business Calendars
- Distribution Server
- Dynamic Parameters
- InfoScheduler
- Instance Manager
- Instance Monitor
- KPI
- Object Manager
- RealTime Monitor
- Report Package Booster
- RunTime Manager
- Subscription Manager
- View Time Security

APOS BI TOOLS for BusinessObjects Enterprise XI and Crystal Enterprise provide customers with powerful solutions to extend their business intelligence system. APOS BI Tools fill the demand for special functions you always wanted, without the need for custom development.



APOS development services often use APOS BI Tools as the foundation to fast track custom development projects.

ABOUT APOS SYSTEMS

APOS Systems Inc. helps clients solve business issues with tailored Business Intelligence solutions. A full service Crystal Partner since 1996 and now a Business Objects Technology Partner, APOS offers incomparable knowledge and expertise in the Business Objects suite of products.

Today, APOS BI Tools are helping customers world-wide maximize on their investment in BusinessObjects Enterprise XI or Crystal Enterprise. APOS BI Tools include telephone and web-based technical support plus a maintenance program that provides new versions going forward to support new releases or upgrades of BusinessObjects Enterprise XI and Crystal Enterprise.

SYNOPSIS OF SOLUTION

APOS BI Tools extend BusinessObjects Enterprise XI and Crystal Enterprise in many beneficial ways:

Report Burst and Fan - Single-Pass and Multi-Pass

Single-pass report bursting runs a large report once and 'bursts it later' into small reports for distribution. Multi-pass report bursting automatically generates individual report instances using a business rule such as 'for each customer on file'. Check out APOS Bursting Manager for a solution.

Report Instance Archive and Restore

Sarbanes-Oxley compliance demands implementation of a comprehensive report instance archive and restore plan. Instead of just deleting old instances, report instances must be 'archived' to an external location with the ability to 'restore' them at a later date. Check out APOS Archive Manager for the leading archive/restore solution for BusinessObjects Enterprise XI or Crystal Enterprise.

Batch Scheduling

Develop and maintain a list of reports that are commonly run together for group scheduling. - check out the powerful Excel add-in tool, APOS InfoScheduler for a solution.

Customer Feedback

"We were able to provide our users the information they need without burdening an already stretched IT group"

*...Ms. Hilla Bonneh,
Database Administrator
StonCor Group
New Jersey, USA*

"I was impressed with the demo and, since our purchase of the tool, I've been even more impressed with APOS' outstanding support"

*...Tim O'Brien,
Senior Database Administrator
Alto Dairy Cooperative
Wisconsin, USA*

"The Crystal suite of products is a very good technology platform. And APOS is a great solution provider. They are always service-oriented, easy to get along with and prompt"

*...Dave Slaney,
Manager, Information Technology
ALTANA Pharma Inc
Ontario, Canada*

"Because APOS was the only reputable supplier I could find for this type of solution. It definitely fills a niche"

*...Mike Russo, Senior Programmer
Automated Packaging Systems
Ohio, USA*

High Volume System Administration

Administering systems with large numbers of instances and users has unique challenges simply due to the volume of activity. Power tools for the administrator in this situation form the foundation of the APOS BI Tools suite. Check out APOS Instance Manager and APOS Object Manager for solutions to help the busy administrator.

Report Packages and Distribution

Report packages often require consolidation, conversion to another format, security and enhanced distribution. To enhance the Report Packages feature of BusinessObjects Enterprise XI and Crystal Enterprise, check out APOS Report Package Booster. Microsoft Outlook is the most popular email client in use in business today. Accessing a user's local addressbook helps a lot when 'scheduling a report to email' in BusinessObjects Enterprise XI and Crystal Enterprise - check out APOS AddressBook Gateway for a solution.

System Monitoring, Auditing and Control

Monitoring the real-time activity of BusinessObjects Enterprise XI and Crystal Enterprise helps administrators manage large systems. Analyzing historical server activity over time can help an administrator make decisions about the BusinessObjects Enterprise XI or Crystal Enterprise system architecture activity. Knowing when reports fail may be critical. Bringing more job servers on line after hours may result in significant productivity gains. Check out APOS RealTime Monitor, APOS KPI, APOS Instance Monitor and APOS RunTime Manager for solutions.

SOLUTION DETAILS

APOS BI Tools quickly and easily extend BusinessObjects Enterprise XI or Crystal Enterprise, here's a list of the current products available in the APOS BI Tools suite of solutions:

AddressBook Gateway

Display Outlook email addresses, from the report scheduling page. Users can schedule using any global email address available through their Outlook Addressbook!

Archive Manager

Historical successful report instances can be archived using business rules:

- set maximum instance rules by user, group, folder, subfolder, report, # of days
- convert report instance format during archiving - pdf, rtf, doc, xls, etc.
- automatically delete successfully archived report instances
- automatically mimic XI/CE's folder structure for archived instances
- dynamically rename instances to reflect report content during archive
- 'restore' archived instances to their original location or to a new location

Bursting Manager

Powerful report bursting and distribution in one of two ways:

- single-pass - burst an existing large instance to smaller individual instances
- multi-pass - schedule one report to burst to separate instances.

A powerful printing option is also supported - 'burst to different printers'.

Customer Feedback

"We were looking for tools not available in Crystal Enterprise and found them at APOS. Since then, we've been satisfied with our original purchases and continue to go back to APOS as new tools become available that meet our needs"

*...Mr. Andy Waldrop,
Senior Software Engineer
Knife River Corporation
North Dakota, USA*

"APOS is a unique supplier of tools like these for the CE environment. After doing some testing with these tools, we quickly understood how they could positively impact our productivity and environment,"

*...Todd Petry, Director, IS
Outsourcing Solutions Inc.
Wisconsin, USA*

"The combined use of these add-in tools has allowed us to be more effective at accessing, managing, and deploying information," says Mr. Koger"

*...Brent Koger, Senior
Systems Analyst
Imerys
Georgia, USA*

InfoScheduler

Schedules groups of reports right from Microsoft Excel. Simply create Excel batches of reports, update selection values as desired, and schedule them all at once. Bridges to other systems by automatically loading externally generated csv files.

Instance Manager

Analyze the entire report instance environment at once, search for specific instance processing states within specific time periods and then optionally apply action commands to one or more report instances simultaneously. Search for specific report instances, then bulk reschedule, hold, release, copy to external folder, print, and more.

Instance Monitor

Monitor for failed instances and request automatic notification by email. The resulting email provides extensive information about the failed report including who ran it, when it failed, the error message, parameters used, etc.

KPI

Extend auditing by creating extracted metadata about virtually all aspects of system operational activity. This metadata is then available for extensive reporting analysis, sample reports included.

Object Manager

Bulk object management power tool for object promotion, bulk settings changes, user/group preferences/security updates, etc.

RealTime Monitor

SNMP-based monitoring of BusinessObjects Enterprise XI or Crystal Enterprise system metrics and operational indicators, in real time. Now you can monitor your system's activity, either as it happens or from a monitoring log file.

Report Package Booster

Extends the standard 'Report Packages' feature of BusinessObjects Enterprise XI and Crystal Enterprise, here's a sampling of its exciting features:

- Report consolidation to PDF with security & encryption
- Table of Contents generation in a consolidated PDF file
- Report consolidation to XLS, DOC, RTF, TXT
- Consolidated report distribution by email, network file location or both
- Report package success/failure email notification
- Email individual reports within the package to their own email destination

RunTime Manager

Set business rules and a schedule to enable/disable components:

- disable individual XI/CE components during specific time slots
- enable extra Job Servers after hours
- enable extra Page Servers to support peak viewing hours

Why Choose APOS?

- Worldwide customer references
- Proven products
- Quality help desk support

Customer Feedback

"We chose APOS because they took the time to understand our needs before selling to us"

*...Tom Johnston, CFO
Kao Professional Salon
Services
Ontario, Canada*

"I've worked with your support team and they have been more than helpful troubleshooting any problems I've run into. Your support team is top notch."

*...APOS Support
Customer*

"Your professional and diligent response and turnaround of a solution helped us keep the project on schedule. Again thank you for all the help and by far this has been the best customer support experience we have ever had."

*...APOS Support
Customer*

SUMMARY

Extend BusinessObjects Enterprise XI and Crystal Enterprise with proven, supported solutions from APOS Systems Inc., a dedicated Business Objects partner with a long track record of satisfied customers worldwide. This is demonstrated in our customer case studies available on our web site www.apos.on.ca.

What Makes APOS Different?

Try before you purchase - APOS BI Tools are top notch, so we let you check them out, consider other alternatives and then come back and purchase once you're sure they'll work for you! Request a no-obligation demo download at www.apos.on.ca

Support - the APOS support team gets great feedback for providing quality service - check out actual customer comments at www.apos.on.ca

Quality - APOS BI Tools work - proven by hundreds of customers worldwide - check out some case studies at www.apos.on.ca

Experience - yes, we've been at this a long time, our products allow you to benefit from our many years of experience extending Business Intelligence systems!

Niche - our tools fill special requirements that arise in Business Intelligence systems without custom development, why re-invent the wheel?

People - we're all surrounded by technology, but it's the people that make the difference in any organization - APOS people are particularly special!

Futures - we're committed to our products and customers, our history demonstrates our commitment - your future is our future!

Whether you want to check out an APOS BI Tool or ask for help with a BI custom development challenge, we'll do our best to be different, in a good way!



Head Office: 285 Fountain Street South, Cambridge, Ontario, Canada N3H 1J2

Tel: 519.653.APOS(2767) - Fax: 519.653.8511

Branch Office: #10 - 35537 Eagle Mountain Drive, Abbotsford, BC V3G 2Z4

Tel: 604.864.0766 Toll Free: 866-629-APOS(2767) Fax: 604.864.4291

Web: www.apos.on.ca Email: apos@apos.on.ca

For further information, please contact technologypartner@businessobjects.com.

► www.businessobjects.com

Americas
Tel: +1 800 877 2340

Asia-Pacific
Tel: +65 6887 4228

Europe, Middle East, Africa
Tel: +33 1 41 25 21 21

Japan
Tel: +81 3 5447 3900