



## Crystal Reports version 10

The major advancement in Crystal Reports is its integration with Crystal Enterprise. While there are additional features in the areas of charting and formatting, most users will get the benefits of the new version as they learn the features increased in version 9 that they may not be using and integrating the Enterprise web platform with all of its improvements.

Crystal continues to be delivered in 4 versions, depending on how it is going to be used. These product versions are:

| Product Name              | Description   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Standard</b>           | PC Databases Only, No web, no repository, no custom functions   |
| <b>Professional</b>       | Handles most Data Sources (not involved in Com or Java Bean serious application development)  |
| <b>Developer</b>          | Used for development of custom applications on application and web test servers   |
| <b>Advanced Developer</b> | Used for development of custom applications on application and web production servers. Distributing applications on multiple servers requires additional usage licensing. |

### Feature Benefits:

The use of Crystal Reports with the new Business Views and centralized repository will allow for large implementations of Crystal Reports and Crystal Enterprise to share objects and create a semantic layer standardizing report development on common database queries.

## Crystal Enterprise version 10

With version 10 Crystal Enterprise has been split up into several product names targeted at how it will be implemented at the customer.

| Product Name  | Description  | Formerly Called |
|---|--|-----------------|
| <b>Embedded</b> – on demand reporting for web applications in a single departmental application.  | Throttled for 5-10 users   | <b>RAS</b>      |
| <b>Express</b> – In single server deployments are suitable for a distributing reports via web applications to workgroups where concurrent access requirements are minimal.  | 5 named users with Security, Single server, No SDK, Windows Only   | <b>Standard</b> |
| <b>Professional</b> - provides a scalable solution to distribute reports to a large user base with high concurrent usage or in deployments in which users are in multiple locations that may be geographically distant. | 5 Names users (scheduling to destination, alerts, LDAP, Unix, Business Views, comments to reports, multi-server) | <b>Pro</b>      |
| <b>Premier</b> – Holds the complete set of features available in the Crystal Enterprise Platform  | Auditing, Adhoc, Excel, Analysis on Web  | <b>Adhoc</b>    |



## Feature Benefits:

There are several new features added with version ten. Here is what I think of as the Big 3.

Calendars: Setting up custom business calendars assists with those implementations that take advantage of the report scheduling features of Enterprise.

Office Objects: Crystal Enterprise now has the ability for several types of objects to be posted and scheduled within the Enterprise interface. In version 9 an Excel, Word or PDF document could be generated from a report to be available for user's access. In version 10, office documents can be published in the system separately. An example would be hosting the documentation for the said reports in the same folder as those reports. Also, batch files and executables used for supporting complex reports can be scheduled within the Enterprise.

Business Views and Central Repository: By providing the tools for a serious development environment Crystal can meet the needs of more customers. By centralizing the storage of objects to share between developers a large project can be run much more efficiently. The ability to provide a Business View of an application or custom database can allow more users to create their own reports without fear of returning inaccurate information.

## Upgrade Options:

Customers with Maintenance on version 9 of Crystal Reports Advanced that came with Crystal Enterprise Standard will be given Crystal Reports 10 Advanced Developer with Crystal Enterprise Professional with the equivalent number of concurrent Client Access Licenses. They would gain the addition of user and group level security in addition to the feature they had previously.

Customers with Maintenance on version 9 Crystal Enterprise Pro will gain the version 10 features of Scheduling Calendars, Business Views and Office Product publishing. Premier maintenance will likewise gain the new version 10 features including Auditing, adhoc reporting, Excel client access, and Analysis reports on Web. One other scenario is that if systems using Enterprise Professional need only a single feature of the Premier version they can purchase that as an add-on. If two or more features are needed the premier licensing upgrade is cheaper.

Customers using Crystal Reports .NET will have little change with the exception of different licensing when distributing the application across multiple CPUs. Also the merge modules for distributing the applications were not available at the time this article was written. While applications utilizing small internal reporting applications can utilize Crystal Enterprise Embedded, if they are looking to start to move the reporting to a separate server and interface from the application, Crystal Enterprise Express would be a natural choice. It also protects development investments as multi-server scalability is available with simple license key upgrades to Professional or Premium licenses.

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