

Glossary of terms for server deployment comparison

<http://kenhamady.com/cru/comparisons/server-based-deployment-options>

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Web based admin:

Admin can log into the application from any browser connected to the Internet.

Multithreaded engine:

Processing is split by the application into tasks that can be run simultaneously. Allows for faster processing, especially on multi-core systems.

Bursting:

Take a single grouped report and automatically turn it into multiple exported files, one file for each group. These individual exported files can then be Emailed to the specific Email address associated with that group or saved in specific folders.

Multi-run - The report is refreshed repeatedly and filtered to one group each time

One-pass - Takes one pass through the database and can burst a report with saved data

Dynamic parameters:

When a user is running a report that has dynamic parameters the parameters will query the database for current values. These parameters behave in the same way they would if the report were being run from Crystal Reports.

Cascading parameters:

When a user is running a report that has cascading parameters the parameters will query the database for current values in the same way they would if the report were being run from Crystal Reports.

Remember parameters (rerunning reports):

When a report is rerun the last set of parameter values used are remembered. Or they can be stored so the user doesn't need to enter them each time.

Individual user accounts and groups:

The application requires that users log in individually and allows the admin to specify which users/groups can schedule which reports.

Parameter list filtering by user:

The application provides a way for users/groups to be given access to a limited list of parameter values. This prevents the users from selecting inappropriate parameter values, like sales for another department.

Audit trail of user actions:

System creates a log file that permanently records the timestamp of specific user actions.

Basic - stores user name, report name, and a timestamp of when the that report was run

Detailed - also stores the user selections for the report (parameters, format, destination)

Multiple Security Levels:

Allows application administrators to give different levels of permissions and restrictions to users/groups.

Row Level Security:

The system stores a relationship between a logged in user and a field in the database. This allows one copy of a report to automatically restrict the user to his assigned information. For example each department manager could run the report and each would automatically receive only the data for their department, based on their user login.

Multiple Tenant Access:

A single deployment can support several companies simultaneously, with each seeing their own data and logo.

Type(s) of authentication:

Application - Application provides a stand-alone user/group authentication system.

If the application's login process can be integrated with another form of authentication (Active Directory, Windows, Windows Forms, etc) then those are also listed.

Instance History:

Once a report is run an instance is kept so that the results at that specific time can be reviewed again.

Instance Archive management:

User can specify within the application how long report instances will be stored. The application will automatically purge expired instances at the specified times.

Scheduling:

Can automatically run a report at a scheduled time using it's own proprietary scheduling engine.

Batch Scheduling:

Can automatically run several reports at a scheduled time using it's own proprietary scheduling engine.

Event Based Triggers

Provides a proprietary method for launching a report based on changes in the data.

Workflow/BPA Management

Provides a proprietary method for chaining together several tasks to run automatically, in sequence.

Web Service API

Provides a proprietary method for launching a report based on an incoming URL

Specify password rules

Allows you to specify minimum password length and difficulty

Password expiration

Allows you to specify maximum period before password expiration.

Encrypts stored credentials

Encrypts any stored usernames and passwords.

Failed login lock

Allows you to specify the number of failed login attempts before the account is locked.

Launch RPT from URL

provides a way to launch portal reports from a command line or a URL generated outside of the portal.

Monitoring

Can be configured to monitor performance metrics and errors and to send alerts when necessary.

Menu Language Localization

Allows you to create language sets for menu labels to facilitate multi-language support.

Phone support generally available 9-5

Offers the option of receiving support by phone.

Support available 24 x 7 x 365

Offers the option of receiving critical support, with a response time of less than 60 minutes, at any time on any day of the year.