



Stoneware™ Report Services

Features Guide

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Abstract

This document will describe the new features that are available in Report Services.

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Introduction

Report Services has numerous features and functions that will benefit any organization that wishes to provide secure remote access to corporate data. This chapter will review some of the Report Services features that are available in the product offering.

Report Builder

Report Builder provides a GUI interface for easily building and deploying reports throughout the corporation. Report Builder provides a web-based composer that can create graphical reports from any ODBC/JDBC compliant database. With Report Builder anyone can create reports that deliver critical corporate data to the people who need it.

Benefits:

- Build reports with a "drag and drop" designer
- Web-based interface allows anyone with a browser and Internet connection to build dynamic reports
- Distribute reports based on a user's organizational role

Query Builder

Query Builder creates provides a GUI interface for creating custom SQL (Standard Query Language) statements within a report. Query Builder allows report designers to extract report data through a wizard interface that dynamically creates the SQL statement.

Benefits:

- Build custom SQL queries through a web-based interface
- Control record-level information that is retrieved into the report
- Supports Drilldown, Query within a Query, and Prompted reports

Scheduler

Report Services Scheduler allows any report to be scheduled for email delivery by the report administrators. The Report Scheduler can deliver HTML/PDF reports to both internal and external users through the SMTP agent. The scheduler service can deliver reports on a hourly, daily, weekly, or monthly basis.

Benefits:

- Schedule reports for email delivery
- Schedule report delivery hourly, daily, weekly, or monthly
- Integrate "feeder" reports to provide a mailing list

Exception Reports

Exception Reports allow report administrators to create reports that "trigger" on specific business events. Exception reports can watch for a business condition such as Overdue Accounts, Low Inventories, etc and then generate targeted reports summarizing the specific business event.

Benefits:

- Create "triggers" that generate reports based on specific business events
- Reports are emailed to effected users based on record-level data
- Notify management, key personnel, and executives of critical events within the business

Report Formats

Report Services supports a large variety of report formats. Report formats include HTML, PDF, Excel, XML, Billboard, Pie, Chart, Scatter, Line, JGrid, and Area Graph. Report administrators can easily switch between report output formats without recreating the report query.

Benefits:

- Output report data in a variety of formats
- HTML, PDF, Excel, Billboard, Pie, Chart, Scatter, Line, JGrid, and Area Graph format
- Report templates provide HTML and PDF layouts

Report Security

Report Services leverages directory services to control access to any report created within the system. Report administrators can assign reports to any user, group, or organizational role.

Benefits:

- Assign reports to users, groups, and organizational roles
- Control which users can view and edit reports based on their network identity
- Integrates directly with a corporation's network to manage access control

Directory Integration

Stoneware's Report Services leverages an organization's investment in Identity Management to build, secure, and distribute critical business information to the people who need it. Stoneware's Report Services has uniquely joined a user's directory service identity with an organization's backend databases to provide a complete reporting solution that will simplify the distribution of database reports, enhance database/record level security, and provide easy to use browser-based tools for report creation.

Benefits:

- Control record-level information returned within a report based on a user's directory service identity
- Integrates Novell's eDirectory, Microsoft's Active Directory, OpenLDAP, and OpenDirectory
- Integration of directory services for single sign-on, authentication, and access control

Single Sign-on

Report Services provides complete single sign-on service to any backend ODBC/JDBC database. With integrated single sign-on, report administrators can control the authentication to backend databases for the purposes of reporting. Single sign-on supports Stoneware's Variable Parser engine, Lockbox, and identity integration.

Benefits:

- Background authentication to any ODBC/JDBC database
- Integrates Stoneware Variables, Lockbox (Secret Storage), and Directory Attributes
- Supports Individual database authentication or proxy authentication

Interactive Reports

Interactive Reports allow users to be prompted for information before the report is executed. The information that collected by the prompt will be dynamically be inserted into the SQL statement. Report administrators can create dynamically changing reports by prompting for user input before a report is run.

Benefits:

- Prompt user for input before executing the report
- Allow users to refine their reports by selecting dynamic criteria
- Use Interactive Reports to provide "data mining" tools for end users

Drill-down Reports

Drill-down reports allow report administrators to connect two or more related reports into a series of "linked" reports. With drill-down reports users can select information from one report that will link directly to another report with more detailed information.

Benefits:

- Create reports that link into other Report Services reports
- Provide users with reports that can "drill-down" for more specific information or detail
- Supports drill-down to other databases, electronic forms, or external web sites

