



What's New in SAP BusinessObjects Explorer

- SAP BusinessObjects Explorer XI 3.2

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About SAP BusinessObjects Explorer

SAP BusinessObjects Explorer is an innovative search and explore tool that allows users to find, navigate and analyze corporate data on the fly. Results are displayed on interactive charts. The charts are generated dynamically to include the data most likely to interest the end user and presented in the chart type that makes the selected data easy to analyze.

If wished, users can export snapshots of their explored results to other applications for further analysis or save their filtered version as a bookmark, which can be revisited for more exploration in the future.

BusinessObjects universes, BusinessObjects OLAP universes and Excel spreadsheets can all be leveraged as the data providers behind the Information Spaces (or data sets) explored using SAP BusinessObjects Explorer.

Supported products and platforms

For a detailed list of supported environments and hardware requirements, consult the SAP Product Availability Matrix on the SAP Service Marketplace: <http://service.sap.com/pam>.

To find the relevant documents, type "Explorer XI 3.2" into the "Search" field.

These documents include specific version and patch-level requirements for web application servers, web browsers, and operating systems.

Key installation information

Before installing the latest version of SAP BusinessObjects Explorer, it is necessary to read the following documents:

- Product Availability Matrix documents for SAP BusinessObjects Explorer XI 3.2 to verify the supported platform information

See the SAP Service Marketplace: <http://service.sap.com/pam>

In the "Search" field, type: Explorer XI 3.2

- SAP BusinessObjects Explorer XI 3.2 Master Guide - to an overview of the supported deployment scenarios

See the SAP Help Portal: <http://help.sap.com>

- SAP BusinessObjects Explorer XI 3.2 Installation Guide - for detailed step procedures about uninstalling previous versions of Explorer and installing the latest version

See: <http://service.sap.com/bosap-instguides>

Note:

If you have an existing installation of SAP BusinessObjects Explorer XI 3.1 Service Pack 1, you need to uninstall this version before you install SAP BusinessObjects Explorer XI 3.2.

The new features in this release

This release introduces increased analysis power and enhanced usability.

Use Excel spreadsheets as a data provider

Excel spreadsheets can be used as the data provider, which enables business users to leverage the graphical exploration and visualization features of SAP BusinessObjects Explorer against personal data files without requiring the intervention of power users or administrators to create a new Information Space

Monitoring and root cause analysis

Integration with the third party monitoring tool and dashboard, Introscope, gives administrators the ability to monitor system performance and perform root cause analysis for the Explorer servers.

Personalization or row-filtering

Personalization enables power users or administrators to create a "Reference" Information Space that maps the Explorer user login per end users to the values they are allowed to view for a specific object or facet. For example, regional managers can only view results for the cost centers in their area of responsibility.

The Information Space that contains the business data (for example, the cost center information) can be associated with this Reference Information Space so that when users open the business data Information Space they only see the values they are authorized to view.

The Reference Information Space can be based on an Excel spreadsheet or any corporate database that has been loaded in the SAP NetWeaver BW Accelerator using SAP BusinessObjects Data Services.

Calculated measures

End users can create calculated measures by combining two existing measures with a simple operator that enables you to add a new measure to your visualization. For example: <Sales Revenue> / <Number Sold> to create <Unit Price>

When the user saves their exploration view as a bookmark, the calculated measure is also saved, which allows users to revisit the same exploration view to continue exploring values and re-use their calculated measure or to send the bookmark to other authorized users who can share the added information provided by the addition of that measure.

Tag clouds

The introduction of the Tag cloud chart type allows users to visualize how specific values contribute to a whole picture; For example, which product lines generate maximum sales and revenue. The names of the winning product lines and the lines that attain least revenue are clearly indicated by color and position in the cloud.

Facet re-naming

When designing Information Spaces, power users can rename objects (or facet headers) to turn technical names into meaningful names so that business users who need to explore the Information Space can select appropriate values quickly to create a meaningful business view of the data.

Select multiple facets and filters

Multiple selection of facets and filters enables end users to select that data that interests them faster than before.

Set column width in Record View

To increase the readability of the Record View, users can modify column widths and move columns so that values are not truncated and columns of most interest are always viewable in the browser window.

View names of hidden facets

A new ToolTip lists the other facets available in the current Information Space. The addition of the ToolTip on the horizontal scroll bar means that end users

can see the list of the available facets currently not included on their browser window, and so scroll directly to the facet that contains the values they wish to explore.

Group facets

Power users can group facets into meaningful groups during Information Space creation. This means that end users can view facets that contain related types of data together during exploration.

For example: <Year>, <Semester>, <Quarter> and <Month> can be grouped together. This enables users to drill down easily from the aggregated to detailed values for related facets; for example, drill from Year > Semester > Quarter > Month in several clicks.

Select chart values using lasso selection

The lasso selection tool enables end users to select specific values on a chart and then zoom in on those values.

New and updated documentation

This document is just one in a set of documents bundled with this release:

Information	Documentation	Location
Overview of the features, architecture and technical landscape as well as links to required documentation and SAP notes.	SAP BusinessObjects Explorer Master Guide	SAP Help Portal: http://help.sap.com
Installation procedures for each supported operating system.	SAP BusinessObjects Explorer Installation Guide	SAP Service Marketplace: http://service.sap.com/bosap-instguides
Explorer administration tasks, configuration, monitoring, troubleshooting. Network and communication security plus user management, authentication, SSO.	SAP BusinessObjects Explorer Administrator's Guide	SAP Help Portal: http://help.sap.com
Complete information about the Business Intelligence platform administration to which SAP BusinessObjects Explorer is an add-in component.	SAP BusinessObjects Enterprise Administrator's Guide	SAP Help Portal: http://help.sap.com
End-user information on creating, managing and exploring data using the Explorer application interface.	SAP BusinessObjects Explorer Online Help	Log into the application then click Help .

Information	Documentation	Location
Quick overview of the Explorer end-user features and procedures to help new users get started.	SAP BusinessObjects Explorer at a Glance	SAP Help Portal: http://help.sap.com
List of the new features introduced with the latest release.	What's New in SAP BusinessObjects Explorer	SAP Help Portal: http://help.sap.com
List of known issues and workarounds.	SAP BusinessObjects Explorer Release Notes	http://service.sap.com/releasesnotes
Error messages explained	SAP BusinessObjects Explorer Error Message Guide	SAP Help Portal: http://help.sap.com

More Information

Information Resource	Location
SAP BusinessObjects product information	http://www.sap.com
SAP Help Portal	<p>Select http://help.sap.com > SAP BusinessObjects.</p> <p>You can access the most up-to-date documentation covering all SAP BusinessObjects products and their deployment at the SAP Help Portal. You can download PDF versions or installable HTML libraries.</p> <p>Certain guides are stored on the SAP Service Marketplace and are not available from the SAP Help Portal. These guides are listed on the Help Portal accompanied by a link to the SAP Service Marketplace. Customers with a maintenance agreement have an authorized user ID to access this site. To obtain an ID, contact your customer support representative.</p>

Information Resource	Location
<p>SAP Service Marketplace</p>	<p>http://service.sap.com/bosap-support > Documentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation guides: https://service.sap.com/bosap-instguides • Release notes: http://service.sap.com/releasenotes <p>The SAP Service Marketplace stores certain installation guides, upgrade and migration guides, deployment guides, release notes and Supported Platforms documents. Customers with a maintenance agreement have an authorized user ID to access this site. Contact your customer support representative to obtain an ID. If you are redirected to the SAP Service Marketplace from the SAP Help Portal, use the menu in the navigation pane on the left to locate the category containing the documentation you want to access.</p>
<p>Developer resources</p>	<p>https://boc.sdn.sap.com/ https://www.sdn.sap.com/irj/sdn/businessobjects-sdklibrary</p>
<p>SAP BusinessObjects articles on the SAP Community Network</p>	<p>https://www.sdn.sap.com/irj/boc/businessobjects-articles</p> <p>These articles were formerly known as technical papers.</p>
<p>Notes</p>	<p>https://service.sap.com/notes</p> <p>These notes were formerly known as Knowledge Base articles.</p>
<p>Forums on the SAP Community Network</p>	<p>https://www.sdn.sap.com/irj/scn/forums</p>

Information Resource	Location
<p>Training</p>	<p>http://www.sap.com/services/education</p> <p>From traditional classroom learning to targeted e-learning seminars, we can offer a training package to suit your learning needs and preferred learning style.</p>
<p>Online customer support</p>	<p>http://service.sap.com/bosap-support</p> <p>The SAP Support Portal contains information about Customer Support programs and services. It also has links to a wide range of technical information and downloads. Customers with a maintenance agreement have an authorized user ID to access this site. To obtain an ID, contact your customer support representative.</p>
<p>Consulting</p>	<p>http://www.sap.com/services/bysubject/businessobjectscounseling</p> <p>Consultants can accompany you from the initial analysis stage to the delivery of your deployment project. Expertise is available in topics such as relational and multidimensional databases, connectivity, database design tools, and customized embedding technology.</p>

