Arizona Business Objects and Crystal User Group (AZBOCUG)

Thursday, November 8, 2012

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Tools of the Trade in BI 4.0

Overview and demonstration of BI 4.0
Launchpad and Administration features

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Agenda

- The BI 4.0 Release
  - BI 4.0 … Platform Analysis
  - BI 4.0 … Product Analysis
  - In Summary
- BI Launchpad
  - Interactive demonstration
- Central Management Console
  - Interactive demonstration

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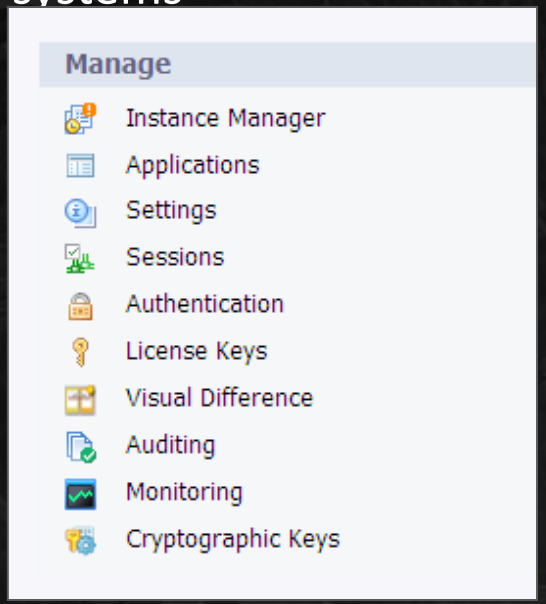
BI 4.0 Infrastructure Analysis

- Central Management Console (CMC)
  - Same basic look and feel
  - Visual Difference – compare objects between systems
  - Lifecycle Management – promote content between systems
    - Promotion Management
    - Version Management
- Auditing
  - New Schema – no supported Universe/Reports
  - Cluster aware/Multilingual
  - New Auditing dashboard on CMC
- SAP Integration
  - HANA, BW, BICS
  - Applications (e.g., SAP Streamwork, SAP Solution Manager)



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BI 4.0 Infrastructure Analysis

- Security
  - Same basic model, additional rights and deeper product integration
  - User attribute management
- Simplified Deployment
  - GUI-based Wdeploy application
  - Consolidation of multiple war files
- SDK Developments
  - Java IDT, Crystal Reports JavaScript API
  - BI 4.0 RESTful web services, CR RESTful web services
- Monitoring – **New Application**
  - CMC Monitoring Dashboard – real-time performance analysis
  - System alerts, build and execute probes, define metrics

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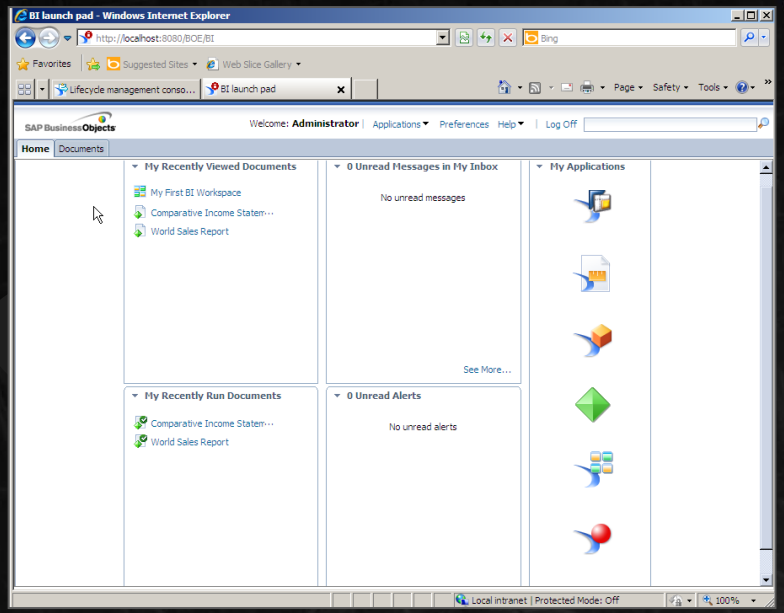
BI 4.0 Infrastructure Analysis

- BI Launchpad – **New Product**
  - Replaces the InfoView portal
  - More portal look and feel
  - UI Enhancements
- BI Workspaces
  - Dashboard Manager/My InfoView
  - Drag and drop customization
- Customization
  - Server configuration required
  - Built into the infrastructure
  - Externalized via properties files
  - Protected through installs



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In Summary

[Link to SAP BOBJ BI 4.0 Platform Overview](http://www.sdn.sap.com/irj/scn/elearn?rid=/library/uuid/20bb3d3d-ccc3-2d10-96b4-edbfebb94c8d&overridelayout=true)

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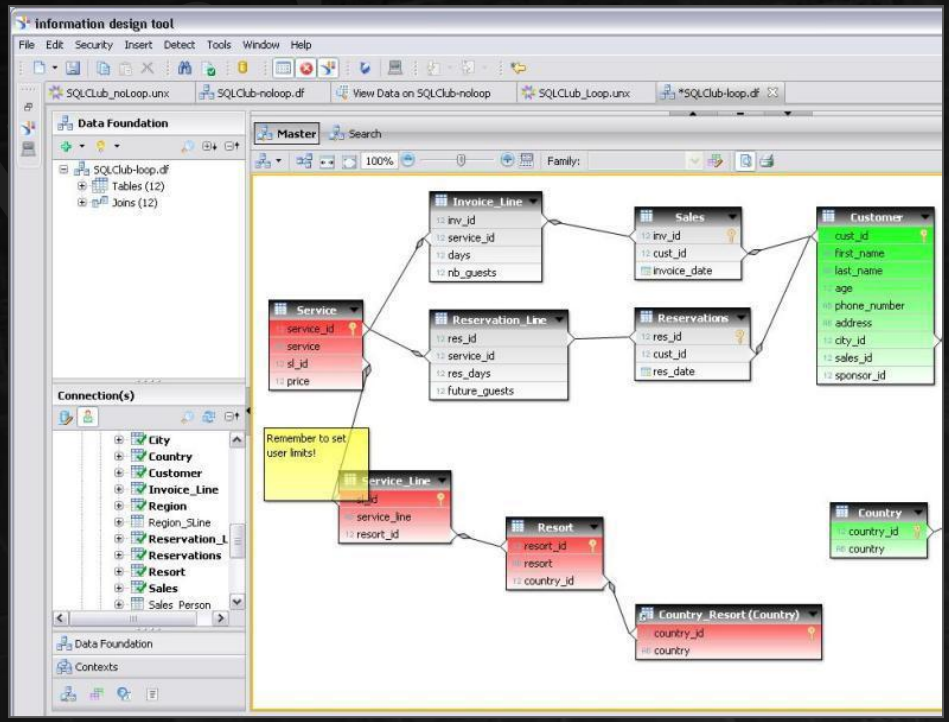
BI 4.0 Product Analysis – Semantic Layer

- Business Views – no development
- Universe Designer – no development
- Information Design Tool – New Product

– A Common Semantic Layer – UNX
– UNV -> UNX Conversion
– Support for multiple data sources
  - Relational
  - SAP BW/ERP
  - SAS
– Support for OLAP
– Redefined Metadata structure
  - Connection
  - Data Foundation
  - Business Layer
– Extended UI Functionality



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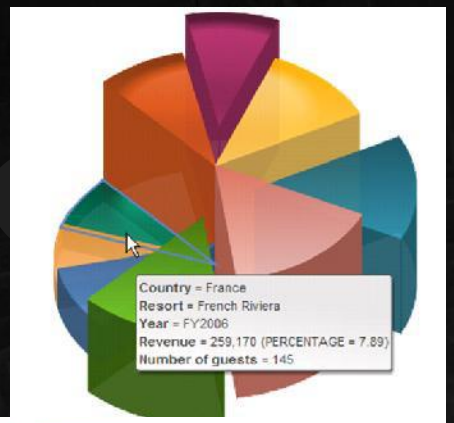
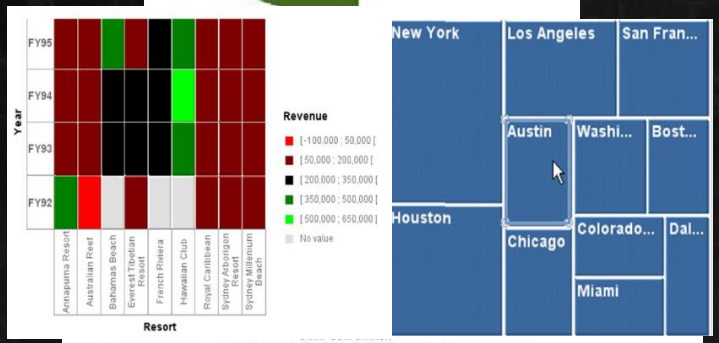
BI 4.0 Product Analysis – Web Intelligence

- Visualization Extensions
  - Chart types
  - Extended workflows
- Document Integration
  - Office, Advanced Analysis, Explorer
- 64 Bit – Handle Larger Payload
- Enhanced integration to BW
- Improved Multi-dimensional Data Handling





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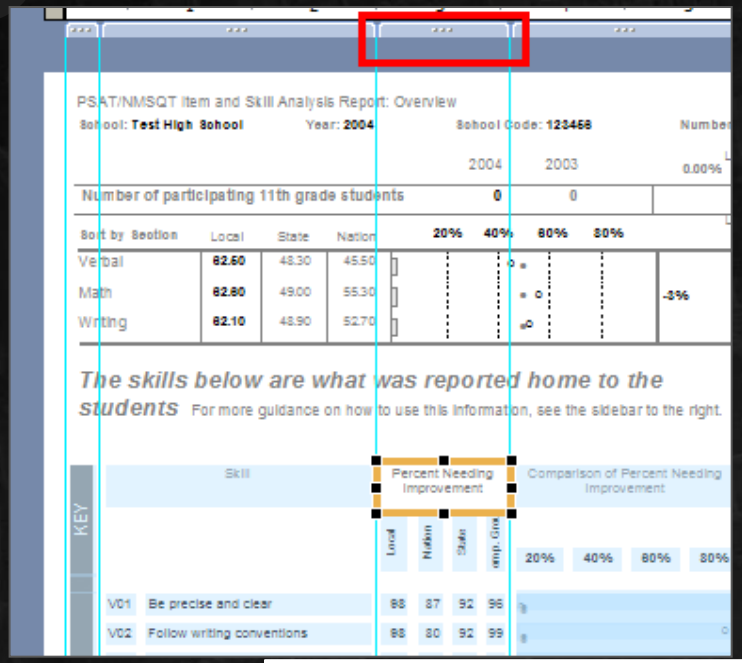
BI 4.0 Product Analysis – Crystal Products

- Crystal Reports 2011 - Minimal New Features
  - Read Only Format, Exports to XLSX (>65K), Visual Studio 2010 Integration
- Crystal Reports for Enterprise – **New Product**
  - Java-based version of Crystal Reports Designer
  - Complete redesign of the User Interface
    - Access most-used features more easily
    - Consistent UI across multiple BI tools
  - New foundation of Crystal Reports
  - Data Access
    - IDT Universes (UNX)
    - Direct Access (< CR 2011)
    - BW Queries
    - Analysis Views



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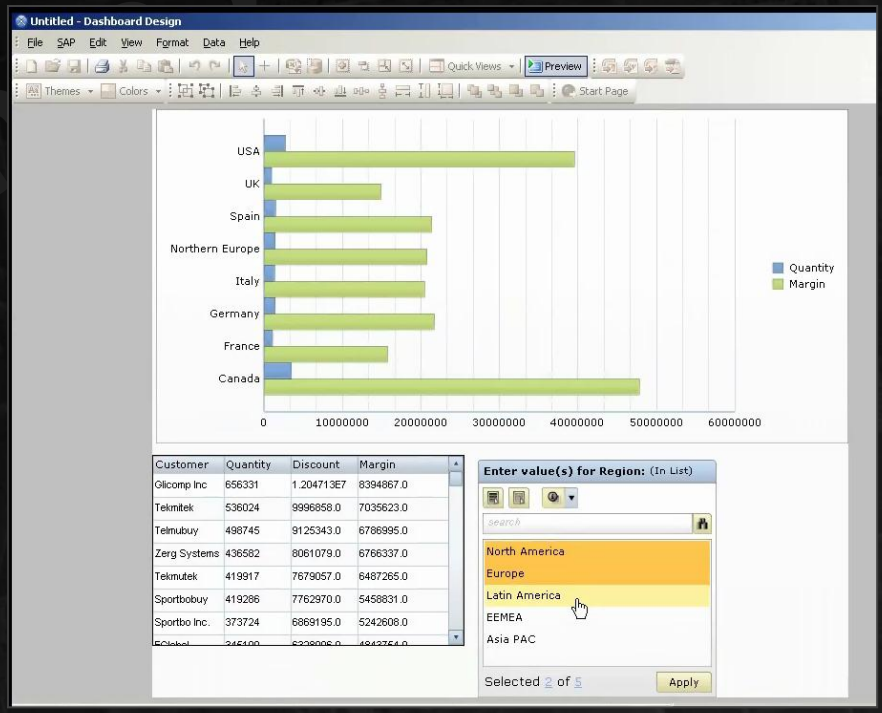
BI 4.0 Product Analysis – Dashboard Designer

- Integration into Platform
  - Processing & Cache servers installed
  - Auditing & Monitoring
  - Extended multilingual Capabilities
- Extended Universe Support
  - Universe Queries – UNX
  - Query pane inside Designer
  - Bind components directly to UNX queries
  - Prompt selector -> UNX query



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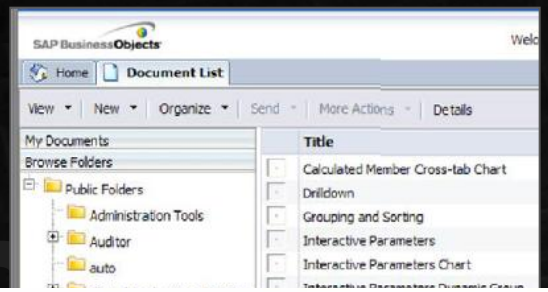
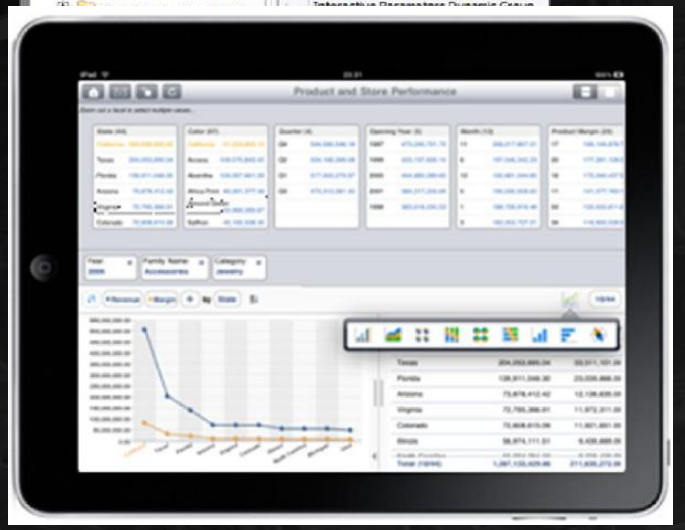
BI 4.0 Product Analysis - Explorer

- Integration into BI Launchpad
  - Information spaces as ‘documents’
  - Explorer tabs
- Additional Data Sources
  - UNX (relational), BW, Excel, HANA
- Integrated into Platform Auditing & Monitoring
- Mobile Device Support
- Exploration Views
  - Save exploration on an information space
  - Saved views -> View sets
- Geographic Analysis
- Extended Search – ranking, ‘did you Mean’?





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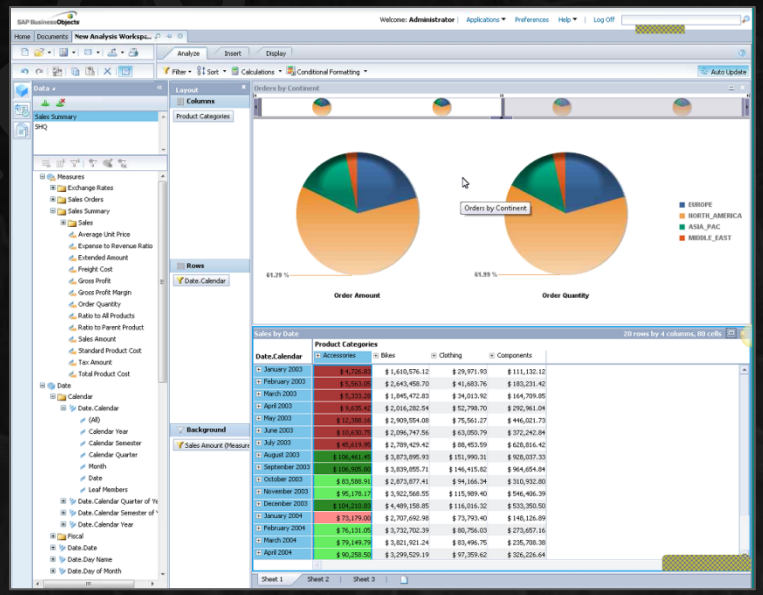
BI 4.0 Product Analysis – Advanced Analytics

- Edition for Microsoft Office - **New Product**
  - BW Only – 'enhanced' Bex Analyzer
  - Excel-based OLAP Analysis/BI Application
- Edition for OLAP - **New Product**
  - New Product – successor to Voyager
  - BW/SSAS/HANA
  - Extended Analysis Features
    - Multiple data sources
    - Asymmetric drilling
    - Interoperability with other BI 4.0 tools
    - Export to XLS/PDF
    - Focused Analysis/Pivot With



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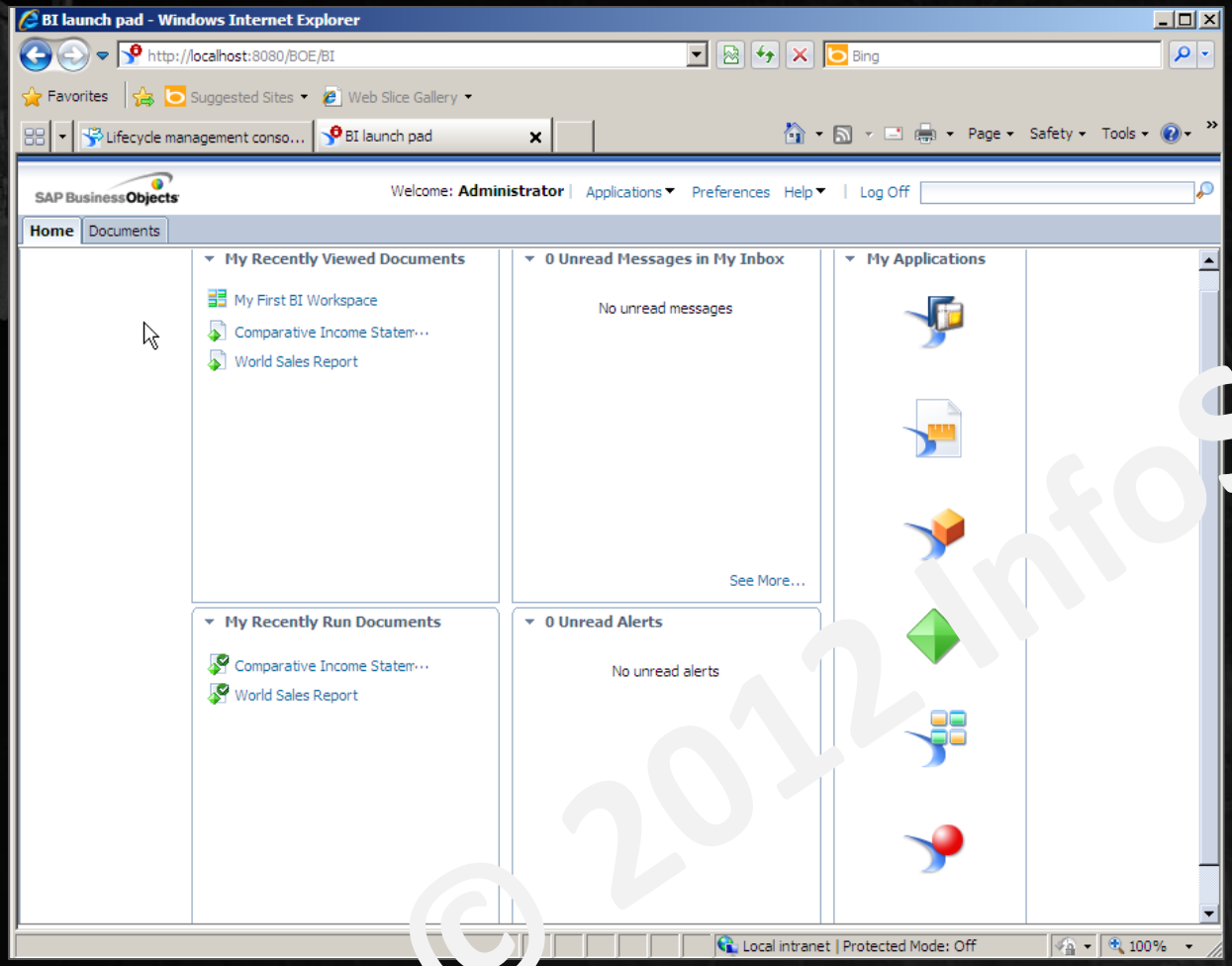
BI Launchpad



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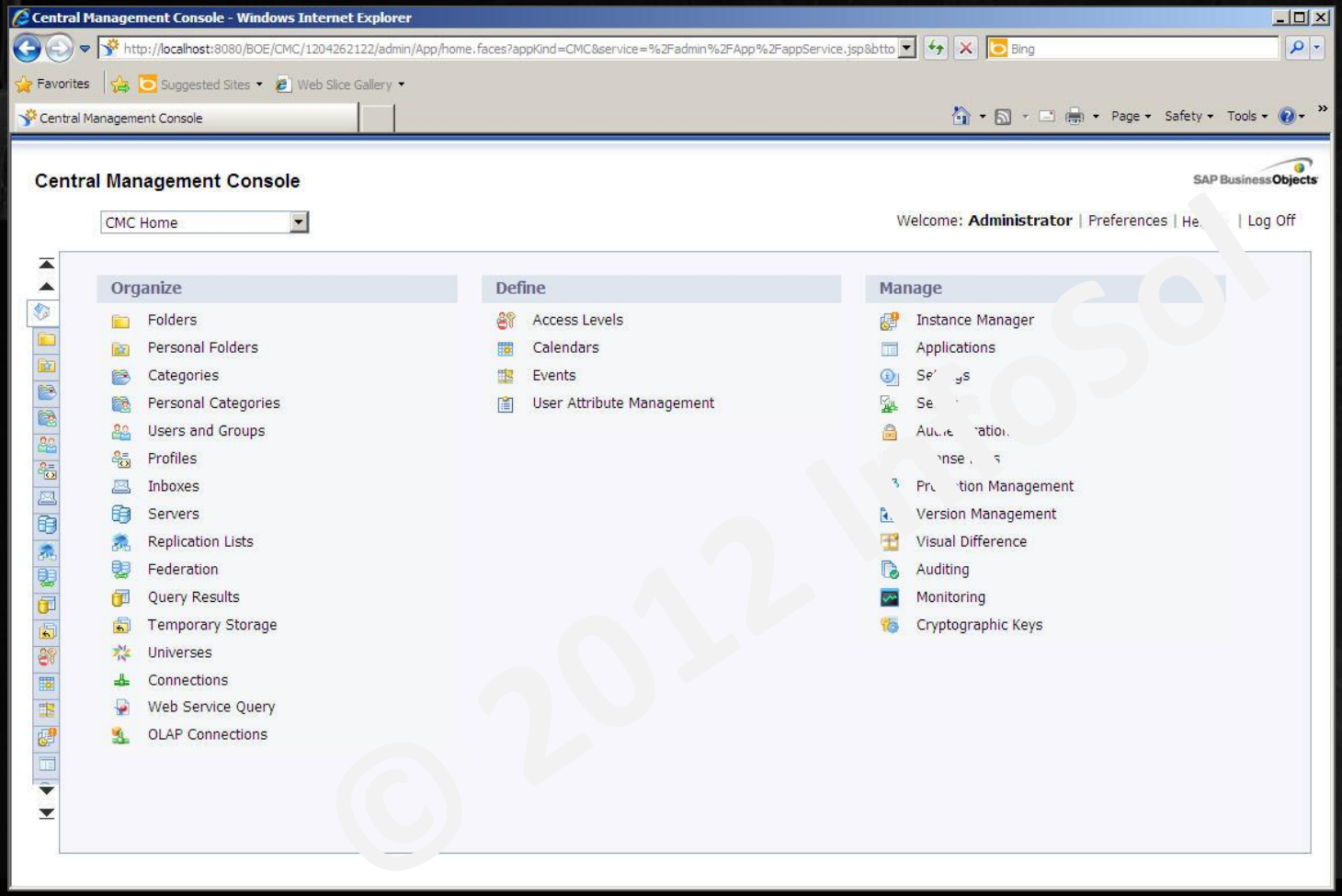
Central Management Console (CMC)



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What is the IDT?

- It is the editor for the new UNX Universes
  - What is a UNX?
- Evolution of the Semantic layer
- Fundamental changes …
- … but most concepts are the same
- Think of UNX as “UNV Extended”

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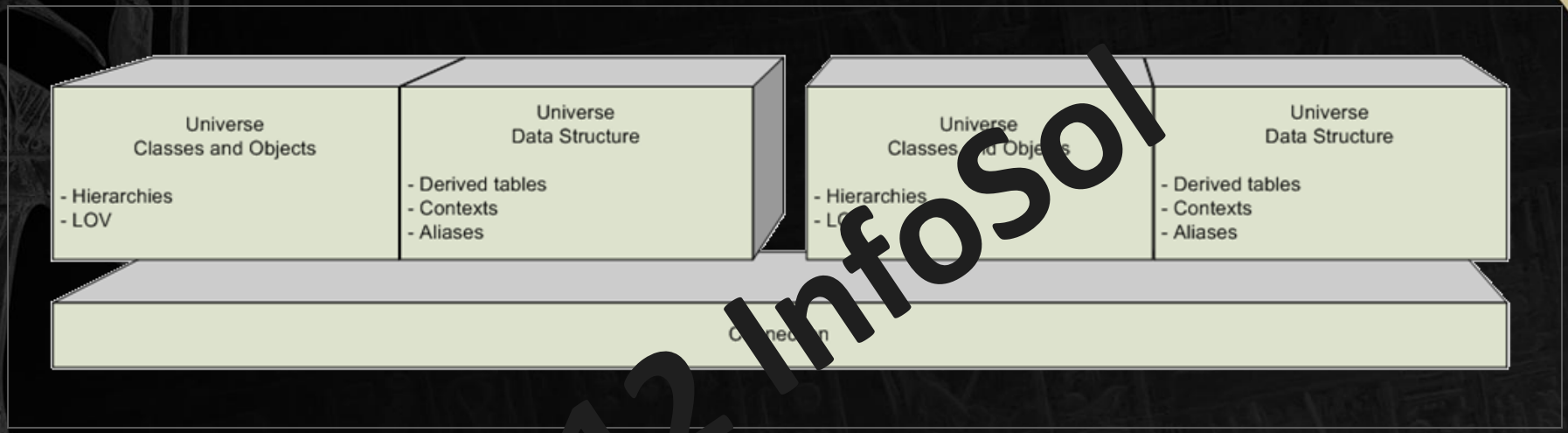
UNX vs. UNV



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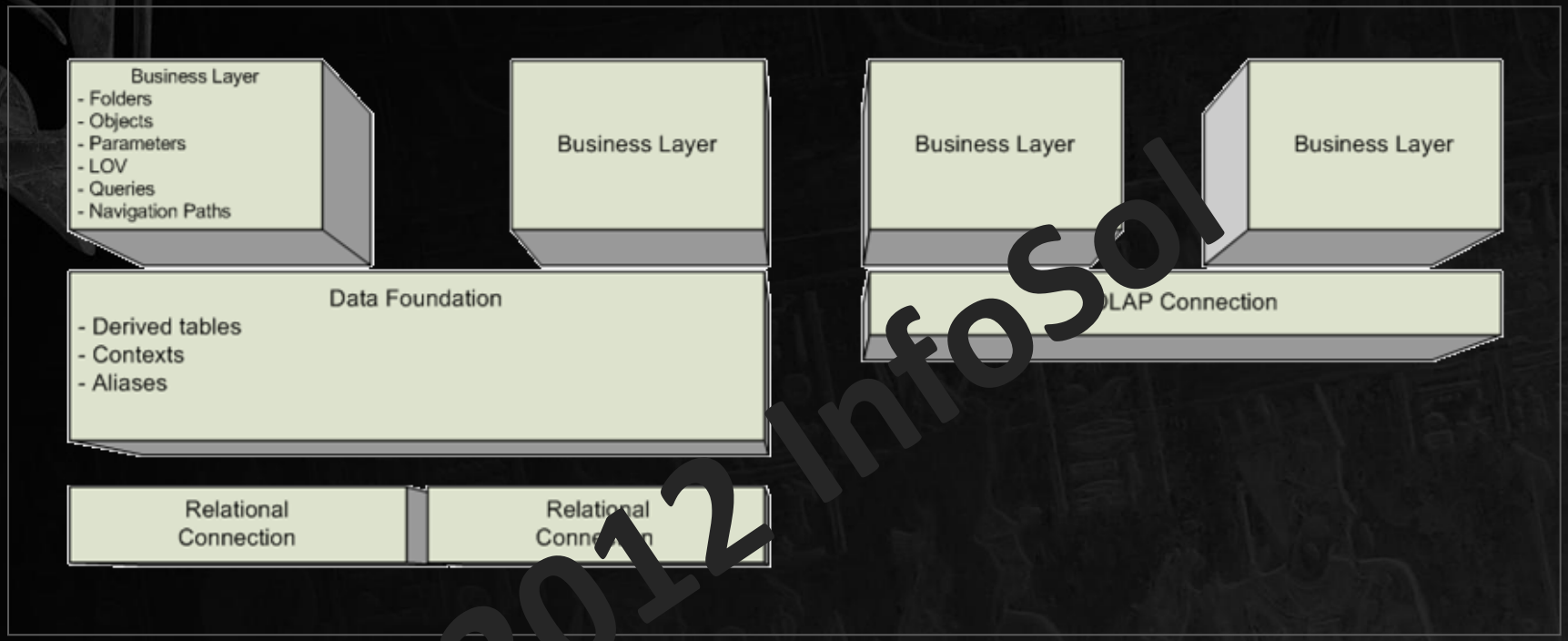
UNX vs. UNV



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Business Layer

- Object details always visible
  - SQL assistant
  - Show Script
- Prompts and LOV handled separately
  - Parameters and LOV
  - Static LOV
  - Force Filtering by User
- Hierarchies now Navigation Paths

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Business Layer

- Views
  - Subsets of the Folders (Classes) and Objects
  - Eliminate the need for Linked Universes
  - Managed in Security
- Queries
  - For testing purposes
  - Not exported “in this release”

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Data Foundation

- Multiple Views
- Table Family
  - Highlights – Color coding
  - Can be different per view
- Data Profile
  - Distribution of values
- Aliases, Contexts, Loops
  - Highlighted

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Data Foundation

- Parameter and LOV
  - Standalone Objects
  - Static LOV
- Table Filter
- Calculated Columns
- No Isolated Join
  - Included by default
- Comments on Data View

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Other New Features of UNX

- OLAP connection
  - Automatic Business Layer
- Multiple Connection Data Foundation
  - Relational
  - SAP NetWeaver BW connections
  - SAS connections
- Security
  - Business Security Profile
  - Data Security Profile

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What is IDT?

- "Super Designer"
- All the features of designer
- A ton of added convenience
  - Data Foundation
  - Business Layer
  - View data from multiple tables at one time
  - View Data from multiple columns at the same time
- Plus all the new Features of UNX
- Existing UNV convert right into UNX

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What is IDT?

- Customize rules for the Integrity Checker
- Dependencies and Impact Analysis
- “Programmer Oriented”
- Based on Eclipse
- Projects
- Separate Resources as separate files
  - Connections
  - Data Foundation
  - Business Layer
- Auxiliary Text Files

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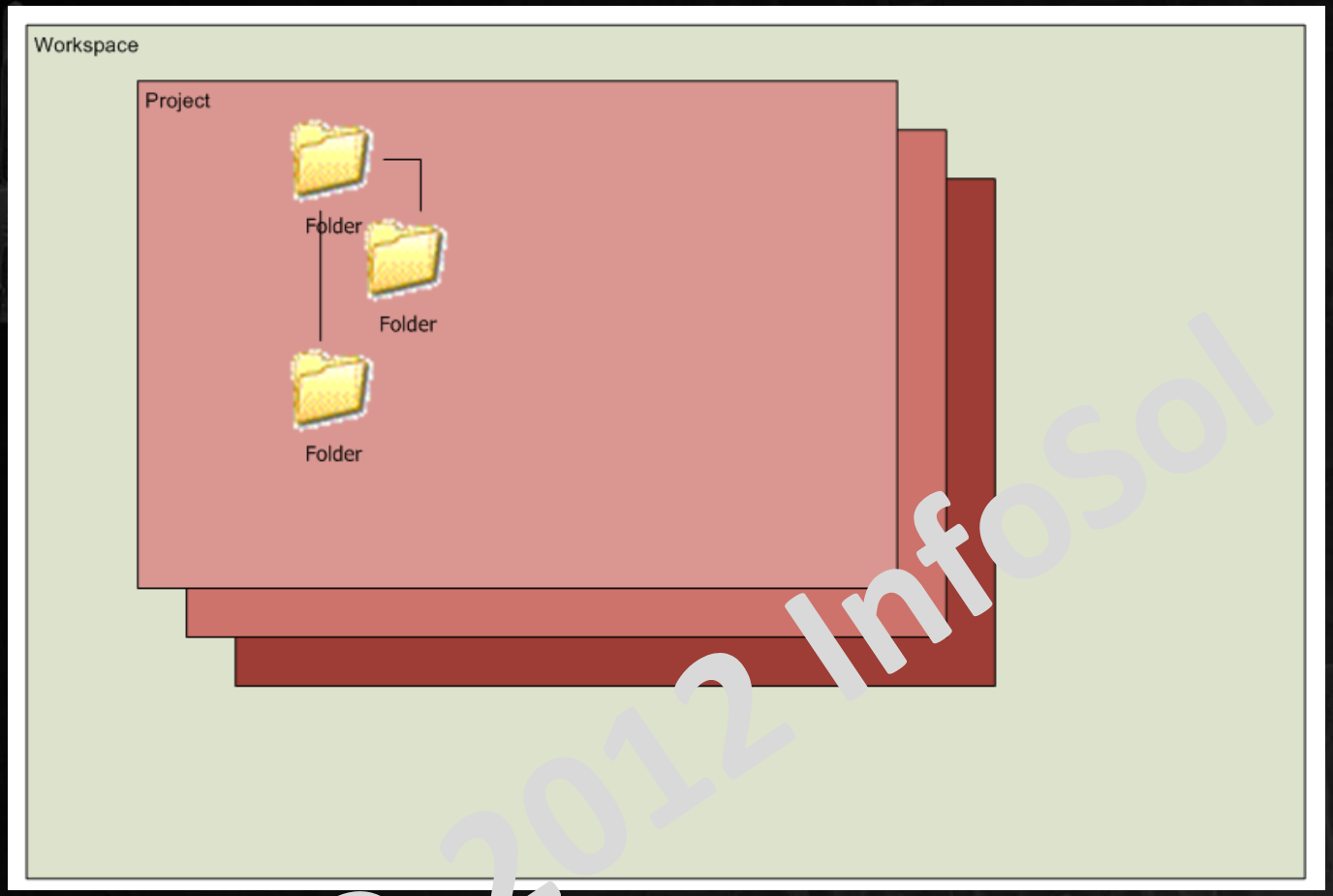
IDT Workspace



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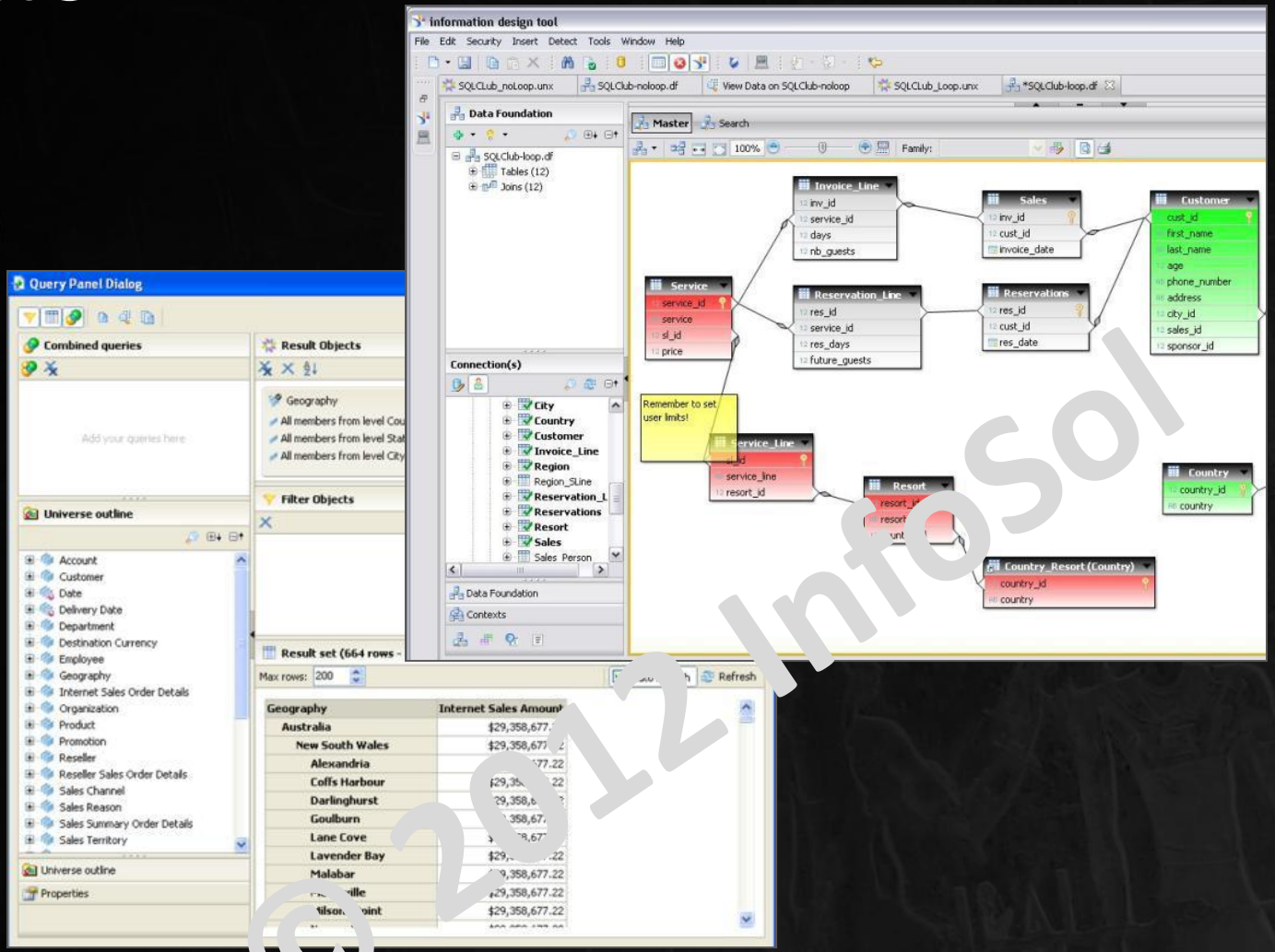
Demo



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Feature Pack 3 Highlights

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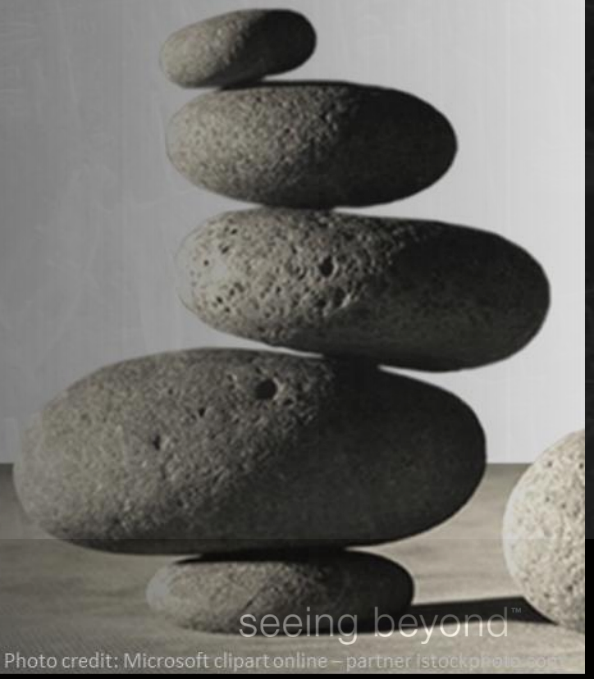

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Feature Pack 3 Highlights

- New Applications
  - Platform RESTful Web Services (expose BI 4.0 platform functionality through web services)
  - Crystal Reports RESTful Web Services
  - Crystal Reports JavaScript API
  - Semantic Layer Java SDK

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Updates – Existing Products/Applications

- BI Platform
  - Installations/Upgrades
    - Upgrade Management Tool
      - Exclude overwriting universes/connections on incremental upgrade
      - Select/deselect user folders on incremental upgrade
    - Support for SQL Anywhere
  - System Administration
    - Hot Backup
    - System Copy
    - Improved Delegated Administration
    - Insight to Action
    - SAP StreamWork Integration
    - User Attribute Management

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Updates – Existing Products/Applications

- BI Launch pad
  - SAP StreamWork Integration
  - Personalized placeholders for publication source documents
  - Personalized placeholders for publication destinations
  - Bcc field for email destination

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Updates – Existing Products/Applications

- BI Workspaces
  - No Dashboard and Analytics servers
  - Access to BI Workspace Logs and Traces
  - IE 9 & Firefox 4 Support
  - Concurrent editing of Workspaces & Modules
  - Translation Manager Support for Workspace, Tabs & Sub-Tabs
  - Closed Accessibility Gaps (JAWS for Modules/Tabs, Arrow Keys)
  - Private Modules added to Module Library
  - Document List includes both Private and Public Documents
  - Workspace Printing Support
  - Workspace Customization to match Launchpad via CSS
  - SAP Streamwork Integration

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Updates – Existing Products/Applications

- Monitoring
  - Added Usability Functionality
    - New Dashboard Layout (requires flash)
    - Topology Module & Mini View Window
    - Consolidated Health Status
    - Recent Alerts, Alert Reminders, Email Notifications
    - KPI Status Pane
    - Overall Graph of Metrics included in Watch Properties
    - Create Watch from Metrics Page, Search Watches

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Updates – Existing Products/Applications

- Monitoring
  - Functional Improvements
    - Manage Probes, Register New Probes
    - Extended Support for Trending Database
    - Monitoring Universe
    - Monitoring Metrics
    - Derived Metrics
    - Migrate Old Data??

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Updates – Existing Products/Applications

- Lifecycle Manager
  - Split into 2 applications
    - Promotion Management
    - Version Management
  - Added security rights for Promotion and Version Management
  - Configuration
    - Import BIAR Files
    - Export/Import LCMBIAR to FTP location
    - HTTP Protocols for Subversion
    - CTS+
    - Version Universe and Overloads

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Updates – Existing Products/Applications

- Lifecycle Manager (continued)
  - Added Usability Functionality
    - Inbox & Favorites promotion
    - Promote completed instances
    - Test promotion filters (success, failure, partial success, warning)
    - Import with new CUID – don't overwrite content
    - Dynamic promotion of new content with recurring schedules
    - Override settings scan
    - Added scheduling options
    - Delete option in Version Management System
    - Test VMS Option

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Updates – Existing Products/Applications

- Platform Search
  - Support for New Artifacts (Workspaces, CR for Enterprise etc.)
  - New Search Options (CUID/Doc Id, User Name, Email Address)
  - Preferred Categories for Organizing Search Results
  - Enhanced Search Syntax (AND/OR)
  - Multilingual Support
  - ‘ALL’ Included under ‘Refresh Time’ category
  - Hot Backup retains Index & Associated Data Files

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Updates – Existing Products/Applications

- Information Design Tool
  - New Data Sources
    - SAP ERP Relational Connections
    - Essbase OLAP
    - Single Source relational universes on Apache Hadoop HIVE connections
  - Object Definition Enhancements
    - User Attributes - @Variable function access to CMC User Attributes
    - Query Panel Filters – define filter with @Variable
    - Editing Input Columns
    - Name Delimitation
  - Usability
    - Member Selection
    - Data Foundation Table Search
    - Filtering Connections by Table Type
    - Relational Universe 'Cheat Sheet'
    - Access On-line Tutorials from IDT Help
  - Select 'local' rather than server drivers for Secured Connections

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Updates – Existing Products/Applications

- Crystal Reports for Enterprise
  - Direct Access to Data Sources
  - Relational Data Connections
  - New Chart Types
    - Tag Cloud
    - Treemap
    - Box Plot
  - Drill Paths represented as Breadcrumb Trails rather than as Tabs
  - On-line Catalog of Report Templates
  - Changing Data Sources Enhancements
  - Bind Actions to Report Objects and invoke actions on the Report (BEX Queries only)
  - CR Offline content can be delivered to iPad – objects and instances as PDF can be refreshed

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Updates – Existing Products/Applications

- Dashboard Design
  - Access to Additional Data Sources
    - 3rd Party OLAP
    - BEx Queries – through BI 4.0 Platform
    - Netweaver Flash Islands (embed .SWF in SAP Web Dynpro)
  - Hierarchical Data Support
    - Query Browser – Bex Queries/Universe Queries includes ability to traverse and select hierarchy members
  - Charting Options
    - Visual alerts extended from single series charts to those with multiple series
    - Waterfall Chart Types now available
  - Add-On Components
    - These can now be developed using Adobe Flex 4

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Updates – Existing Products/Applications

- Web Intelligence
  - Security
    - New Security Setting for Local Connections
    - Secure ‘Refresh On open’ Option
  - Rich Client
    - Quick Launch Feature
    - Query Panel Improvements
  - Queries
    - Can Define Input Controls from Hierarchical Objects
    - Prompts can be used on BW Queries
    - Change Source from .UNV to BICS (Remap Objects)

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Updates – Existing Products/Applications

- Web Intelligence (cont.)
  - Charting
    - Match Chart Terminology with Crystal Reports
    - Added Waterfall Chart Type
    - Hierarchical Navigation Now Available
    - Color Synchronization
    - Chart Area Formatting (Java only)
  - Reporting
    - CSS Stylesheet for Formatting Reports
    - Resolution (dpi) Definition when Exporting Reports
    - Input Controls
    - Text Format (.txt) Option available when Saving Reports
  - Document Linking – additional types supported
  - New Calculator Features
  - Added Features for SAP BW Data Source

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Updates – Existing Products/Applications

- Explorer
  - Exploration Views
    - Save Exploration on an Information Space as an Exploration View
    - Organize Exploration Views as View Sets
    - View Elements
  - Geographic Analysis
    - Present data on a geographic map
  - Search Enhancements
    - Ranking Improvements
    - 'Did You Mean' Feature Added
  - Charting
    - Add a second dimension to Bar chart and Trend Line chart
  - Usage Enhancements
    - Home tab includes View sets as well as Information Spaces
    - Extended use of Property Sheets to show object details
    - A new Geography Analysis type added

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Updates – Existing Products/Applications

- Analysis Edition for OLAP
  - New Analysis Features
    - Focused Analysis
    - Pivot With
    - Display Attribute Support (BW & HANA only)
    - Compact Axis Display (BW Only)
  - New Data Sources
    - SAP HANA
    - SAP BusinessObjects Planning and Consolidation for SAP NetWeaver Platform 10
    - SAP BusinessObjects Planning and Consolidation for the Microsoft Platform 10
    - SAP BusinessObjects Profitability and Cost Management 10

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