



Dynamic Report Manager Utility On Baan



Avon Technologies (India) Pvt. Ltd.
8-3-988/42, III FLOOR, R. A. Chambers,
O. B. C Bank Building,
Sri Nagar Colony-Main Road,
Hyderabad 500 073 * India
Tel: (+91) 40-66844836/7
Fax: (+91) 40-66845836
www.avontechnologies.com

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Flexware Overview:

Avon's Flexware™ Platform merges our world-class J2EE Environment with new services specially designed for developing and deploying web based , mobile applications quickly and in a secure manner. With these services, businesses can extend their e-business and Enterprise Applications through various medium like web, mobile devices, PDA's to Sales , Mobile workers and top management and in addition, maximize the new business opportunities that wireless computing offers.

The Flexware is a collaborative middleware built on J2EE platform on Java struts architecture . It allows seamless integration of any third party applications be it Knowledge management software , Business intelligence software . The Flexware enables the following :

1. Sales Force Automation on web seamlessly integrated to Baan 4 Enterprise system
2. It is mobile computing ready and allows data push and pull into Baan 4 enterprise system for any of business functions , viewing of reports . Thus interfaces for functions like town electricity collections can be automated on hand held devices .
3. It provides SMS , mobile connectivity to Baan 4 enterprise data .
4. Flexware comes embedded with a Report Manager , which makes reporting , creation of new reports , sharing of reports on the web easy thus enhancing flow of information.

Current Scenario:

Companies with BAAN Solutions managing business processes can achieve significant productivity improvements by streamlining the delivery of business documents. Report Manager is helping BAAN users realize these benefits today with a new approach to the challenges of output management and distribution.

Report Distribution Challenges

Organizations continue to face the perennial report distribution challenge of getting multiple document types – Financial reports, pick lists, invoices, despatch notices – to a geographically dispersed network of end users.

BAAN Solutions do a great job of providing companies with a multi-dimensional view of their business. In many instances this information is available through management reports. With divisional managers needing different views of the same information required by the Finance department, companies can often find themselves running the same set of BAAN reports multiple times. Unnecessary resource is utilized in report generation with huge quantities of output being produced – all of which requires decollation and distribution. Apart from the above designing and generation of new reports takes a longer time.

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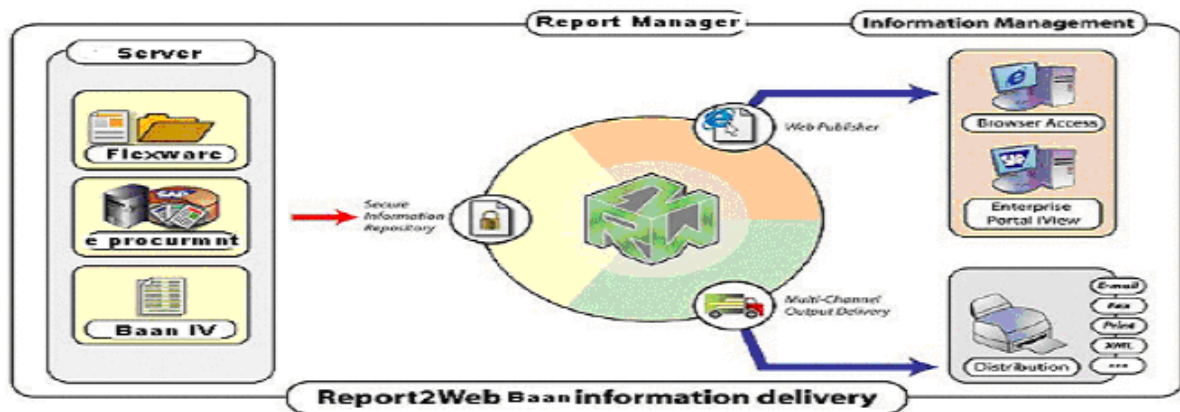
Report Manager

Report Manager is a web-based information management and distribution solution that enables output generated by any business application to be securely delivered to recipients over the Web. Instead of having to print reports or needing to view output with proprietary client tools, users work with all of their documents via an intuitive browser interface. Ease of use features combined with immediate access to BAAN output ensures that workers become extremely productive with Report Manager.

Automated Baan Information Delivery

Organizations function most effectively when they have the right information in the right place at the right time. Report Manager helps companies achieve this goal by making sure that workers are immediately notified when new BAAN reports are available. A single click enables direct access to recently created BAAN output - securely presented alongside other business documents through a Web browser interface. Output can be automatically delivered to a wide range of destination devices including printers as well as email recipients with Report Manager.

Architecture Diagram Of Report Manager



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There's a lot more you can do to BAAN application output with Report Manager

- Automate the transfer of business information from the pages of a report into an Excel spreadsheet, XML format , HTML format etc
- Access reports produced by any BAAN application including BAAN IV output through a common interface.
- Transform drab looking plain text print .les in to professional formatted business documents without having to configure BAAN Tools
- Combine logically related documents produced by BAAN and other applications like Excel or any other data format for delivery as personalized report bundles to end users.

Realize a Rapid ROI in Baan Reporting

Being able to create a report once, and slice and dice it many times, enables improved throughput for heavily burdened Baan application servers. These measurable savings ensure that it is not long before Report Manager for Baan Solutions has delivered a positive return on your investment.

Benefits:

- **Eliminates performance impact of ad-hoc reporting**
- **Maximizes productivity by providing immediate access to reports**
- **Extends information access to a wider and broader end-user audience**
- **Removes latency from report distribution processes**
- **Reduces paper, printing and distribution costs**
- **Removes inefficiencies of expensive archiving systems**
- **Provides an audit trail of who accesses what, where and when**
- **Optimizes utilization of Baan client licenses**

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Features Overview of Report Manager

It can access almost any data and format data into run type information. Seamless Integration with ERP results into web and windows applications. Enabling end users with report viewing, interaction, and creation.

- **Data access**
- **Formatting and design**
- **Report viewing and interaction**
- **Application integration and deployment**

I. Data Access & Control

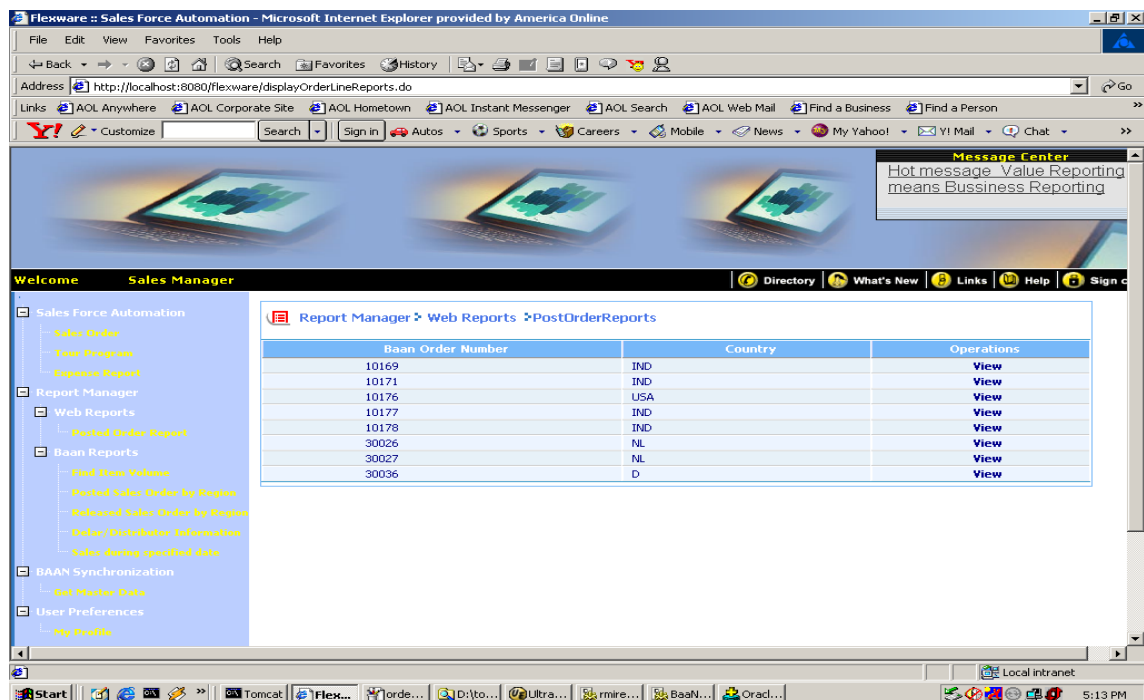
Report Manager provides broad data connectivity options making it easy to access Baan 4 enterprise data and satisfy end user information requirements.

Ability map virtually any data with native, ODBC, OLE DB, and JDBC connectivity to relational, XML, legacy, and enterprise data sources including Oracle, IBM DB2, Sybase, Microsoft SQL Server.

Custom data. Access user-defined (in-memory) application data by connecting to JavaBeans

Stringent control over database connectivity. User of the Report Manager can drag and drop for flexible control capabilities for generation of reports on web maintaining enterprise data integrity.

Sample Report Manager Screen



Baan Order Number	Country	Operations
10169	IND	View
10171	IND	View
10176	USA	View
10177	IND	View
10178	IND	View
30026	NL	View
30027	NL	View
30036	D	View

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Multi-data source access. Connect to a unique data source or combine multiple data sources in one report.

XML support. Integrate Report Manager with any B2B or B2C applications via XML data access or export.

Unicode support. Use unicode strings to display data stored in almost any language and present multiple languages in a single report.

II Formatting and Design

Report Manager offers a high degree of flexibility and control over how data is presented and formatted.

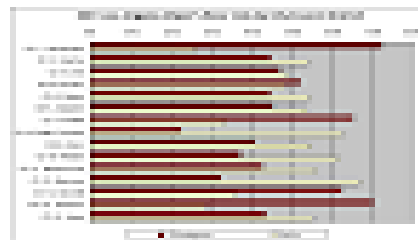
Visual report designer : Quickly design interactive reports using an intuitive, drag-and-drop interface and object-oriented explorers.

Experts and wizards : Use optional experts and wizards to simplify common reporting tasks such as connecting to a data source, selecting, grouping, sorting, and summarizing data.

Charting and mapping : Increase the graphical impact of end user reports by choosing from a wide variety of map and chart types including bar/3D bar, pie/doughnut, line, gantt, gauge, funnel, XY scatter, ranged map, dot density map, and more.



Sales Dashboard



Bland Sales Analysis - Future

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Reusable report objects : The report design process is expedited by storing automated SQL commands , including text objects, bitmaps, and custom functions (formulas)—in a central managed library (provided in Dynamic Report) for sharing, reuse, and single-point updating across multiple reports.

Customizable templates : Spend less time formatting individual reports. Design and apply customized templates that specify standards in formatting and logic—including data access operations—to ensure design consistency across reports.

Custom functions. Eliminate redundant formula creation. Extract business logic from formulas to create custom functions so end user can use them across multiple reports.

Access and Excel add-ins. Use an intuitive wizard to easily design a Dynamic Report right from within Microsoft Access or Excel.

III Report Viewing and Interaction

Report Manager provides flexible options that let end users view and interact with information in familiar formats and via familiar environments.

Multiple export formats. Provide end users with reports in the format they prefer. Export reports to popular formats, including Excel, PDF, XML, HTML, RTF, and more.

Report parts. Repurpose existing reports for use with wireless devices and corporate portals. Provide end users with access to charts, summary tables, specific records, and other key report information via portals, WML phones, RIM Blackberry, and Compaq iPAQ devices.

IV Application Integration

Report Manager provides a range of proven Java components that help seamless connecting to Baan4. Whether end user need to build a web, windows, XML web services, or mobile application, end user can use Report Manager for end user data presentation requirements.

Interface SDKs. Use the Dynamic Report Manager comprehensive interface SDKs in J2EE applications for flexible control over how end users interact with reports. Choose from a variety of report viewing, creation, and modification APIs to implement a range of interactivity capabilities—from static report processing/viewing to complex runtime report creation/modification.

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Security Plan of Dynamic Report Manager Utility

Three levels of Security Plan

Level 1: User level Security

- User Authentication
- All the users will be assigned User Ids and Passwords to access the information/data through the Web.

Level 2: Network Level Security

- Data & Information will be sent through the Internet in an encrypted format. Third party Digital Signature (example: **Verisign**) can be enabled (**Optional**).

Level 3: Profile Based Access

- The assigned User Ids and Passwords will determine the level of access to information/data store.
- Example: Sales Agents will have access to information pertaining to their respective region whereas the Head-Sales will have access to certain privileged sales information/data.

Conclusion:

A solution like **Dynamic Report Manager Utility** integrated with BaaN 4 C4 then lot of time effort and resources can be channelised and optimized in rational manner. The time to gather critical management reports can be reduced. User can generate reports on web extension for his particular task /nature of business with proper privileges by self-designation.