

Express OLAP ACCESS PACK

Enterprise Decision Support for OLAP Server Data

Many businesses store and use data in an Express OLAP Server. Express data is critical to their business analysis processes. For these businesses, getting Express data into a powerful enterprise reporting tool is a challenge. Combining Express data with information from other sources is even more difficult.

The BUSINESSOBJECTS™ Express OLAP ACCESS PACK addresses this need by letting the business user bring Express OLAP data directly into BUSINESSOBJECTS 4. Once Express data is in

BUSINESSOBJECTS, users can quickly produce a fully-formatted report. Express data may also be combined in one report with data from relational databases and/or personal files.

The BUSINESSOBJECTS™ Express OLAP ACCESS PACK is a powerful tool that lets users access Oracle Express OLAP Server data and create professional reports from an intuitive, easy to use interface. Express data can be displayed with other data stored in relational databases, data warehouses, or personal files to provide business users with all needed information to make timely, informed business decisions.

The Express OLAP ACCESS PACK lets users connect to Express databases through BUSINESSOBJECTS. A feature-rich OLAP Panel displays Express multidimensional data. Users have access to powerful native Express capabilities, allowing them to perform advanced multidimensional analysis, benefiting from the high performance and flexibility offered by the Express multi-cube OLAP engine.

The screenshot shows the OLAP Panel window with the following components:

- Database Object Tree:** A hierarchical view of the database structure including Measures, City, Product, Total Prod, Audio Div, Video Div, TV, VCR, Camcorder, Accessory Div, Channel, TotChannel, Direct, Catalog, and Time (1995, 1996).
- Filters:** A dropdown menu set to 'Direct' and a year selector set to '1996'.
- Grid:** A data table showing sales figures for various cities in 1996.

| | Sales by City | | | |
|-----------|---------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| | Total Prod | Audio Div | Video Div | Accessory Div |
| TORONTO | 37648 | 17852 | 18835 | 961 |
| MONTREAL | 11611 | 5123 | 6219 | 269 |
| OTTAWA | 11770 | 5032 | 6519 | 219 |
| VANCOUVER | 36385 | 16032 | 19634 | 719 |
| EDMONTON | 36749 | 16072 | 19980 | 697 |
| CALGARY | 81684 | 46856 | 33083 | 1745 |
| BOSTON | 14035 | 3732 | 6426 | 3877 |
| NEWYORK | 36538 | 12628 | 22061 | 1849 |
| DALLAS | 70664 | 40691 | 28396 | 1577 |
| DENVER | 36883 | 16163 | 18770 | 1950 |

■ A powerful OLAP Panel allows direct viewing and selection of Express OLAP Server data.

When the desired set of data has been located in Express, the Express OLAP ACCESS PACK lets users load that data into a BUSINESSOBJECTS report. The report may then be analyzed, data mined, formatted, and distributed just like any BUSINESSOBJECTS report.

Users thus have access to all of the world class reporting and analysis features they use regularly in BUSINESSOBJECTS, as well as the enterprise-scalable document distribution and IS toolset offered by Business Objects.

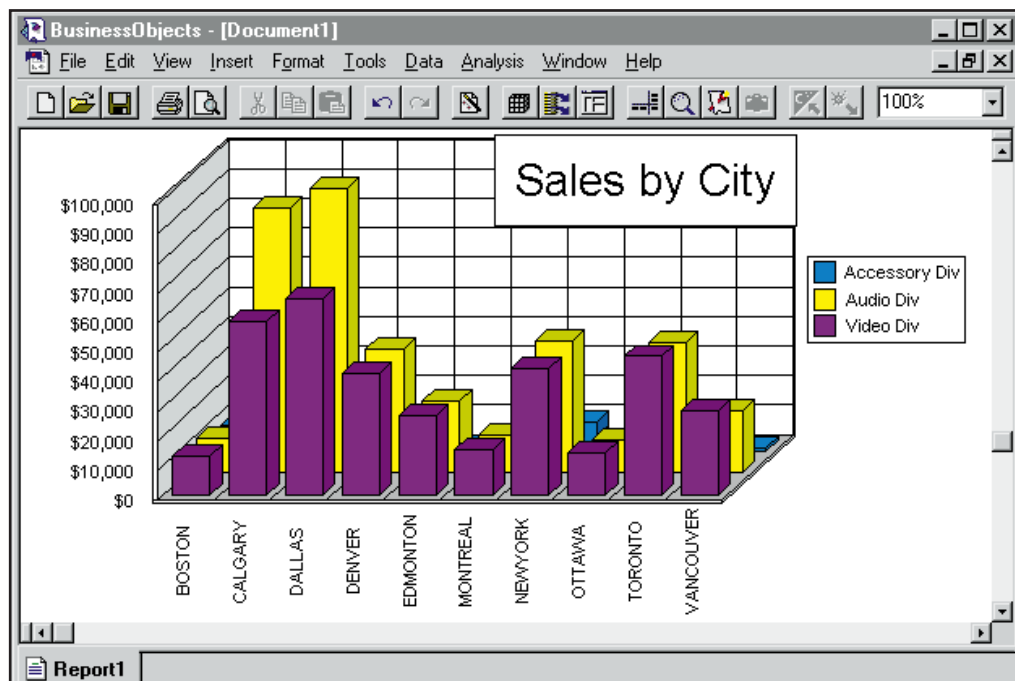
Express OLAP ACCESS PACK Advantages

- Multi-source data integration within one report
- Mobile computing – analyze data with no connection to OLAP server
- Powerful reporting, scheduling, distribution, and web publishing for Express data

Multi-Source Data Integration Within One Report

Using the powerful OLAP Panel, BUSINESSOBJECTS reads Express Server data along with relational, spreadsheet, or personal file data. The Express OLAP ACCESS PACK breaks down frustrating barriers between various business data types.

Data from many sources may be easily combined within one report. An RDBMS table listing employee salary data can be displayed adjacent to a chart of projected salary growth stored in Express. Both data sets can be combined to further simplify the analysis. Information from other corporate data marts could be added to the same report. This means that business analysts can easily present information in a fully formatted professional report – no matter what the data source.



- Powerful BUSINESSOBJECTS report formatting, scheduling, and web publishing let users easily produce and distribute professional reports including Express and/or other data.

Mobile Computing – Analyze Data With no Connection to OLAP Server

The Express OLAP ACCESS PACK offers additional benefits for business users. While an Express OLAP Server is a very powerful analysis tool, it is difficult to take an OLAP server on the road. And although Personal Express provides mobile OLAP, its cubes must be built in advance before loading onto the PC. In contrast, BUSINESSOBJECTS employs a local microcube architecture, which is perfect for nomadic computing. Every BUSINESSOBJECTS report can contain a microcube that is viewed and manipulated in portable mode.

This means that Express data, once read into BUSINESSOBJECTS via the Express OLAP ACCESS PACK, is available for mobile computing along with any other data contained in a BUSINESSOBJECTS report. Analysis such as local drill or slice and dice may be performed quickly and easily on a BUSINESSOBJECTS report. There is no need for either a direct Express connection or Personal Express on the PC.

Powerful Reporting, Scheduling, Distribution, and Web Publishing for Express Data

The Express OLAP Access Pack brings the full range of BUSINESSOBJECTS reporting features to Express users. Express data can be formatted, charted, and professionally presented in BUSINESSOBJECTS. The Express data is automatically read directly into BUSINESSOBJECTS, where it is stored along with other report data. With BUSINESSOBJECTS, users have access to all the powerful reporting features they have come to expect: WYSIWYG, drag and drop, wizards, and a familiar Microsoft Office certified interface.

The Express OLAP ACCESS PACK lets users format Express data just like any other data in BUSINESSOBJECTS. And as with every BUSINESSOBJECTS report, users can quickly reformat reports into a chart, table or crosstab. For regular report distribution and web publication via a middle-tier server, BUSINESSOBJECTS can publish and distribute scheduled reports either via email, web server, or both. The data contained in reports can also be data mined using BUSINESSMINER.

Practical Applications for Express OLAP Access Pack

Managing Budget Versus Actual Versus Inventory

If budgets are kept in Express, actuals are compiled in spreadsheets, and inventory is tracked in a relational database, BUSINESSOBJECTS will allow all three data sources to be combined in one professional report.

Distribution of Production Reports

With the Express OLAP ACCESS PACK, Express data can be read easily into BUSINESSOBJECTS 4, just like any other data. Attractive, drill-able production reports can be easily created in BUSINESSOBJECTS 4, after which DOCUMENT AGENT SERVER can schedule, run, and distribute the report, whether in HTML or BUSINESSOBJECTS microcube format.

OLAP on the Road

While Express is a very powerful tool, it does not lend itself well to mobile computing, and Personal Express offers only pre-built cubes. But with the Express OLAP ACCESS PACK, Express data can reside as part of the report in a portable BUSINESSOBJECTS microcube, allowing local OLAP in an airplane, hotel room, or on site with a client. Mobile computing and local OLAP are possible without a network connection to Express or a Personal Express installation on the PC.

BUSINESSOBJECTS Express OLAP Access Pack Features

- A powerful OLAP Panel that allows full use of advanced Express capabilities such as drill, slice, dice, and filter – and reads Express data directly into BUSINESSOBJECTS 4.
- Full support for multi-cube Express data models and measure/dimension selection offers easy, powerful, and advanced multidimensional analysis.
- Users view the Express data model either by dimension value or hierarchical level.
- Utilizes all Express Server computations and aggregations, maximizing performance.

System Requirements

486 PC or higher,

12MB RAM

(16MB recommended),

30MB free hard disk,

MS Windows 95 or NT.

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