



Management Reporter for Microsoft Dynamics ERP

What's New in Management Reporter?

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Contents

Introduction..... 3

What are the business capabilities of Management Reporter?..... 3

What are the key features of Management Reporter? 4

Introduction

This document provides a high-level overview of some of the exciting new capabilities and features in Management Reporter for Microsoft Dynamics® ERP. For more information, see the “Management Reporter Frequently Asked Questions” document.

What are the business capabilities of Management Reporter?

Management Reporter is a powerful performance management solution that provides real-time financial reporting to help you achieve greater visibility across your organization. Created for accountants by accountants, Management Reporter empowers finance professionals to create high-volume, presentation-quality reports in minutes. With Management Reporter, your organization can take advantage of:

Custom reports without IT assistance

- Use a building-block approach to design report content, format, and layouts.
- Define and manage multiple reporting units with a tree that can be custom-built or automatically follow your chart of accounts; then, change reporting unit relationships without affecting data or account hierarchies by simply changing the tree structure. Tree structures can be used to define multicompany consolidation reports.
- Build reusable formulas, complex calculations, and if/then logic into report design.
- Create instance documents by simply changing a date with enhanced eXtensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL) support. Innovative XBRL capabilities also help you meet reporting mandates and simplify compliance.

Deep cross-functional analysis

- Simultaneously utilize multiple filters to pinpoint the exact data elements needed.
- Perform top-down analysis by using wildcards and account ranges to create high-level summary reporting elements; then, analyze data by drilling down from summary levels to transaction details with Management Reporter Report Viewer.
- Easily consolidate or roll up information from multiple sources, including multiple companies and non-GL data found in Microsoft® Office Excel® workbooks.
- Speed month-end close and account reconciliations with transaction-level reports providing both posted and un-posted balances.

Powerful collaboration and distribution

- Automate report production and distribution into multiple output format options, including Management Reporter Viewer and Excel. From Excel, you can send data by e-mail; print it; export it to HTML, Text, and XML; or create PivotTable® and PivotChart® dynamic views.

- Get the right information to the right people by securing reports in the Report Library based on folders and users.
- Provide self-service access to critical reports by granting users permission to generate reports without granting them permission to modify the report design elements.

Reduced training time and increased productivity

- Easily transition from Microsoft Office applications to Management Reporter due to the similarity of the navigation pane and toolbars.
- Get people up and running quickly by leveraging the familiar spreadsheet interface.
- Apply report formatting using familiar Windows® font styles and controls.
- Use the Report Library and folder structure to quickly search for and find published reports and report definitions.

Strong data integrity and report accuracy

- Deliver reports you can trust; reports automatically use the fiscal periods, account structures, balance types, and accounting concepts specified in your general ledger.
- Validate report design formulas prior to saving and generating reports.
- Design reports to provide error-preventing checks and balances in addition to exception warnings for missing and duplicate accounts.
- Individual building block elements can be secured from unwanted or unauthorized changes with the protection feature.

What are the key features of Management Reporter?

Management Reporter includes direct integration to the Microsoft Dynamics ERP general ledger for simplified, real-time reporting with greater accuracy. Reusable building blocks of Report, Row, Column, and Tree definitions can be mixed and matched to produce a wide variety of boardroom-quality reports. In addition, Management Reporter includes a Report Library where all generated reports are stored and viewed. Using the Report Library, you can secure reports and external files at the report level, version level, or on a specific tree node. The features of Management Reporter include:

Familiar interface and simplified reporting tools

- **Intuitive user interface**—Minimize training and easily transition from Microsoft Office applications to Management Reporter with a similar navigation pane and toolbars.
 - **Navigation pane**—Build reports and navigate using a docked and customizable navigation pane.
 - **Toolbars**—Use intuitive Windows toolbars that contain the familiar icons from Microsoft applications.

- **Theme**—Standardize the look and feel of the user experience by having Management Reporter follow the visual elements determined by the current Windows theme.
- **Multilanguage capabilities**—Deploy the user interface in multiple languages (based on some of the languages supported by Microsoft Dynamics).
- **Undo/redo**—Gain greater control with the ability to undo a mistake or redo a change.
- **Associations**—Save time and eliminate confusion by quickly evaluating which building blocks are associated with each report definition.
- **Building block organization**—Maintain and secure Row, Column, Tree, and Report definitions into folders by type, function, category, or user.
- **Report Library**—Generate, view, and secure all reports in a centralized storage facility organized with folders; quickly search and find published reports and report definitions.
- **Hide/Unhide**—Tailor your workspace with the ability to hide columns in the Row, Column, and Tree definitions while working on a specific section of a report.
- **Report groups**—Group daily, weekly, monthly, or quarterly reports to generate consecutively with one push of a button.
- **Generate unsaved reports**—Run a report instantly to verify if the formatted output is desirable.
- **Built-in error prevention**—Design reports to provide error-preventing checks and balances in addition to exception warnings for missing and duplicate accounts.
- **Report queue status**—View the status of a queued report and the generation history of all reports.

Enhanced presentation capabilities

- **Column page breaks**—Gain total control of report output and distribute presentation-quality reports by determining column and page breaks.
- **Insert graphics**—Personalize financial reports for boardroom presentations by inserting company logos or images into headers and footers with image support.
- **Negative numbers in red**—Highlight key metrics that are underperforming by simply selecting a specific formatting option.
- **Format overrides in rows**—Customize numerical displays by using a form that creates format masks automatically.
- **Page order**—Modify page option settings to change the order of data moving down and across the page in printed report data.
- **Custom page numbering**—Simplify report organization by starting reports at any page number for inclusion into your organization’s comprehensive monthly, quarterly, and yearly report books.

Powerful analysis capabilities

- **Complex filtering in Row, Column, and Tree definitions**—Use flexible tools to filter simultaneously on multiple dimensions consistently across all building blocks.
- **Native dimension support**—Gain the flexibility to create reports instantly with all dimensions and members—without having to step through a wizard.

- **XBRL capabilities**—Leverage enhanced XBRL support to access more information for filing with the most recent XBRL standards, including dimension support, properties, references, and the ability to add notes and footnotes to instance documents.
- **General ledger trees**—Utilize trees stored in the host general ledger system for reporting.

Strong data and application integrity

- **Direct general ledger integration**—Deliver reports you can trust with planned integration between the general ledger in your Microsoft Dynamics ERP solution and Management Reporter. Reports automatically use the fiscal periods, account structures, balance types, and accounting concepts specified in your general ledger.
- **SQL Server integration**—Take advantage of tight integration with Microsoft SQL Server® for centralized database storage and processing features that improve performance and stability, and deliver an enhanced multi-user experience.
- **Improved architecture and code base**—Management Reporter is developed using the Microsoft .NET Framework and C# for enhanced globalization and location support, and native 64-bit support.
- **Multi-tiered architecture with server-side processing**—Generate and process reports using server resources to dramatically improve performance and free up workstation resources while reports are processing.
- **Enhanced security**—Help protect and lock companies, reports, and building blocks with user, role, and group security with Windows authentication.
- **Checked-out items**—Easily manage users in the system with the ability to view what building blocks are checked out and available for modification.
- **Validation**—Speed report design by confirming that formulas have the correct syntax during the save process.
- **Report Queue Status**—View the status of a queued report and the history of generated reports.
- **Globalization/localization support**—Gain support for multilanguage data (UNICODE) and a multilanguage user interface.