

Crystal Reports Server XI Linux: Q&A

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Purpose

Crystal Reports Server XI is a complete reporting solution that help small to mid-sized businesses create, manage, and deliver reports over the web. It is now available for deployment on the Linux platform – Red Hat Enterprise Linux and SUSE Linux Enterprise Server. This document answers common questions about Linux support for Crystal Reports Server.

For information regarding BusinessObjects Enterprise and Linux, please review the materials available in the [BusinessObjects Enterprise Linux sales kit](#).

Why is Business Objects supporting Linux?

Our decision to support Linux is driven by the requirements of our customers. Business Objects' strategy has always been to build an open platform that can match the technologies deployed by our customers. The nature of Business Intelligence, it needs to integrate with existing customer data, dictates that it be as open and adaptable as possible. Business Objects has supported the Linux platform over the past several versions and will continue to do so with the introduction of both BusinessObjects Enterprise XI and Crystal Reports Server XI on the Linux platform.

What are the benefits of deploying on Linux?

Support for mixed deployments and a diverse back-office ecosystem.

Business Objects is committed to offer an agnostic platform for our customers and an open framework for our partners. An agnostic platform allows our customers to standardize on a single BI solution regardless of how varied their hardware/platform deployments may be. To that end, an open framework allows Business Objects to collaborate with best of breed partners – irrespective of platform.

Total cost of platform ownership.

Our support for open source platforms permits our customers to leverage the advantage of lower TCO inherent in these offerings such as reduced server licensing fees and by deploying on cheaper commodity hardware. TCO advantages are also recognized by our support of mixed deployments that permit centralized management and maintenance of a standardized BI deployment over a disparate enterprise. Business Objects has also integrated Open Source technology such as MySQL directly into BusinessObjects Enterprise XI for Linux and Crystal Reports Server for Linux to offer a low-cost out of the box solution.

Higher security of platform & greater overall control.

The open-source nature of Linux means that there is increased scrutiny of code to spot vulnerabilities before they can be exploited by security threats. The modular, package-based design of Linux makes it easier to identify, resolve, and trace dependencies around security issues, compared to the monolithic designs of other operating systems where a single problem can have far-reaching and difficult-to-identify consequences. This open, standards-based design also gives customers flexibility to choose what they want to include in their operating system. Customers can obtain support for OS technology from multiple vendors and do not need to be locked into a single vendor. (IE: Only one vendor for Windows but Linux support can be purchased from multiple vendors such as Red Hat or Suse)

What is the support for Linux and when will it be available?

Crystal Reports Server XI Linux supports the following versions:

- Red Hat Enterprise Linux AS 3
- SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 9

Is this a mature product?

Yes. Crystal Reports Server XI is based on the same underlying platform as BusinessObjects Enterprise. The Linux release of both BusinessObjects Enterprise and Crystal Reports Server is actually our second generation Linux offering as it built on the legacy of Crystal Enterprise 10 Linux.

Will it cost extra to deploy Crystal Reports Server XI on Linux?

No. Crystal Reports Server XI Linux is licensed the same as the Windows version of Crystal Reports Server. Customers with Crystal Reports Server software for the Windows platform will have to pay a small administrative charge for delivery of the key codes and software.

What languages are supported?

Crystal Reports Server XI Linux is based on the full multi-lingual build of the platform supporting all 10 languages:

- English
- French
- Italian
- German
- Spanish
- Dutch
- Japanese
- Traditional Chinese
- Simplified Chinese
- Korean

Is the Crystal Reports designer in Crystal Reports Server available on Linux?

No. While Crystal Reports Server XI is available on Windows and Linux, the Crystal Reports designer included in the package is available only on Windows. Each package of Crystal Reports Server includes one copy of the Crystal Reports designer for use on a Windows client machine.

What support is available for Linux data sources?

The Central Management Server (Repository) supports the following:

- Oracle 9.2
- Oracle 10.1
- IBM DB2/UDB for NT/Unix 8.1
- IBM DB2/UDB for NT/Unix 8.2
- Sybase ASE 12.5
- MySQL 4.1.9
- JDBC/JNDI

Can Crystal Reports Server XI Linux connect to MS SQL Data sources?

No. Support for MS SQL data sources will be available added in a future release.

Do you provide an application platform choice?

Yes – Crystal Reports Server XI Linux supports the following application platforms:

- Tomcat
- WebLogic 8.1
- WebSphere 5.1
- WebSphere 6.0
- Oracle Application Server 10g
- Sun Application Server
- SAP Application Server

Do you support standard LDAP servers?

Yes – Crystal Reports Server XI Linux supports the following:

- SunOne Directory Server 5.1
- SunOne Directory Server 5.2
- IBM Secureway Directory 5.1
- Lotus Domino 6.0.2
- Novell eDirectory 8.7
- Netegrity Siteminder 5.5

Which browsers are supported?

Crystal Reports Server XI Linux supports:

- IE 6.0
- Netscape

Can Crystal Reports Server XI Linux support ‘mixed’ deployments?

No. This is due to the simple fact that Crystal Reports Server can only be deployed on a single server machine.