

**September 2005**

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### Southeast Crystal User Group Meeting September 21<sup>st</sup>

Join us in Greensboro Wednesday, September 21st from 10-2:00 pm for the 3rd quarter meeting of the Southeast Crystal User Group. Agenda items for this meeting include "The Path to XI Migration" presented by Business Objects, and an Apos Systems presentation of enhancement tools for Crystal Reports and Enterprise. We will of course have lunch and share tips and tricks as always!

Remember, there is no charge to be a member of the Southeast Crystal User Group or to attend any of the meetings. To sign up for this meeting or for more information on the Southeast Crystal User Group, email [Melissa.Gee@BridgeBuilder.com](mailto:Melissa.Gee@BridgeBuilder.com) or call (704) 766-2676.

And until next time...

Happy Reporting!

### Reminder... FREE Business Intelligence Breakfast Solutions Seminars

It's not too late to sign up for either of our upcoming free Business Intelligence Breakfast Solutions Seminars and discover the reasons there may be for your organization to invest in the Business Objects XI product suite. In this seminar series, you will have a chance to evaluate XI, whether you are a business executive, an IT professional, or a business analyst.

Agenda items include the following:

- Decision making at your fingertips: tools for business executives (includes Business Objects Dashboard & Performance Manager)
- IT administration made easier! (includes Business Objects Enterprise and Crystal Reports)
- Simple business analysis from any angle (includes Business Objects WebIntelligence)

Seminar dates and locations are as follows:

- **September 15th** Charlotte, NC
- **September 28th** Raleigh, NC

Both seminars will be held from 9:00am-12:00pm and breakfast will be served at each! For more information or to register, go online to [www.BridgeBuilder.com](http://www.BridgeBuilder.com) or call (888) Bridge-B, (888-274-3432).

We look forward to seeing you soon!

### Crystal Reports Server XI

By now, you have probably heard about Crystal Reports Server available with the latest Business Objects release, XI. The question you may be asking (as many of our clients have) is, "what the heck is Crystal Reports Server and what's the difference between this and Enterprise?!" If you're interested a straight-forward and honest, plain English answer, see below!

Crystal Reports Server is similar to the old Crystal Enterprise that most of you are probably aware of. CR Server provides the scheduling and distribution of reports all via the web without the necessity of users having a Crystal Reports designer license installed on their PC. So how does this differ from Enterprise?

- **Price**-Crystal Reports Server is intended for smaller scale deployments and is package priced by concurrent access licenses.
- **Functionality**-What we consider to be the most important reason to move forward with a full-scale Enterprise deployment vs. a CR Server deployment is Enterprise allows all the wonderful tools found in the XI suite to be "stacked" on top of its architecture. With CR Server, you are not able to take advantage of utilizing WebIntelligence, Dashboard Manager, or Performance Manager.

Which tool is right for you? Let us help! For more information on Crystal Reports Server or Business Objects Enterprise, please feel free to contact us at (888) 274-3432 or email Samantha Ferrie at [Samantha.Ferrie@BridgeBuilder.com](mailto:Samantha.Ferrie@BridgeBuilder.com). We will happily work with you to determine which solution will best meet your organization's needs.

## Tips & Tricks

### Records with Alternating Background Colors

Within Crystal Reports there are record functions that are intended for formatting sections. When using these functions, section formatting becomes more versatile. One of these types of functions includes "RecordNumber" which returns the current record number. Using this function, you can alternate the background colors for records in the Detail section.

In order to alternate background colors, follow these easy steps.

1. Click the **Report** tab at the top of the page (CRXI)
2. Select **Section Expert**
3. Select the **Detail** section of the report
4. Click the **Color** tab and click the **X2** button beside the background color property.
5. Insert a formula similar to this: `If remainder(recordnumber,2) <> 0 then white else silver`
6. Save and close your formula
7. Click Ok and run your report.

Now your odd number records should have a white background and your even number records should have a silver background.

Note: You can also alternate the background color for the Group Header Sections by adding a conditional formula to the Group Header #1. That reads: `if remainder(groupnumber,2) <> 0 then red else blue`.

This is a great feature to use on detail oriented reports in order to make them much easier to read.

## Mental Break!!!

### Answers to August's Brain Teasers

Thanks to everyone who participated in the August Brain Teaser Contest. I must have made them too easy since I received many correct answers. Hopefully I will stump you this month!

#### Brain Teaser #1

At my favorite fruit stand, an orange costs 18¢, a pineapple costs 27¢, and a grape costs 15¢. Using the same logic, can you tell how much a mango costs?

#### Answer #1:

\$.15. The cost is equal to \$.03 for each letter in the fruits name.

#### Brain Teaser #2

There are 2 sons and 2 dads and there are 3 apples. Each gets their very own apple. How is that possible?

#### Answer #2

There is a grandfather dad #1, a dad dad #2 and a son #1, and a son

### September's Brain Teasers:

#### Brain Teaser #1

Five hundred begins it, five hundred ends it, Five in the middle is seen; First of all letters, the first of all figures, Take up their stations between. Join all together, and then you will bring before you the name of an eminent king.

#### Brain Teaser #2

It's not easy having a mathematics professor as a new friend. When she invites you to her house she says, "All the houses on my side of the street are numbered consecutively in even numbers. There are six houses on my side of my block and the sum of their numbers is 9870. You don't know which block I live on, and it's a long, long street, but I will tell you that I live in the lowest number on my side of the block. What's the number? Or are you just going to ring the first even-numbered doorbell for twenty blocks?"

We still have some BridgeBuilder coffee mugs left so hurry and be one of the first 10 responses with **both** correct answers as they're almost gone. Send your answer to [Storev.Marshall@bridgebuilder.com](mailto:Storev.Marshall@bridgebuilder.com).

Good luck!

## Public Training: Charlotte, NC

### Crystal Reports 10 Classes

Level 1: September 26-27

Level 2: September 28-29

Level 3: September 30

### Crystal Reports XI Classes

Level 1: Oct. 3-4, Nov. 14-15, Dec. 12-13

Level 2: Oct. 5-6, Nov. 16-17, Dec. 14-15

Level 3: Oct. 7, Nov. 18, Dec. 16

### BusinessObjects Enterprise XI:

#### Implementing Business Views

October 3-4

### BusinessObjects WebIntelligence XI

Oct. 24-25

### BusinessObjects XI: Universe Design

Oct. 26-28

### BusinessObjects 6.5 Classes

**BusinessObjects Core Reporting: Dec. 19**

**BusinessObjects Int. Reporting: Dec 20**

**BusinessObjects Advanced Reporting: Dec. 21**

## Public Training: Raleigh, NC

### Crystal Reports XI Classes

Level 1: Sept. 24-25

Level 2: Sept. 26-27

Level 3: Sept. 28

### BusinessObjects XI: Universe Design

Sept. 7-9

Oct. 5-7

Dec. 14-16

### BusinessObjects Data Integrator XI

Sept. 19-22

Nov. 28-Dec. 1

### BusinessObjects WebIntelligence XI

Oct. 3-4

Dec. 12-13

### BusinessObjects Dashboard Manager XI

Oct. 10-12

Dec. 5-7

### BusinessObjects Performance Manager XI

Oct. 13

Dec. 8

### BusinessObjects Enterprise XI:

#### Administering Users & Content

October 31- November 1

### BusinessObjects Enterprise XI:

#### Administering Servers

November 2-3

### BusinessObjects 6.5 Classes

**Universe Design: Nov. 14-16**

**Supervisor: Nov. 17**

**Core Reporting: Nov. 7**

**Intermediate Reporting: Nov. 8**

**Advanced Reporting: Nov. 9**

**WebIntelligence: Nov. 10-11**

For additional classes and/or information on onsite training options, please call us at (888) 274-3432 or email us at [sales@bridgebuilder.com](mailto:sales@bridgebuilder.com)