

Deploying BusinessObjects Explorer on Top of a SAP BI Query



Applies to:

SAP BI NetWeaver 2004s, BusinessObjects Explorer 3.1. For more information, visit the [Business Intelligence homepage](#).

Summary

The objective of the article is to outline the basic steps of integration followed while creating a simple report using BusinessObjects Explorer 3.1 on top of a SAP BI query.

Authors: Tapan Jain and Isha Gupta

Company: Accenture Services Pvt Ltd

Created on: 10 March 2010

Author Bio

Tapan Jain works as SAP BI Consultant in Accenture Services Private Ltd and has extensive experience in implementation of BI/ABAP projects specializing in SCM areas.

Isha Gupta works as SAP BI Consultant in Accenture Services Private Ltd and has extensive experience in implementation of BI/ABAP projects specializing in HR areas.

Table of Contents

Prerequisites	3
Definition	3
Creating a basic report using BusinessObjects Explorer on top of SAP BI	3
Log onto BusinessObjects Explorer	3
Home page.....	4
Information Space sections.....	5
Create the Information Space	6
Index the Information Space	8
Search the required information in BOE	10
Exploration and business analysis of the required information	11
Chart Interactivity with one measure selection	12
Chart Interactivity with two measure selection.....	12
Chart Interactivity with three measure selection	13
Chart Interactivity using drill down within the facets/chart	13
Sorting Options	14
Top contribution analysis	15
Available chart options	16
Error messages.....	16
Conclusion	17
Related Content.....	18
Disclaimer and Liability Notice.....	19

Prerequisites

A basic knowledge of SAP BI 7.0 and BusinessObjects Explorer is required.

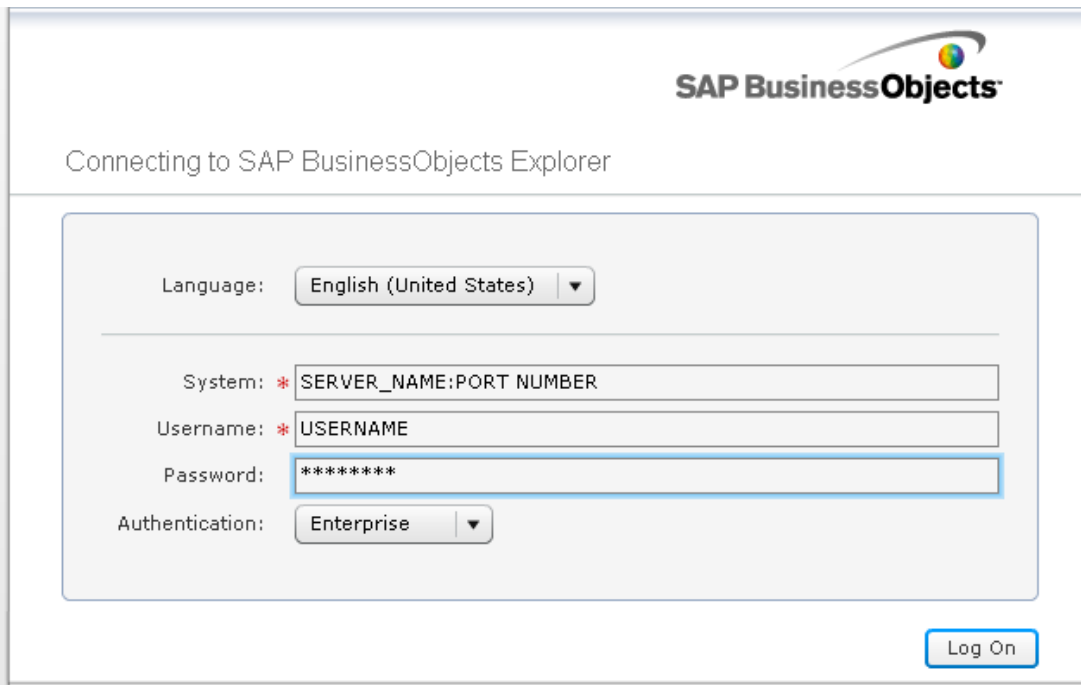
Definition

BusinessObjects Explorer is a tool for the business user who needs to explore a lot of data and needs more than a dashboard, but is not a user who would deal with a more complicated user interface.

SAP BI query built on top of an info-provider will serve as input to BusinessObjects Explorer. As a standard best practice, SAP recommends keeping all intelligence at the BI end leveraging the OLAP functionalities and making use of BusinessObjects Explorer as a solution for exploring and analyzing the enterprise data.

Creating a basic report using BusinessObjects Explorer on top of SAP BI

Log onto BusinessObjects Explorer



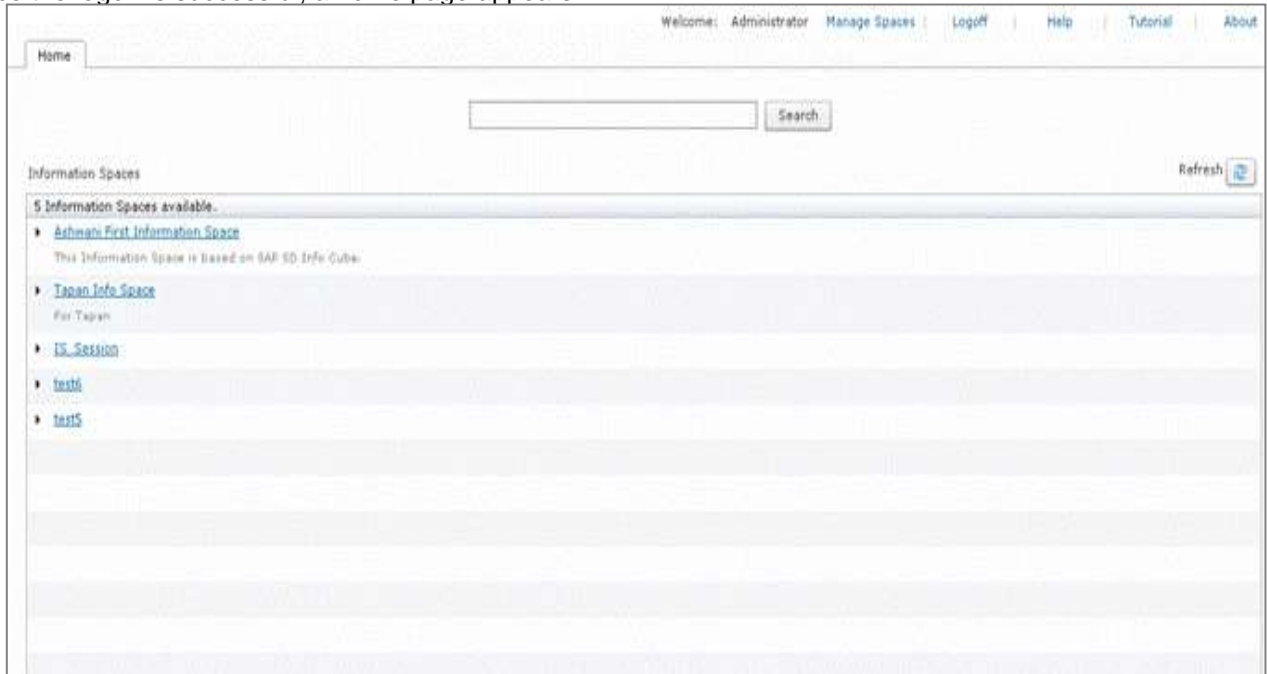
The screenshot shows the login page for SAP BusinessObjects Explorer. At the top right is the SAP BusinessObjects logo. Below it, the text "Connecting to SAP BusinessObjects Explorer" is displayed. The main login area contains the following fields and controls:

- Language: A dropdown menu set to "English (United States)".
- System: A text input field containing "SERVER_NAME:PORT NUMBER".
- Username: A text input field containing "USERNAME".
- Password: A text input field containing "*****".
- Authentication: A dropdown menu set to "Enterprise".

A "Log On" button is located at the bottom right of the login area.

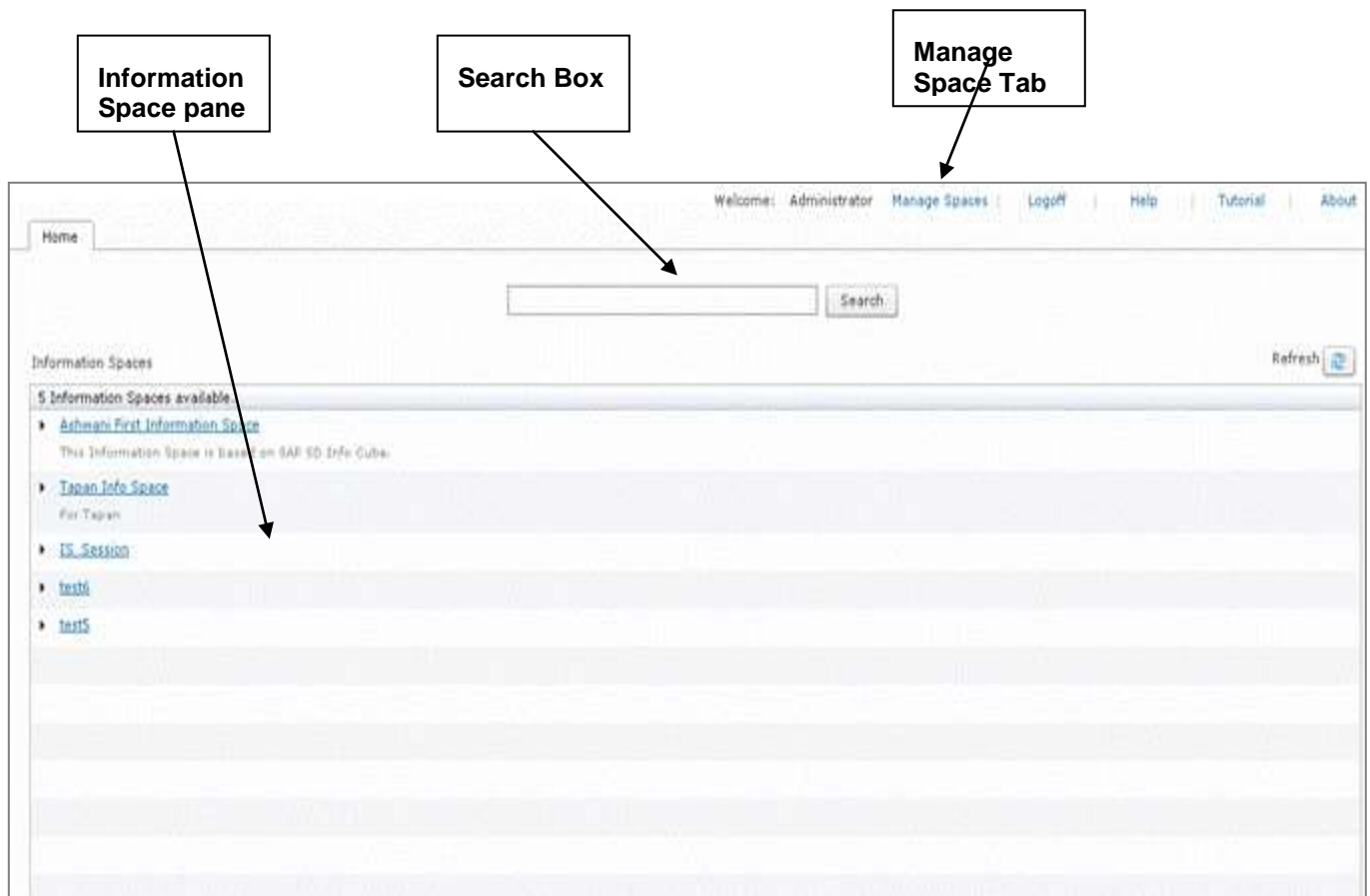
Home page

Once the logon is successful, a home page appears.



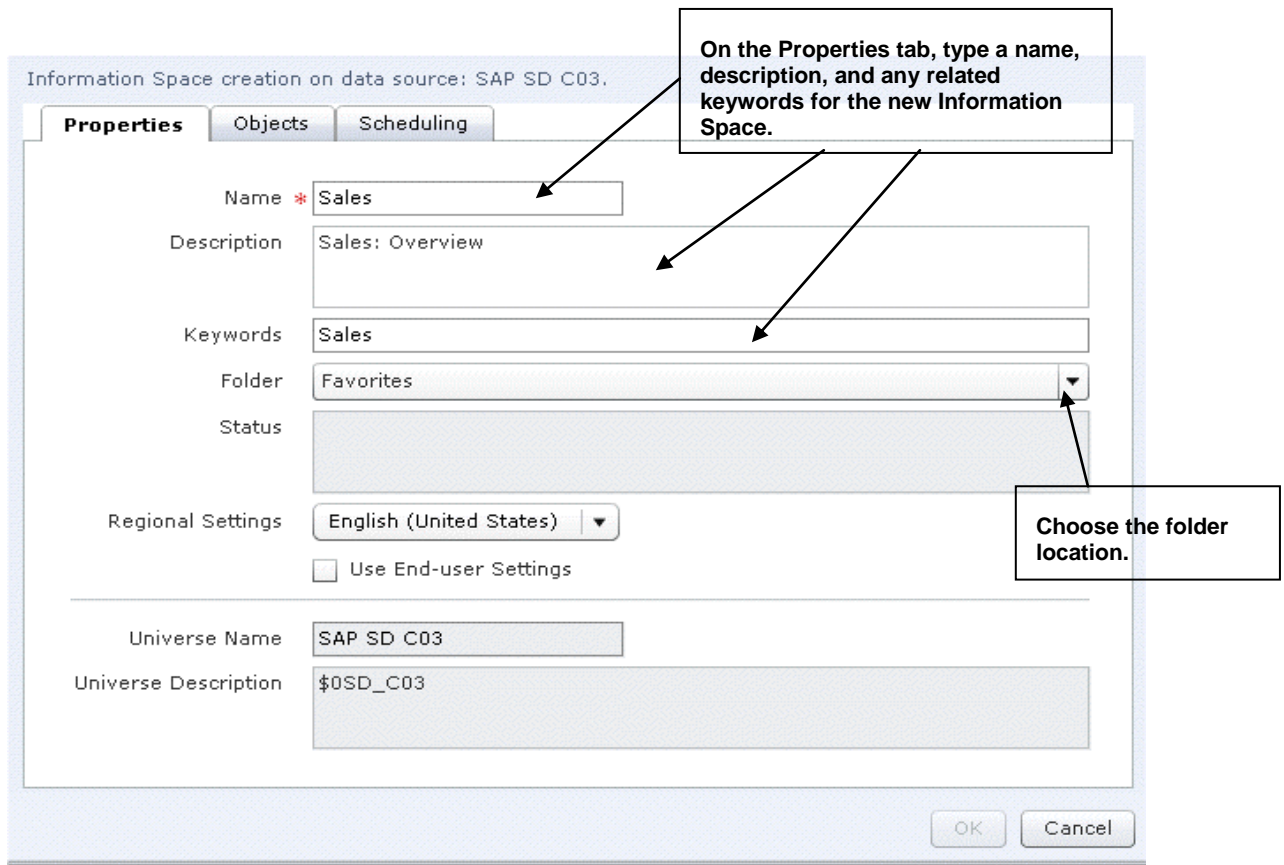
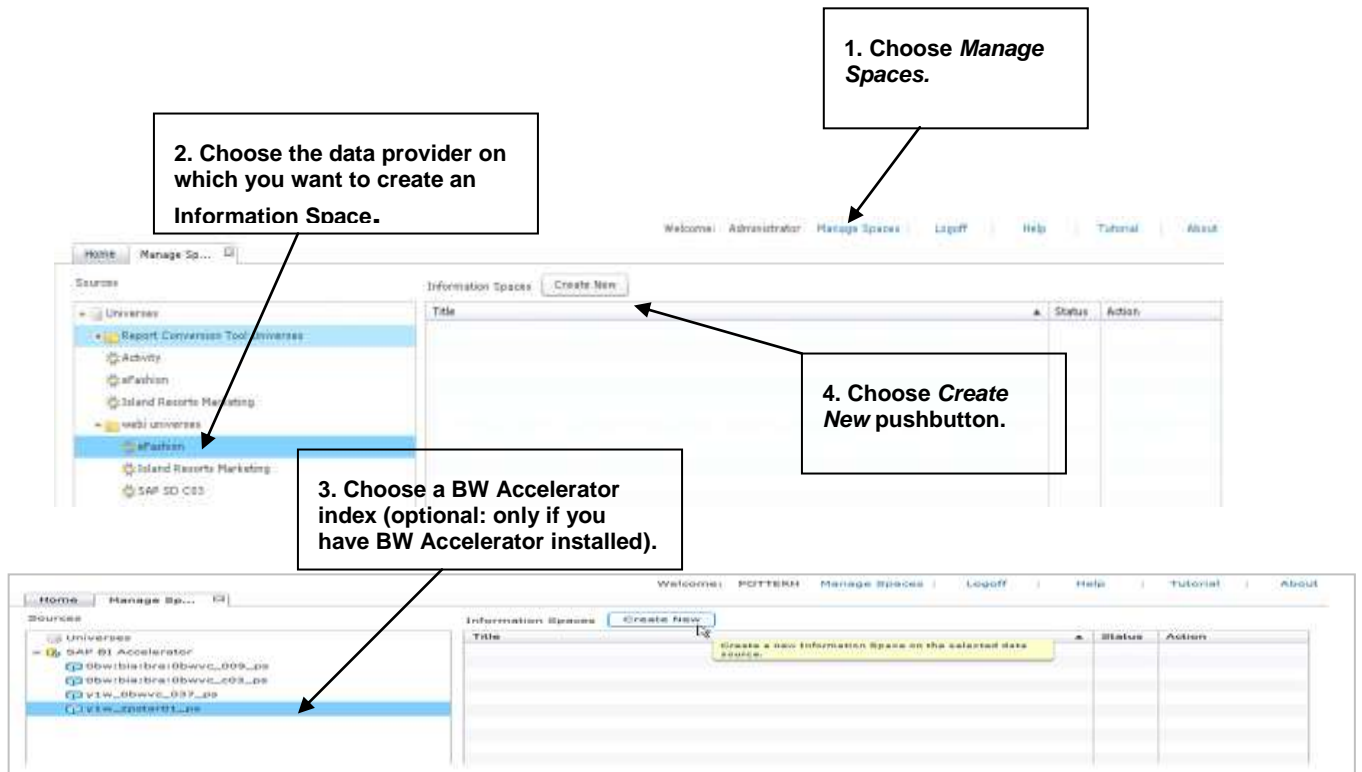
Information Space sections

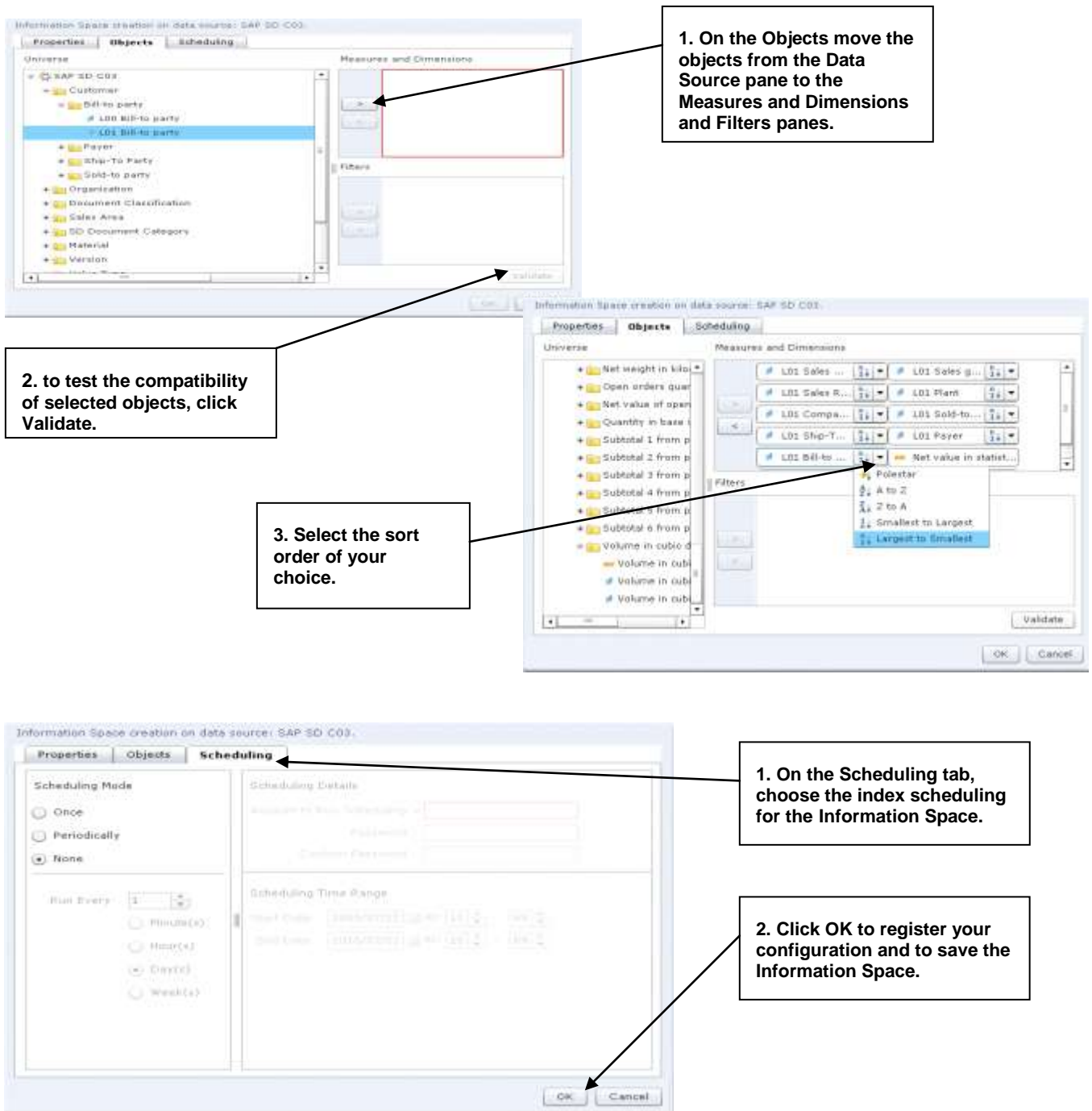
Information Space is the basic building block for any BusinessObjects Explorer report. The different sections of the window are shown below.



Create the Information Space

Creation of the Information Space is the first step to take in order to create any BOE report. The snapshots below explain how to create an Information Space.





1. On the Objects move the objects from the Data Source pane to the Measures and Dimensions and Filters panes.

2. to test the compatibility of selected objects, click Validate.

3. Select the sort order of your choice.

1. On the Scheduling tab, choose the index scheduling for the Information Space.

2. Click OK to register your configuration and to save the Information Space.

Scheduling is a way of synchronizing Information Spaces by stating when indexing must occur. Scheduling ensures the data is refreshed regularly.

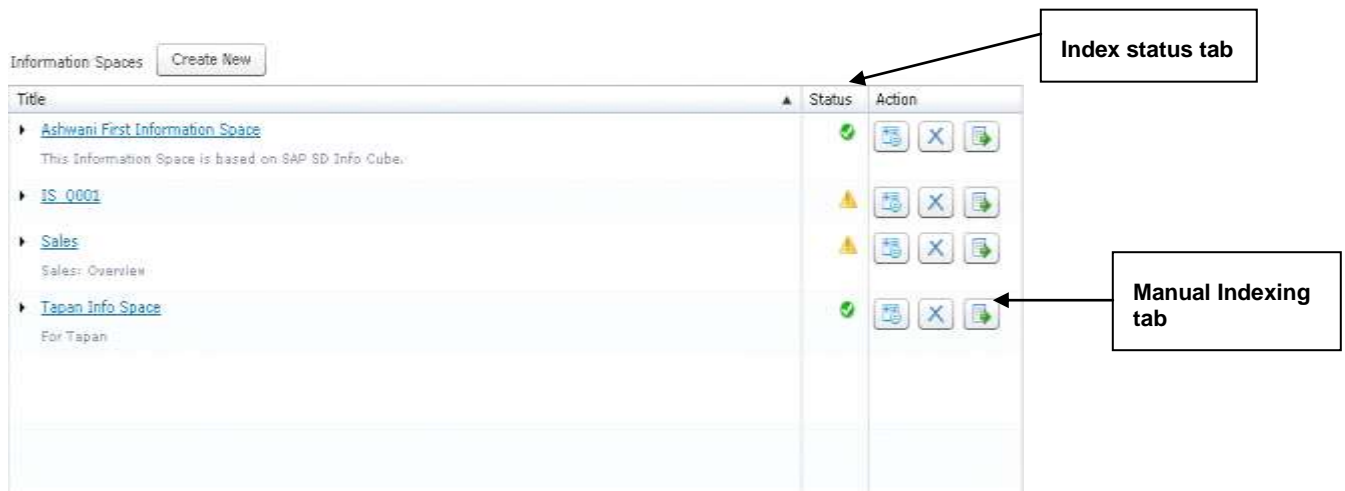
Index the Information Space

Once the creation of Information space is successfully completed, the next step is to index the newly created Information Space.





Indexing refreshes the data and metadata in Information Spaces. After indexing, any new data on the corporate data providers upon which those Information Spaces are based becomes available for search and exploration.

Two options are available to index an Information Space:

- Index an Information Space manually to update it immediately.
- Schedule an Information Space for indexing at a time of choice.

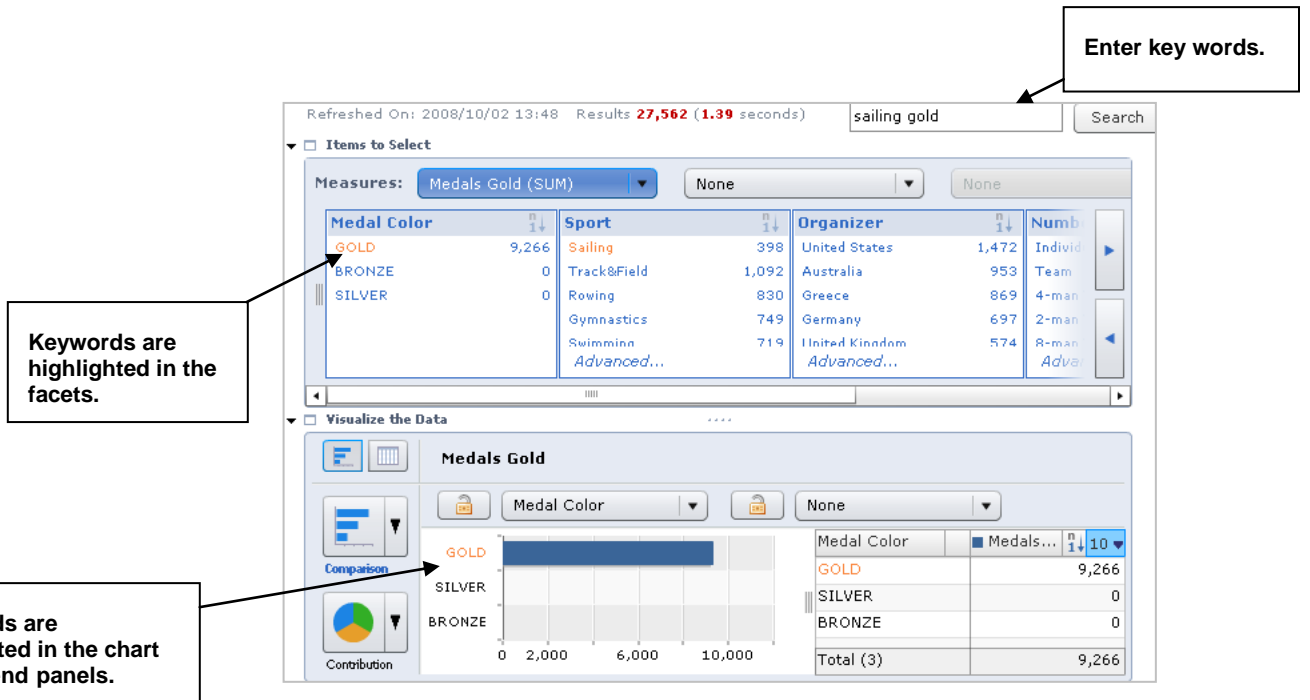


Here is a breakdown of some important indexing status symbols.

Icon	Description	Tooltip example
No icon	When there is no icon for the status, Then no action has occurred. For example, no scheduling.	
	The last indexing was successful.	Latest indexing succeeded Start date: 2009/05/01 14.56 End date: 2009/05/01 14.56
	The latest indexing failed.	Latest indexing failed Start date: 2009/05/01 14:56 End date: 2009/05/01 14:59 Server, myServer.IndexingServer. ddindexing, generated the following messages: Index creation failed: the Information Space has no data.
	Indexing has started.	Indexing Started: 2009/05/01 14:56
	The Information Space has been Scheduled for indexing.	Next indexing scheduled for: 2007/05/01 14.56

Search the required information in BOE

The **Search results** tab displays Information Spaces, as well as facets that are constructed from keyword search results for further narrowing.



Search displays results from the data in Information Space.

Exploration and business analysis of the required information

Navigate through the Information Space using the exploration facets to find data that provides something meaningful. Here you have the ability to choose up to three measures.

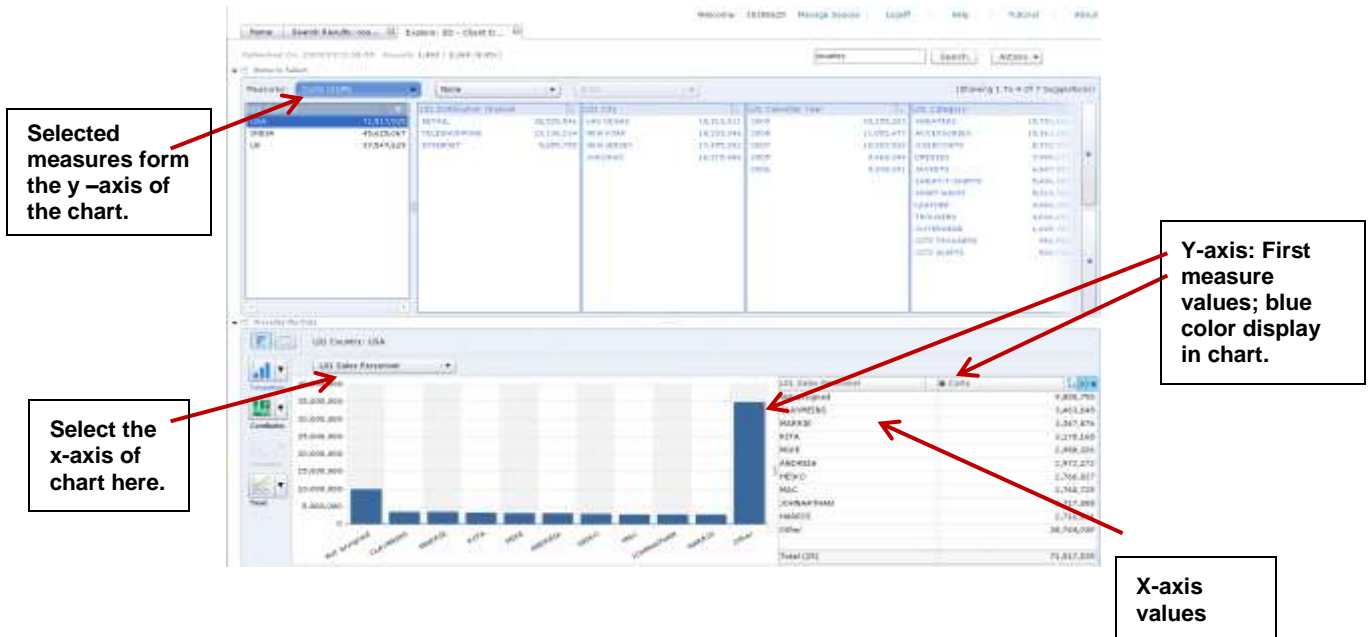
The screenshot shows the BusinessObjects Explorer interface. At the top, there are search filters for 'Country' and 'Search'. Below, a table displays search results with columns for 'City', 'Sales Price', and 'Net Value'. A bar chart below the table shows sales data for Chicago, Las Vegas, New Jersey, and New York. Callout boxes provide instructions:

- The master measure appears in the first combo** (points to 'Sales Price (SUM)' in the first dropdown)
- Select a secondary measure from a combo box.** (points to 'Net Value (SUM)' in the second dropdown)
- A third measure can be selected from this combo.** (points to a third dropdown menu)
- Selection displayed in Legend panel.** (points to the legend area on the right)

This screenshot shows the same data in a different view. The top part shows a table view of the search results. Below it, a bar chart displays the data. Callout boxes highlight the view options:

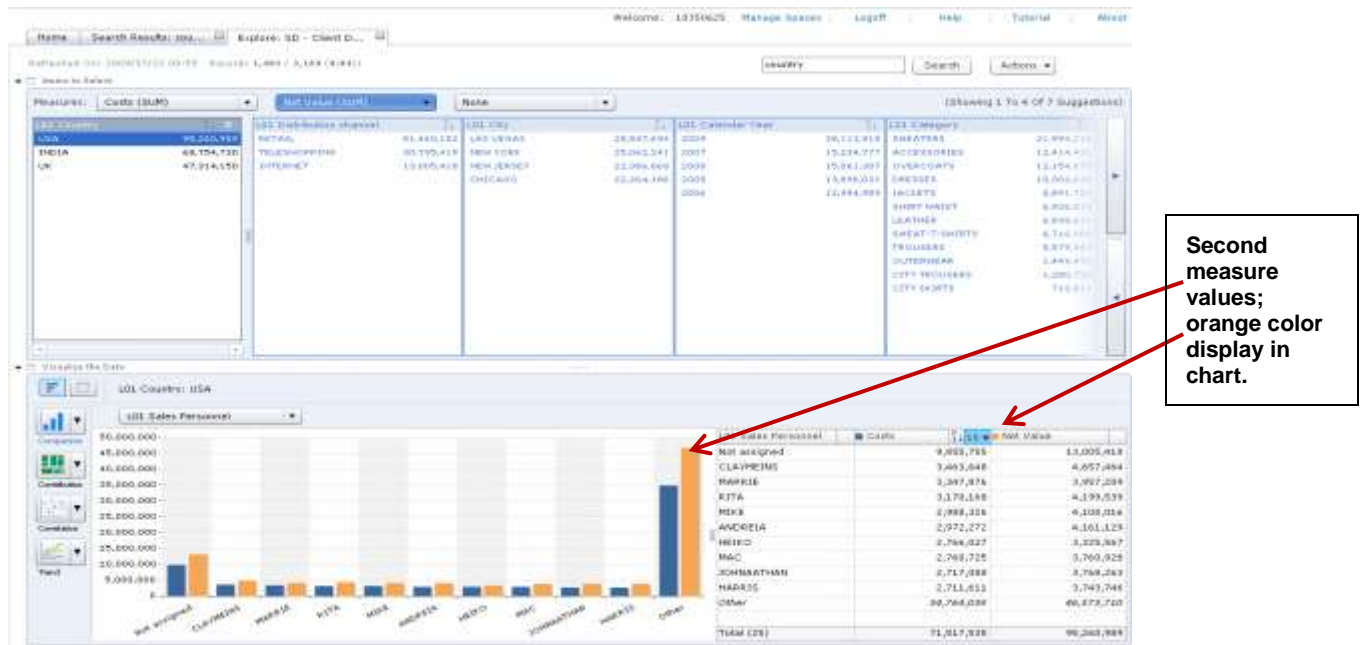
- See the data in form of table.** (points to the table view)
- See the data in form of chart.** (points to the bar chart view)

Chart Interactivity with one measure selection



The values selected in the facets drive chart values. The chart above displays costs details for country USA.

Chart Interactivity with two measure selection



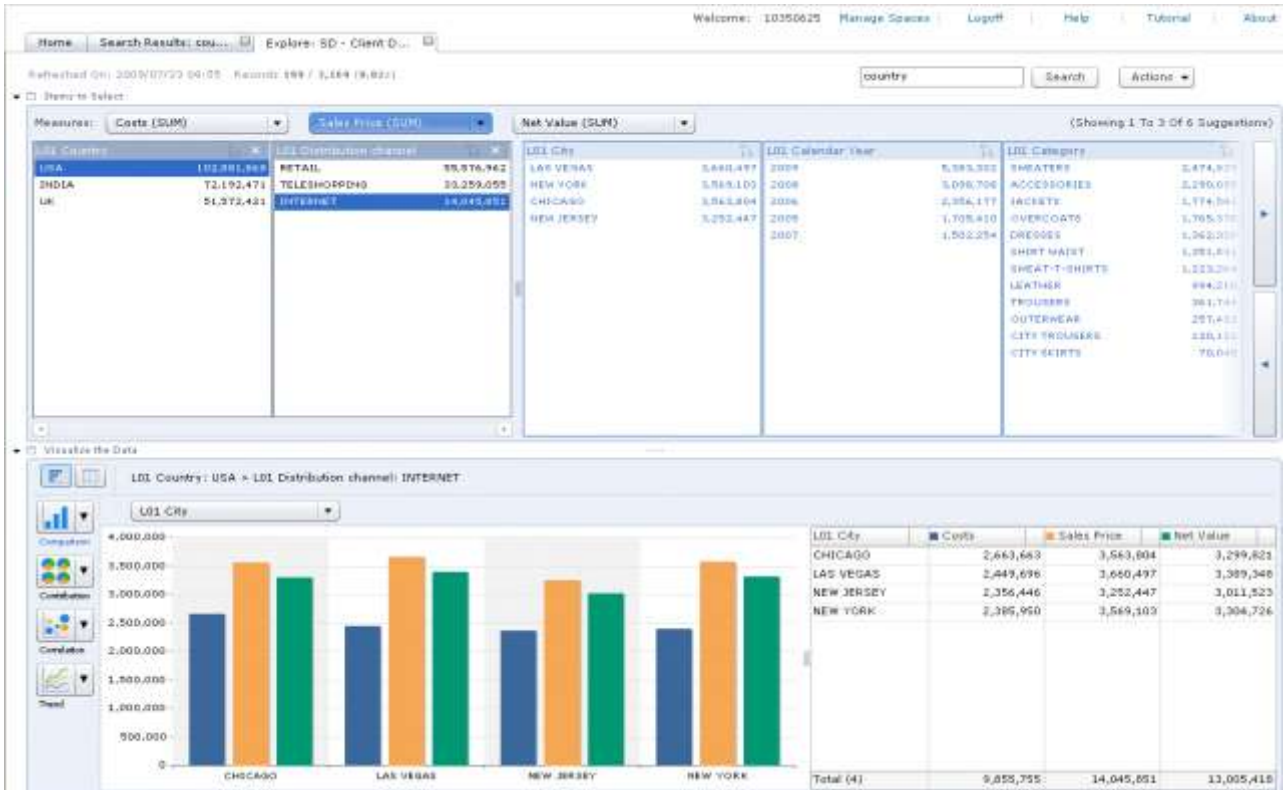
Above chart displays costs as well as net value details for country USA.

Chart Interactivity with three measure selection

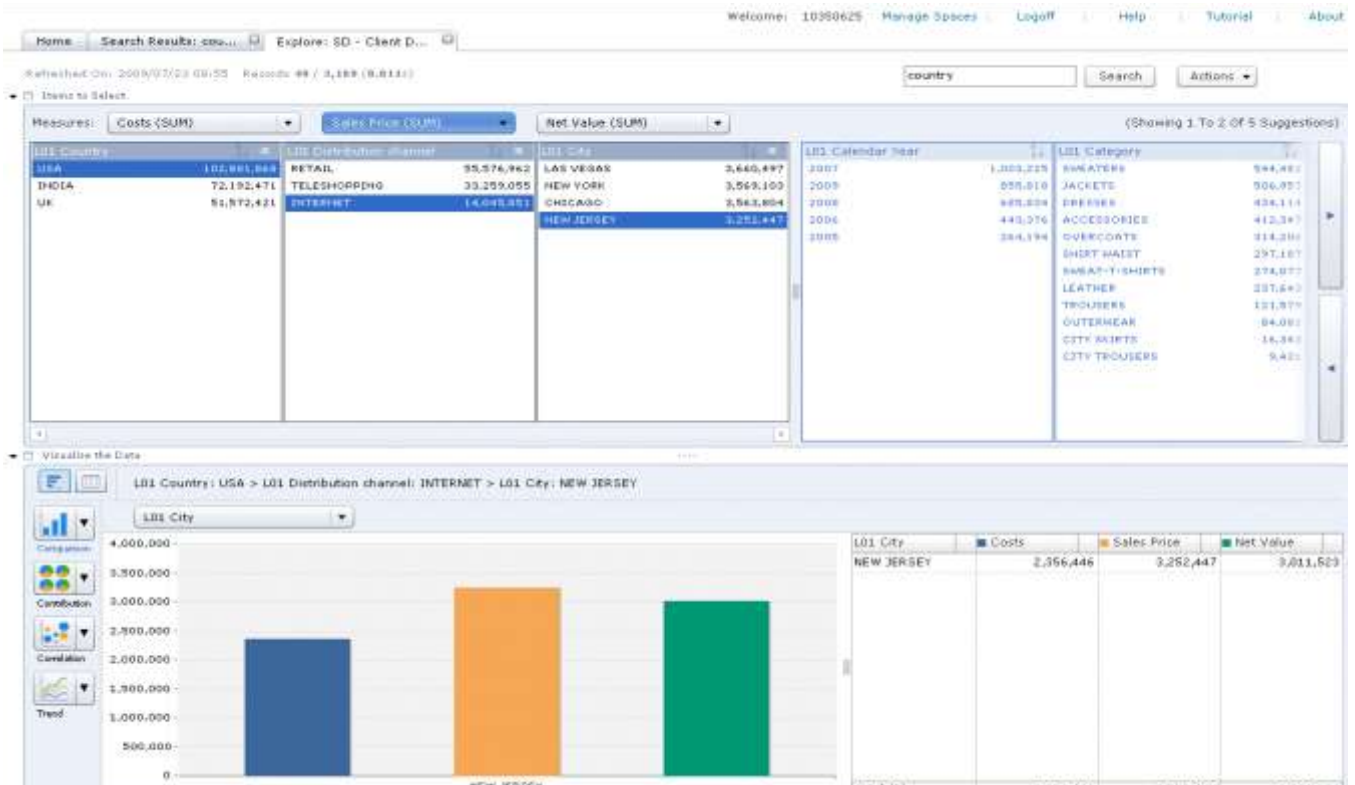


Above chart displays costs and sale price as well as net value details for country USA.

Chart Interactivity using drill down within the facets/chart



Above chart displays costs, sale price as well as net value details for country USA for distribution channel INTERNET.



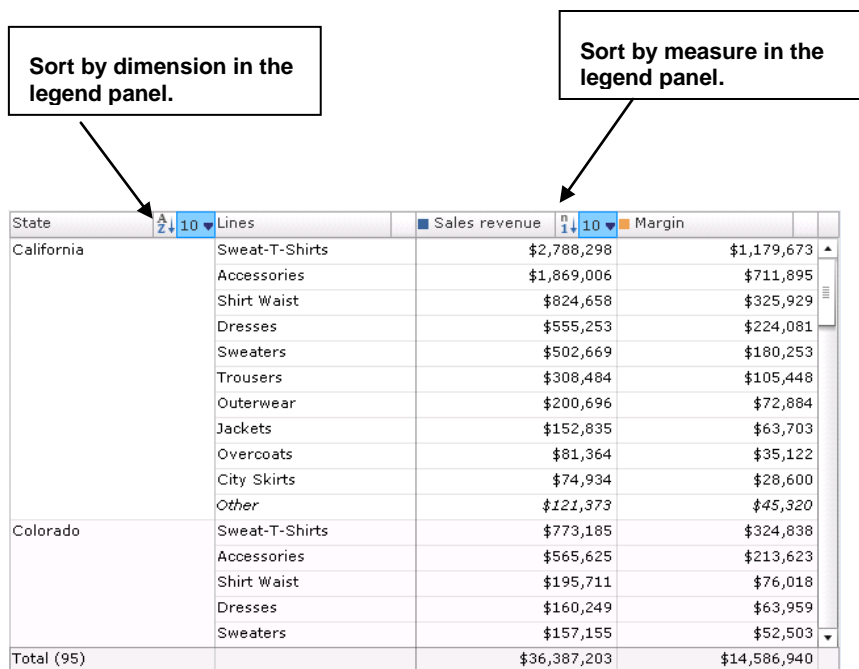
Above chart displays costs, sale price as well as net value details for country USA for distribution channel INTERNET and city New Jersey.

Sorting Options

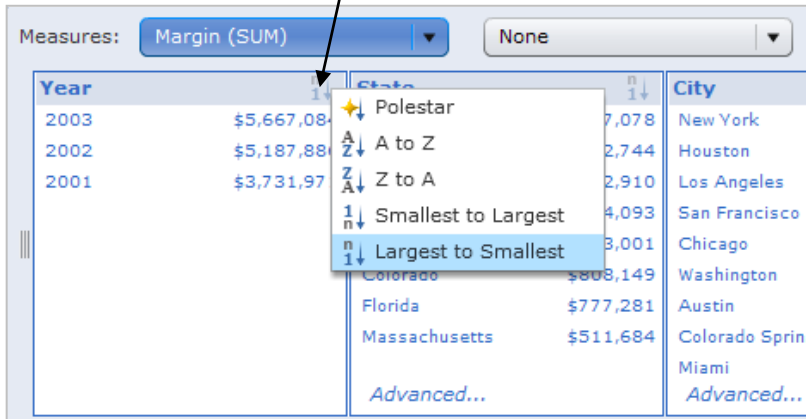
There are two sorting options in BusinessObjects Explorer for graphical reports.

- Sort can now be performed during exploration in the facets selection and legend panels.
- Default sort can be defined in the information space.

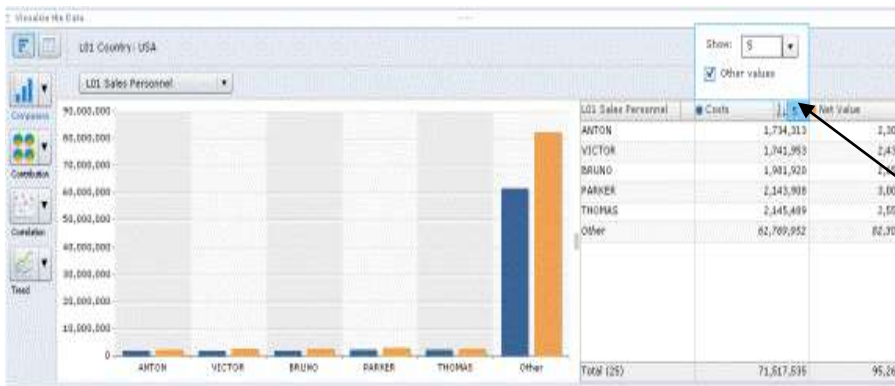
Information space users can override the default sort.



Override default sort during exploration in facets.



Top contribution analysis



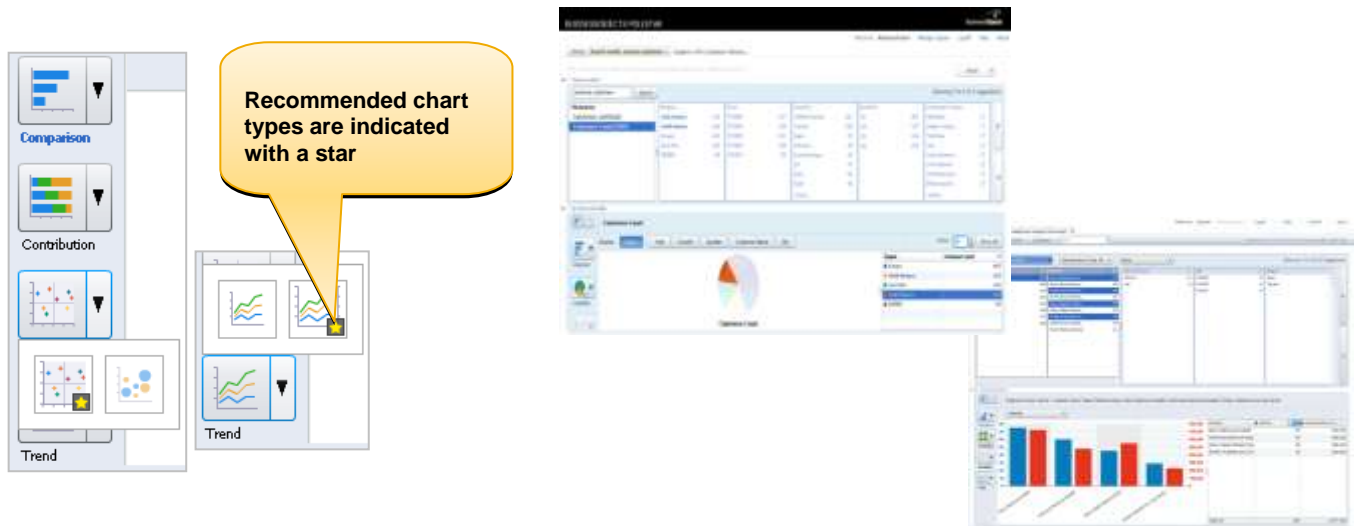
Option to select top n values, with other values checked.



Option to select top n values, with other values unchecked.

Available chart options

Switch between different chart options available with BusinessObjects Explorer as per need of the data exploration and business analysis.



Error messages

The chart below categorizes some important error messages.

Error Message Range	Category
PS 10001 - PS 10006	General errors
PS 20001 - PS 20013	Server-side errors
PS 30001 - PS 30013	Information Space management errors
PS 30001 - PS 30013	Search errors
PS 50001 - PS 50008	Exploration errors
PS 50100 - PS 50109	Export errors
PS 50201 - PS 50206	Prompt errors

Conclusion

By following the steps above one can explore and analyze the business data using BusinessObjects Explorer on top of SAP BI query. Further improvisation to the report would depend on the business requirements.

Related Content

www.sdn.sap.com

www.help.sap.com

For more information, visit the [Business Intelligence homepage](#).

Disclaimer and Liability Notice

This document may discuss sample coding or other information that does not include SAP official interfaces and therefore is not supported by SAP. Changes made based on this information are not supported and can be overwritten during an upgrade.

SAP will not be held liable for any damages caused by using or misusing the information, code or methods suggested in this document, and anyone using these methods does so at his/her own risk.

SAP offers no guarantees and assumes no responsibility or liability of any type with respect to the content of this technical article or code sample, including any liability resulting from incompatibility between the content within this document and the materials and services offered by SAP. You agree that you will not hold, or seek to hold, SAP responsible or liable with respect to the content of this document.