

Crystal Reports

Top Report Designer Component 7(RDC) Features

1. The Parameter fields in Seagate Crystal Reports (SCR) 7.0 have been enhanced to support features such as multiple values, ranges, and allowing the user to select a value. In order to stay the same as the SCR designer, the RDC parameter fields have been enhanced. Also, the RDC Automation Server (CRAXDRT) has included the enhanced parameter field functionality so that developer's can have more control over parameter fields.
2. In the RDC 6.0 version (Web release), the CRAXDRT Automation Server did not give the developer the functionality to change the SQL Query of a report. In RDC7, this feature is added to the CRAXDRT Automation Server. The .SQLQueryString property can be found under the Report object.
3. In the RDC 6.0 version (Web release) the CRAXDRT Automation Server did not give the developer the functionality to access stored procedure parameter. The CRAXDRT Automation Server allowed access to Crystal parameter fields, but not for database stored procedure parameter fields. In RDC 7.0, the feature is added to the CRAXDRT Automation Server. Stored procedure parameters can be accessed using the ParameterFieldDefinitions collection to get to a specific ParameterFieldDefinition object.
4. The RDC 7.0 can use Microsoft Visual Basic 6.0 's Data Environment as a data source. The Command object in the Data Environment can be dragged and dropped in a RDC 7.0 Designer which will bind it to the Command object's recordset but it will not place the fields from the Data Environment onto the report.
5. Microsoft released an ActiveX Designer called Data Reports, with Visual Basic 6.0. The RDC 7.0 has the ability to import these Data Reports, and convert them into a "Crystal" report. Currently (last checked 19/11/98), the importing process is not 100% perfect, as there are pending issues with the process. There is an issue importing reports from Data Reports that are using hierarchical data. Another issue exists with importing Data Reports that have embedded images.

6. SCR 7.0 has introduced many new additions, including Map objects and SQL Expression fields. The RDC 7.0 also includes these new additions, as well as updated the Automation Server (CRAXDRT) to be able to access these objects and manipulate them, at runtime.
7. RDC7 now supports ADO 2.0 and all of its features, including Data Shaping (hierarchical data for example).
8. Seagate Crystal Reports 7.0 now has a OLEDB driver, that allows reports to connect to data sources that have an OLEDB service provider and the Microsoft Data Access Components (MDAC 2.0) properly installed on the machine.
9. The Smart Viewer ActiveX control, CRVIEWER.DLL, has been enhanced for the RDC 7.0. The Smart Viewer can now have an Export button on the preview window that allows users to export reports to other formats, such as Word, HTML, and RTF. Also, the Smart Viewer can now preview multiple reports, at once (through the Report Collection).

Contacting Crystal Decisions for Technical Support

We recommend that you refer to the product documentation and that you visit our Technical Support web site for more resources.

Self-serve Support:

<http://support.crystaldecisions.com/>

Email Support:

<http://support.crystaldecisions.com/support/answers.asp>

Telephone Support:

<http://www.crystaldecisions.com/contact/support.asp>