

Crystal Reports 8.0

Using Crystal Reports 8 Web Components with Apache Web Server

Overview

This document gives explicit solutions for setting up Apache's Web Server to use Crystal Reports. All solutions that are provided here are valid for Versions 7 and 8 of Crystal Reports.

Contents

INTRODUCTION	1
INSTALLATION	2
<i>Installing the CGI Connector for the WCS.....</i>	<i>2</i>
VIRTUAL DIRECTORIES	2
USING THE CGI CONNECTOR WITH CRYSTAL REPORTS WEB COMPONENT SERVER	3
CONTACTING CRYSTAL DECISIONS FOR TECHNICAL SUPPORT	3

Introduction

Apache's Web Server supports the Common Gateway Interface (CGI), which allows you to create external programs (CGI programs) that interface with your server. CGI provides a common groundwork so that any web server can communicate with any CGI script. The CGI interface deals with interaction between the web server and the script. The client browser begins this interaction by navigating to a URL that includes the CGI script in its path; the CGI program is then executed.

With Netscape (Enterprise and Fastrack) and Microsoft (Internet Information Server) web servers, the Web Component Server installs NSAPI or ISAPI libraries to deliver its reports over the Web. In the case of Apache's Web Server, the Web Component Server relies on a CGI script to deliver the report.

Installation

The installation of the CGI Connector for the Web Component Server begins as a standard installation.

Installing the CGI Connector for the WCS

You will require the Crystal Reports 8 Web Reporting Administrator's Guide. If you do not have this guide, go to our Technical Support web site and download the file **SCR8_Web.pdf**.

Here are the steps for installing the Web Component Server to work with your Apache Web Server.

1. Turn to Chapter 3 of the Web Administrator's Guide.
2. Follow the instructions from pages 20 to 28.
3. Copy the wscgi.exe file into Apache's cgi-bin directory. By default, this is C:\Program Files\Apache Group\Apache\cgi-bin\ . Other versions of Apache's Web Server will have the cgi-bin located at C:\Apache\cgi-bin.
4. Create a folder under the htdocs directory which will contain Crystal Reports files (e.g. the directory could be called "reports"). Copy all desired reports into this new folder.

Virtual Directories

The virtual directory paths may get set up in Apache's Configuration File (Httpd.conf) using full path names, such as:

1. Alias /viewer/ "C:/Program Files/Seagate Software/viewers/"
2. Alias /reports/ "C:/Program Files/Apache Group/Apache/htdocs/reports/"

This "reports" directory is the directory that we suggest you create that contain your Crystal Reports files that will displayed over the web. This is the same directory that is referred to in Step 4 above.

3. ScriptAlias /webreports/ "C:/Program Files/Apache Group/Apache/cgi-bin/wscgi.exe/"

If this is the case, you will need to change the path names in Httpd.conf from long path names with spaces to use the short, 8.3 Naming Convention, as follows:

1. Alias /viewer/ "C:/Progra~1/Seagat~1/viewers/"
2. Alias /reports/ "C:/Progra~1/Apache~1/Apache/htdocs/reports/"
3. ScriptAlias /webreports/ "C:/Progra~1/Apache~1/Apache/cgi-bin/wscgi.exe/"

If you are using an older version of Apache, you may need to change the syntax for item 3 to:

```
ScriptAlias /webreports/ "C:/apache/cgi-bin/wscgi.exe/"
```

If problems occur displaying or loading the Smart Viewers on client machines calling the reports through the browser, copy the Viewers directory from:

c:\Program Files\Seagate Software\ and paste it under the htdocs directory and name it "viewer".

Using the CGI Connector with Crystal Reports Web Component Server

Now that you have successfully installed and configured your Apache Web Server, you will now be able to display reports through your web browser.

The syntax for calling a report through the CGI Connector is:

<http://servername/cgi-bin/wscgi.exe/reports/report.rpt> ; where :

- **servername** is the name of your server,
- **cgibin** is the virtual directory path to your Apache Web Server's cgi-bin directory,
- **reports** is the alias used for the virtual directory that contains your Crystal Reports files, and
- **report.rpt** is the name of the report displayed in the browser

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>