

Crystal Enterprise

Working with DB2 on the AS/400 Platform

Overview

AS/400, also called iSeries server, is an IBM hardware platform that operates on an OS/400 operating system. The combination of this platform and operating system provide integrated and highly flexible workload management options for rapid deployment of high performance enterprise applications such as Crystal Enterprise (CE).

Using DB2 on AS/400 (iSeries) with CE or Seagate Info (SI) requires special considerations and configuration. This document is intended to assist you configure, publish, and schedule reports using DB2 on AS/400 (iSeries) with CE and SI.

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Introduction

When connecting to DB2 on an AS/400 platform, it is important to note that for use with Crystal Enterprise, this implementation of DB2 is considered different from DB2 on a Microsoft or Unix platform. Special considerations must be made for CE to connect to DB2 on AS/400.

With these considerations in mind, this document contains information on the following topics:

- Recommended clients for use with AS/400 (iSeries)
- Supported versions of Client Access Express
- Considerations for different versions of Client Access Express
- Publishing reports with CE and SI

Client Access Express

There are several clients that can be used to connect to AS/400. IBM provides four clients that connect to AS/400. These clients are:

- DB2 connect
- Client Access
- Client Access Express
- DB2 Client Administrator

IBM documentation recommends that Client Access Express be used to connect to AS/400. Because of this recommendation and the fact that it is the most stable AS/400 client for use with Crystal Decisions products, this paper discusses Client Access Express in detail.

NOTE	<p>The ODBC database driver (Crdb2.dll) and native database driver (P2sdb2.dll) for DB2 supplied by Crystal Decisions are not supported with Client Access Express.</p> <p>The only supported database driver is the ODBC driver supplied with Client Access Express (Cwbodbc.dll).</p>
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CE and SI with Client Access Express

Once reports are designed and ready to be published to your Enterprise Environment or scheduled in your SI environment, there are several things that must be considered based on the version of Client Access Express.

There are various service packs available from IBM, an update for Cwbodbc.dll, specific setting for configuring the ODBC DSN, and changes to the registry that may have to be made.

To determine the version of Client Access Express, click **Start > Programs > AS/400 Operations Navigator**. On the **Help** menu, click **About Operations Navigator**. The following box appears:



In this example, the version is Version 4 Release 5 Modification level 0 (V4R5M0)

Supported versions of Client Access Express

The following versions of Client Access Express are supported by IBM and therefore, by Crystal Decisions. Special considerations when using DB2 on AS/400 with Client Access Express are outlined in the following sections.

V4R4M0

For use with CE or SI, this version requires a service pack as well as an update of the ODBC driver Cwbodbc.dll so that a registry key can be updated to work with Crystal Enterprise.

CAUTION

The service packs for CE or SI in this document are not applicable to Crystal Reports (CR).

Follow the procedures outlined below in order to successfully configure Client Access Express to function with CE or SI:

Download & Install IBM Service Packs and Updates for Client Access Express

1. Go to the IBM FTP link:
<ftp://ftp.software.ibm.com/as400/products/clientaccess/win32/>
2. Open the folder named for your version of Client Access Express and then open the service pack folder.
3. Install the service pack as per the instructions found in the READMESP.TXT

Download & Install IBM ODBC driver update for Client Access Express

4. Go to the IBM FTP link:
<ftp://ftp.software.ibm.com/as400/products/clientaccess/win32/v4r4m0/files/odbc/sf65706post/>
5. Update cwbodbc.dll as per the instructions in ODBC.TXT

Configure the DSN (Data Source Name)

1. Go to Start > Programs > Settings > Control Panel > Administrative Tools > Data Sources (ODBC)

2. In the **ODBC Data Source Administrator**, click the **System DSN** tab. Select the ODBC Data Source Name (DSN) that was configured with Client Access Express and click the **Configure** button.
3. On the General tab of the Client Access Express ODBC Setup box, click the Connection Options button and then select Prompt Every Time'.
4. Click **OK** and close the ODBC administrator.

Modify the Windows Registry

In order to use this DSN with CE, you must edit the DSN's registry value.

NOTE	<p>Crystal Reports (CR) cannot use this modified DSN to connect to DB2. To open the reports in CR, you must change the Registry String Value (discussed in step iv below) SQLConnectPromptMode from one (1) to zero (0).</p> <p>Alternately, you can create 2 separate DSNs. One DSN would have a value of zero for use with CR and the other would have a value of one for use with CE or SI.</p>
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1. On the **Start** menu click **Run** and type **regedit** in the **Open** box.
2. In the **Registry Editor**, browse to HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\ODBC\ODBC.INI\Your_DSN_Name
3. Right-click your DSN name and on the submenu click **New** and then click **String Value**. A new string value appears in the right pane of the **Registry Editor**.
4. Name the new string value **SQLConnectPromptMode** and assign it a value of one (1). This key stops the Crystal Page Server service from looping through the logging prompt to AS/400.
5. Restart the operation system.

CE or SI now functions successfully with DB2 on AS/400 (iSeries) using Client Access Express.

For more information on IBM Service Packs and Updates, go to the IBM Problem Report (APAR) at www.ibm.com and search for SA93486.

V4R5M0

This version requires the latest Service Pack. This is enough to function with Crystal Enterprise.

Download & Install IBM Service Packs and Updates for Client Access Express

1. Go to the IBM FTP link:
<ftp://ftp.software.ibm.com/as400/products/clientaccess/win32/>
2. Open the folder named for your version of Client Access Express and then open the service pack folder.

3. Install the service pack as per the instructions found in the READMESP.TXT

Configure the DSN (Data Source Name)

1. Go to Start > Programs > Settings > Control Panel > Administrative Tools > Data Sources (ODBC)
2. In the **ODBC Data Source Administrator**, click the **System DSN** tab. Select the ODBC Data Source Name (DSN) that was configured with Client Access Express and click the **Configure** button.
3. On the General tab of the Client Access Express ODBC Setup box, click the Connection Options button and then select Prompt Every Time.
4. Click **OK** and close the ODBC administrator.

Modify the Microsoft Windows Registry

In order to use this new DSN with CE, you must edit the DSN's registry value.

NOTE	<p>Crystal Reports (CR) cannot use this modified DSN to connect to DB2. To open the reports in CR, you must change the Registry String Value (discussed in step iv below) SQLConnectPromptMode from one (1) to zero (0).</p> <p>Alternately, you can create 2 separate DSNs. One DSN would have a value of zero for use with CR and the other would have a value of one for use with CE or SI.</p>
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1. On the **Start** menu click **Run** and type **regedit** in the **Open** text box.
2. In the **Registry Editor**, browse to HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\ODBC\ODBC.INI\Your_DSN_Name
3. Right-click your DSN name and on the submenu click **New** and then click **String Value**. A new string value appears in the right pane of the **Registry Editor**.
4. Name the new string value **SQLConnectPromptMode** and assign it a value of one (1). This key stops the Crystal Page Server service from looping through the logging prompt to AS/400.
5. Restart the operating system.

CE or SI now functions successfully with DB2 on AS/400 (iSeries) using Client Access Express

V5R1M0

The only required step for this version of Client Access Express is to configure the DSN. This version works with CE and SI without any service packs, updates, or registry changes.

Configure the DSN (Data Source Name)

1. Go to Start > Programs > Settings > Control Panel > Administrative Tools > Data Sources (ODBC)
2. In the **ODBC Data Source Administrator**, click the **System DSN** tab. Select the ODBC Data Source Name (DSN) that was configured with Client Access Express and click the **Configure** button.
3. On the General tab of the **Client Access Express ODBC Setup** box, click the **Connection Options** button and select the following:
 - Sign on Dialog Prompting = **Never Prompt for SQLConnect**
 - Default User ID = **None**
4. Click **OK** and close the ODBC administrator.

NOTE

Once the reports are added to CE, ensure that you set the user ID and Password for AS/400 in each report. If this is not done, the reports may have a looping logon to the database.

SI with DB2 Connect

DB2 Connect is another AS/400 (iSeries) client provided by IBM. DB2 Connect works successfully with SI and does not need any updates.

If you require a native connection to the database, the DB2 native database driver P2sdb2.dll, supplied by Crystal Decisions, is supported with SI. The ODBC database driver Crdb2.dll, supplied by Crystal Decisions, is also supported providing the choice of connecting either natively or via ODBC. ODBC is the recommended connection method however.

IBM strongly recommends using Client Access Express to connect to AS/400 (iSeries) but if you are already using DB2 Connect with SI, you are not required to switch to Client Access Express for purposes of Technical Support. Crystal Decisions does support DB2 Connect with SI.

Please note that while DB2 Connect may work successfully with CE, it has not been fully tested by Crystal Decisions and therefore is not officially supported.

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>