

Crystal Reports

Exporting Formats and Limitations in Crystal Reports (CR) 6.0

Overview

This white paper has been compiled to serve as a guide to assist customers in deciding what export format is best suited to their reporting needs. This document outlines all our export formats currently available with Crystal Reports (CR) Professional 6.0 at the time of this publication, however, we are constantly testing and adding new information as additional “beta” versions of our DLLs become available. This document will be updated on an ongoing basis.

Contents

INTRODUCTION	2
ADDITIONAL THINGS TO NOTE	2
CHART OF EXPORT LIMITATIONS	3
<i>Page Headers/Footers</i>	4
<i>Lines & Boxes</i>	5
<i>Cross-Tab Reports</i>	5
<i>Subreports</i>	5
<i>Simple Reports</i>	5
<i>Formulas</i>	5
With Cross-Tabs in the Report:	5
Without Cross-Tabs in the Report:	5
EXPORT DLL'S VERSION INFORMATION	6
16-bit CR, version 6.0.x.135	6
32-bit CR, version 6.0.x.135	6
<i>Getting Updated Export DLLs</i>	7
CONTACTING CRYSTAL DECISIONS FOR TECHNICAL SUPPORT	7

Introduction

In the table on the following page, the column headings show most of our major reporting features currently available in version 6.0. The rows each represent the different exporting formats available with version 6.0 (Professional).

Each cell of the table is given a rating of A, B or X:

- A - Supported in Export Format
- B - Supported in Export Format with Limitations
- X - Not Supported in Export Format

Those export formats that are rated as “B” can work, but may have some specific formatting issues that must be adhered to in order for it to export properly. These issues are discussed at the end of this document after the chart.

Additional things to note

1. Under the category of **Page Header/Footer**, most export formats WILL NOT contain a Page Footer. The only formats that currently support page footers are: Word, WordPerfect and RTF (opened in Word).
2. The **Suppressed/Hidden Sections** also pertain to conditionally suppressed sections.
3. The **Subreports** section covers both linked and unlinked subreports.
4. The **Simple Reports** section refers to reports that contain only a Details section.
5. The latest export dlls and their version numbers are listed for reference.

Chart of Export Limitations

EXPORT FORMAT	Page Header/ Footer	Report Header/ Footer	Group Header/ Footer	Lines/ Boxes	Graphs	OLE Objects	Formulas
Tab separated text	A	A	A	X	X	X	A
Tab separated values	A	A	A	X	X	X	B
Comma Separated values	A	A	A	X	X	X	B
Character Separated values	A	A	A	X	X	X	B
Crystal Report	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Data Interchange	A	A	A	X	X	X	B
Excel 2.1	A	A	A	X	X	X	A
Excel 3.0	A	A	A	X	X	X	A
Excel 4.0	A	A	A	X	X	X	A
Excel 5.0	A	A	A	X	A	A	A
Excel 5.0 (Tabular)	B	X	A	X	X	A	A
HTML 3.0	B	A	A	X	A	A	A
HTML 3.2 (Extended)	B	A	A	X	A	A	A
HTML 3.2 (Standard)	B	A	A	X	A	A	A
Lotus 123 (wk1)	A	A	A	X	X	X	A
Lotus 123 (wk2)	A	A	A	X	X	X	A
Lotus 123 (wk3)	A	A	A	X	X	X	A
Paginated Text	A	A	A	X	X	X	A
Quattro Pro (16-bit)	A	A	A	X	X	X	A
Record Style	X	B	X	X	X	X	B
Report definition	A	A	A	X	X	X	A
Rich text format	B	A	A	B	A	A	A
Word	B	A	A	X	A	A	B
Text	A	A	A	X	X	X	A
WordPerfect (16-bit)	A	A	A	X	X	X	B

EXPORT FORMAT	Bitmaps	Cross Tabs	Subreports	"Simple" Reports	Suppressed Hidden Sections	Text Objects	Multicolumn/ Labels
Tab separated text	X	B	X	A	A	A	X
Tab separated values	X	B	X	A	A	A	X
Comma Separated values	X	B	X	A	A	A	X
Character Separated values	X	B	X	A	A	A	X
Crystal Report	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Data Interchange	X	B	X	A	X	A	X
Excel 2.1	X	A	X	A	A		X
Excel 3.0	X	A	X	A	A		X
Excel 4.0	X	A	X	A	A		X
Excel 5.0	A	A	A	A	A	A	X
Excel 5.0 (Tabular)	A	B	X	A	A	X	X
HTML 3.0	A	A	A	A	A	A	X
HTML 3.2 (Extended)	A	A	A	A	A	A	X
HTML 3.2 (Standard)	A	A	A	A	A	A	X
Lotus 123 (wk1)	X	B	X	A	A		X
Lotus 123 (wk2)	X	B	X	A	A		X
Lotus 123 (wk3)	X	B	X	A	A		X
Paginated Text	X	A	A	A	A	A	X
Quattro Pro (16-bit)	X	B	X	A	A		X
Record Style	X	B	X	B	X	X	X
Report definition	X	X	A	A	A	B	X
Rich text format	A	A	A	A	A	A	X
Word	A	A	A	A	A	B	X
Text	X	A	A	A	A	A	X
WordPerfect (16-bit)	X	B	X	A	A		X

Page Headers/Footers

Limitations in exporting mainly revolve around problems with the Page Number special field. If a Page Number special field is placed within a complex text object (i.e., "Page Number {pagenumber}"), the exported result in both Word and RTF will display the page number continuously as "Page Number 1". To get around this problem, DO NOT place the special field Page Number in a complex text object. Place the text object beside the special field as two separate objects (i.e. [{"Page Number"}] [{"pagenumber}]).

With Character Separated, Tab Separated and Record Style export formats; there is a repetition of the Report Footer and the Page Footer on every grouping of the report. There is also a repetition of the Report Header and Page Header on every record of the report.

Lines & Boxes

Only RTF supports the exporting of lines and boxes. However, there can be problems with the exported lines and boxes being misaligned. To correct this, simply re-align the objects within the RTF file so that they line up as desired. These alignment issues occur more with reports that are dense with fields and objects. Please note the color and width of the lines is not recognized in the RTF export format.

Cross-Tab Reports

When a cross-tab is placed in a report, it may have a negative impact on exporting the report. This impact is most notable in the detail section of the exported formats. Most often, the cross-tab will be duplicated once for every group in the main report, or on reports with no groups, ONLY the cross-tab information gets exported. One workaround is to create a “mock” cross-tab for your report, rather than using the cross-tab expert. The affected exporting formats are: Comma Separated, Character Separated, Tab Separated, Lotus 123 (wk1,wk3,wks), Quattro Pro and WordPerfect. For best results, when using dates in the cross tab column headings, be sure to convert those Date/Time Strings to Date format. Otherwise, the headings will not align with the columns.

Subreports

When exporting reports with subreports (linked or unlinked) to Excel (any format), a number of problems can plague the resulting exported file. The most common result is an Excel spreadsheet with only Group Header information printing and no Details data until the last group.

Simple Reports

When using the Record Style export format, the detail section is the only section exported.

Formulas

With Cross-Tabs in the Report:

A cross-tab in the Report Header will not export running total formulas correctly. This will occur in Tab Separated, Comma Separated, Character Separated, Data Interchange, and Record Style export formats.

Without Cross-Tabs in the Report:

If you are using running total formulas, Comma Separated export format does not return correct values.

Export DLL's version information

16-bit CR, version 6.0.x.135

The export dlls start with UXFCR and finish with UXFXLS. The size of the file listed in the third column, the date the dll was last modified in the fourth column and the version of the dll in the last column.

32-bit CR, version 6.0.x.135

The export dlls start with U2FCR and finish with U2FXLS. The size of the file listed in the third column, the date the dll was last modified in the fourth column and the version of the dll in the last column.

Getting Updated Export DLLs

Some of our DLLs have been recently improved or changed since the initial release of version 6.0 of Crystal Reports. If you are having trouble with one of our export DLLs, please contact our Tech Support Email department and we would be happy to send you the most recent versions or check our web site for newer versions at: <http://support.crystaldecisions.com/downloads>

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>