Oracle® Business Intelligence Publisher

Release Notes

Release 10.1.3.3.2

Part No. E10410-05

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Introduction

These release notes describe known issues and workarounds for Oracle Business Intelligence Publisher releases 10.1.3.3, 10.1.3.3.1, and 10.1.3.3.2. For installation information, consult the *Oracle Business Intelligence Publisher Install Guide*, which is available on the Oracle Business Intelligence Publisher install media and on the Oracle Business Intelligence Publisher Web site:

http://www.oracle.com/technology/products/xml-publisher/index.html

These release notes are organized into the following sections:

ORACLE®

- Documentation Accessibility

How to Use These Release Notes

These release notes are updated periodically as new information becomes available. To ensure that you are reading the latest version of the release notes, check the Oracle Business Intelligence Publisher Web site:

http://www.oracle.com/technology/products/xml-publisher/index.html

Issues and Workarounds

General Issues

Interface May Enter Stale State After Extended Use

After extended use, the BI Publisher Web UI may enter a state in which the top header frame colors appear reversed (blue screen objects appear white); however, the navigation links remain white. Therefore you may not be able to see

Welcome, <username> Preferences Sign Out Help

To correct this problem, restart the browser.

BI Publisher Performance Impacted by Bug in Java SE Development Kit (JDK) 5.0 version

The Java SE Development Kit (JDK) 5.0 version 1_5_0_7 contains a bug that impacts the performance of BI Publisher.

To correct this problem, upgrade to JDK 5.0 update 11 (1_5_0_11). You can download this update from:

http://java.sun.com/javase/downloads/index_jdk5.jsp

Scheduler Tab and Buttons Disabled Until the Scheduler is Properly Configured

Starting with version 10.1.3.2.1 if the administrator has not correctly configured the BI Publisher scheduler, the Schedules tab and the Schedule buttons will be disabled even when the user has the XMLP_SCHEDULER role. To enable the Schedules tab and the Schedule button, you must configure and install the Scheduler tables. See the topic: Configuring the Scheduler Database in the *Oracle Business Intelligence Publisher Installation Guide*.

Space Character in ORACLE_HOME Directory Name Causes Runtime Error During Installation

When performing an advanced install into an existing ORACLE_HOME a runtime error will occur if a space character is in the directory name of the selected ORACLE_HOME. This is a limitation of the Oracle Universal Installer (OUI) version 10.1.0.6.0 used for BI Publisher 10.1.3.3. The directory name is not validated before installation, thereby allowing installation to proceed. However, the runtime error will be encountered, which will require you to cancel

the installation.

To work around this issue, choose an ORACLE_HOME directory name that does not include a space character.

Internal Server Error 500 and 501 When Using Discoverer Worksheet as a Data Source

If you encounter either of the following errors when using Discoverer Worksheets in your report data model:

500 Internal Server Error

The server encountered an internal error or misconfiguration and was unable to complete your request.

or Error 501

It is possible that the HTTP server where BI Publisher is running is timing out before the Discoverer Web service returns the data from the worksheet. If that is the case, you can correct this problem by increasing the values of Timeout and KeepAliveTimeout in the file:

```
<Oracle_Home>\Apache\Apache\conf\httpd.conf
```

For example you can change the following values:

```
Timeout 1800
KeepAliveTimeout 15
```

to

```
Timeout 7200
KeepAliveTimeout 150
```

Note the values are in seconds (1800=30 minutes, 7200=2 hours).

Images Do Not Generate Properly Without X Server

If you are running the BI Publisher server on a Linux or Unix machine that does not have an X Server installed reports that contain images may not be properly generated.

Workaround: If you are running Java 1.4.2 or later, start the environment with a headless implementation. Specify the following property at the java command line:

```
-Djava.awt.headless=true
```

For JDK versions prior to 1.4.2 please see your documentation on how to implement X Host for your environment.

Reports with Multibyte Character File Names Do Not Download Properly

If your report file name contains multibyte characters and you download the report by selecting the **Report Actions** icon then clicking **Download this report**, the file names in the generated zip file will be invalid. This is due to a Java bug (details available from the Sun Developer Network [http://bugs.sun.com/bugdatabase/view_bug.do;:YfiG?bug_id=4244499]). Consequently, the downloaded report zip file cannot be uploaded back to the BI Publisher server. To work around this issue, use only ASCII characters in file names.

Multibyte Character File Names Not Supported at Runtime

Because the encoding of multibyte character file names is dependent on the operating system and locale of the runtime environment, BI Publisher cannot support multibyte characters in file names. To work around this issue, use only ASCII characters in file names.

Column-Level Time Zone Formatting in BI Answers Not Supported in BI Publisher

Oracle BI Publisher does not support column-level time zone settings applied in BI Presentation Services. BI Publisher reports that use BI Answers requests with column-level time zone settings may result in different dates displayed in BI Presentation Services and BI Publisher. This is not an issue for reports without column-level time zone settings as long as the User Time Zone setting for BI Publisher and BI Presentation Services is the same.

Proxy Configuration May Be Required for Accessing Data Sources over the Internet

If you wish to use external Web Services or HTTP data sources and your BI Publisher server is set up behind a firewall or requires a proxy to access the internet, then you must configure Oracle Containers for J2EE (OC4J), or your supported J2EE application server to be aware of the proxy.

For OC4J, update the `<Oracle_Home>\oc4j\bin\oc4j.cmd` file. Locate the following line:

```
rem JVMARGS
set JVMARGS=-Djava.library.path=C:\oracle\bi\server\Bin;C:\oracle\bi\web\bin
-DSAROOTDIR=C:\oracle\bi -DSADATADIR=C:\oracle\bidata -XX:MaxPermSize=128m
-Xmx512m %OC4J_JVM_ARGS%
```

and update with the following string:

```
-Dhttp.proxyHost=<proxy.mycompany.com> -Dhttp.proxyPort=80
```

so the result will be:

```
rem JVMARGS
set JVMARGS=-Dhttp.proxyHost=<proxy.mycompany.com> -Dhttp.proxyPort=80
-Djava.library.path=C:\oracle\bi\server\Bin;C:\oracle\bi\web\bin
-DSAROOTDIR=C:\oracle\bi -DSADATADIR=C:\oracle\bidata -XX:MaxPermSize=128m
-Xmx512m %OC4J_JVM_ARGS%
```

For other application servers, consult your documentation.

Analyzer Templates with Multibyte Character Names Cause Error When Autorun in View Mode

If you create an Analyzer template with multibyte characters in the template name and run the report by selecting the View link or button, you will receive the following error:

500 Internal Server Error

Servlet error: An exception occurred. The current application deployment descriptors do not allow for including it in this response. Please consult the application log for details.

If you select View again, the report will be rendered correctly.

To work around this issue, use only ASCII characters in template names, or turn off the auto-run option for the report.

BI Publisher Report Editor Panel Fails to Display Correctly When Using Internet Explorer 6.0 in SSO-Enabled Environments

If SSO is enabled, the Report Editor panel may fail to display correctly if you are also using Internet Explorer 6.0 as your Web browser. To work around this issue, use either Internet Explorer 7.0 or Firefox 2.0.

Admin Tab May Not Display When BI Publisher Integrated with E-Business Suite

If you integrate Oracle BI Publisher Enterprise with the E-Business Suite, you may not be able to see the Admin tab after logging in to BI Publisher with an E-Business Suite user who has the appropriate BI Publisher responsibilities. This results when the database NLS_LANG setting does not match the OC4J NLS_LANG setting.

OC4J derives its NLS_LANG value from the operating system locale. Therefore, to resolve this issue, you must define the LANG environment variable for your OC4J operating system with the proper locale name to match the NLS_LANG setting for the E-Business Suite database. For example, if OC4J is deployed on Linux, and the NLS_LANG for the E-Business Suite database is defined as "American_America.UTF8", then you must define the LANG environment variable for your Linux OS as "en_US.UTF-8". For more information on setting this variable, see the following notes on Oracle MetaLink:

Note: 264157.1: The Correct NLS_LANG Setting in Unix Environments

Note: 351919.1: Globalization Support : JavaVM, Oracle JDBC Driver, NLS_LANG and OC4J

Processing Indicator Not Displaying

This has been corrected in 10.1.3.3.1.

On certain platforms, when generating a report in PDF format from the View Report page, the "processing" or "busy" indicator may not appear to indicate that BI Publisher is processing the request, leaving the user unsure if the submit action was successful.

Fixes for Accessibility Standards

This applies to release 10.1.3.3.1.

Three areas of the BI Publisher View report page have been enhanced to meet accessibility standards. These are the following:

- An alternate text tag has been added to the Oracle logo in the banner.

- Proper label tags for assistive technology have been added to the Parameter, Template and Output format lists.

- A "Skip Navigation" tag has been added to the navigation links.

Bursting to Printer Fails

This is fixed in 10.1.3.3.1.

If you are using BI Publisher's bursting feature and your bursting job includes PDF reports to be sent to a printer, the print reports may fail with the following error:

Client: (40A) Document Format Not Supported

This is caused by the setting of the document content type to application/pdf by the bursting engine, which is not recognized by all printers. To correct this issue, in 10.1.3.3.1 the bursting engine sets the content type to application/octet-stream for print jobs.

CURRENT_SERVER_URL System Parameter Does Not Return Value

In 10.1.3.3.0 the system parameter CURRENT_SERVER_URL available to be included in RTF layout templates does not return a value. This is fixed in 10.1.3.3.1.

Multibyte Characters Not Displayed Correctly in Report History for Discoverer-Based Reports

If you create a report using a Discoverer worksheet as a data source and the report includes parameter names that contain multibyte characters, then when you schedule that report, the report history does not correctly display the parameter names with the multibyte characters. The parameter names display garbled.

Security Issues

PDF Encryption Limited to RC4 Algorithm

The RC4 algorithm is less secure than newer algorithms such as AES and is not recommended for use in new applications. However, the RC4 algorithm is the only supported encryption algorithm for Adobe Acrobat 6.0. Support for AES encryption for Adobe Acrobat 7.0 and higher versions is planned for future releases of Oracle BI Publisher.

This issue has no workaround.

Enabling SSL Is Strongly Recommended for Web Service Communication

It is strongly recommended that you enable HTTPS on the middle tier hosting the Web services as the trusted username/password that is passed can be intercepted. This also pertains to Web services that are used for communication between BI Publisher and Oracle BI Presentation Services and between Oracle BI Publisher and Oracle BI Discoverer.

When Using SSL-Enabled Web Service as a Data Source, You May Need to Import Certificate

If you receive errors when making calls to a Web service that is protected via Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) (that is, uses https://), you may need to export the certificate from the Web server hosting the Web service and import it into the java keystore on the machine running BI Publisher. An example error might be: "SSL received a record that exceeded the maximum permissible length."

This step should not be required if the server certificate is linked to some certificate authority (such as Verisign) -- the default java keystore can handle that. But if the Web service server is using some self-generated certificate (for example, in a testing environment), then it is

required.

When Using SSO, Update to mod_osso.conf File Required for Communication between BI Publisher and Client Components

If your system is SSO-enabled, you must modify your `mod_osso.conf` file to disable SSO to allow Web service communication between BI Publisher and its client components: the Template Builder and the Excel Analyzer. To open up the xmlpserver to allow the Web services, enter the following directives in the `mod_osso.conf` file:

```
<Location /xmlpserver/services/>
  require valid-user
    AuthType Basic
    Allow from All
    Satisfy any
</Location>

<Location /xmlpserver/report_service/>
  require valid-user
    AuthType Basic
    Allow from All
    Satisfy any
</Location>

<Location /xmlpserver/ReportTemplateService.xls/>
  require valid-user
    AuthType Basic
    Allow from All
    Satisfy any
</Location>
```

For the complete procedure for setting up BI Publisher with Oracle Single Sign-On, see the topic: "Setting Up Oracle Single Sign-On" in the *Oracle Business Intelligence Publisher User's Guide*.

Cannot View PDF in Internet Explorer 6 and 7 over SSL

If you are using Microsoft Internet Explorer 6 or 7 over SSL (that is, https://) you will not be able to open PDF or other binary documents. This is an Internet Explorer issue that results when the header "Cache-Control: No Cache" is present in an HTTP response. For more information see the following Microsoft documents:

Internet Explorer file downloads over SSL do not work with the cache control headers [http://support.microsoft.com/kb/323308/en-us]

Prevent caching when you download active documents over SSL [http://support.microsoft.com/kb/815313/]

For Oracle Application Server deployments, you can work around this issue by modifying the `mod_osso.conf` file as follows:

1. Locate the following entry:

```
<Location /xmlpserver>
   require valid-user
   AuthType Basic
</Location>
```

2. Modify this entry as follows:

```
<Location /xmlpserver>
   require valid-user
   AuthType Basic
   OssoSendCacheHeaders off
   Header unset Pragma
   Header unset Cache-Control
   Header unset Vary
 </Location>
```

For non-Oracle Application Server deployments, please see the Microsoft documents noted above for possible resolutions that can be implemented in your environment as well as your application server documentation for information on turning off the "Pragma" and "Cache-Control" HTTP header properties.

Issue with Multibyte Character Names and LDAP Server

If you have configured BI Publisher to use an LDAP server, users with multibyte characters in their user name will not be able to see the Admin tab, even when granted the Administration Role. To work around this issue, create a user name with ASCII characters for users needing the Administration role.

When Guest Folder Name Is Changed Users Are Prompted to Log In

This is fixed in 10.1.3.3.1.

If the administrator changes the name of the BI Publisher "Guest" folder and restarts the server for this change to take effect, users will be prompted to enter credentials the next time they try to access this folder. To work around this issue, do not change the name of the Guest folder.

Privileges Not Inherited Properly Through LDAP Group Hierarchies

This is fixed in 10.1.3.3.1.

If you are using an LDAP security model, the privileges of member groups may not be properly inherited from the parent groups. For example, suppose you have an Oracle Internet Directory (OID) group named XMLP_Development and this group is a member of another group called XMLP_Admin. Users who are members of the group XMLP_Development may not inherit the privilges assigned to XMLP_Admin as expected.

Users with Developer Role Unable to Edit Reports

This is fixed in 10.1.3.3.1.

In 10.1.3.3.0 users with the "BI Publisher Developer" role and not "BI Publisher Administrator" role get a 500 Server Internal Error when they attempt to Edit a report. The workaround was to grant "BI Publisher Administrator" role to all users who needed to edit reports.

Deleted User Folders Must be Manually Deleted from the Report Repository

When you delete a user, the user directory under the Reports tab/repository (Home>Users) is

not deleted and cannot be deleted through the user interface.

To work around this issue, you must manually delete the user folder from the repository. To delete the folder from the repository: If using a file-based repository, log on to the machine where BI Publisher is installed. Locate the user folder under the %BIPublisher_Repository%/Users directory. Each user folder starts with a tilda character, for example: ~User1. Manually remove the deleted user's folder.

Delivery Manager Issues

CUPS Server Does Not Appear as a Delivery Destination in Clustered Environment

If you are using a clustered environment, and you have a CUPS server implemented as a delivery option with no other printers defined, you may not see your CUPS Server as a delivery option.

To work around this problem, add a real or dummy printer destination by creating an entry in the Admin > Delivery > Printer interface.

RTF Template Issues

Alternate Table Row Formatting Not Working in HTML, RTF, and Excel Outputs

The user guide contains the "Row Formatting" topic that describes how to set the background color on alternate rows in a tabular report. This description works for PDF output only. In HTML, RTF, and Excel output formats, the alternate rows do not show the background color. In these output formats, all the rows appear with a white background.

This issue has no workaround.

Header and Footer Margin from Edge Not Preserved in RTF Output

Microsoft Word provides a Page Setup option for specifying the margin for the headers and footers from the edge of the page. This option is available by choosing the File menu, then Page Setup, then the Margins tab, and the From edge box. This margin setting is not retained when the output format is RTF. The output is created with the default margin settings instead. The margin settings do work correctly for other output formats such as HTML, PDF, and Excel.

This issue has no workaround.

Charts May Not Appear in Excel Output

When viewing a report layout that has a chart in Excel output, you may not see the chart and only see a small icon in the place where you expect to see the chart.

To work around this problem, you must unblock security on image URLs as follows:

1. Open WEB-INF/web.xml.

2. Find the following block:

```
<filter-mapping>
<filter-name>SecurityFilter</filter-name>
<url-pattern>/xdo/tmp/*</url-pattern>
</filter-mapping>
```

3. Change the `<url-pattern>` element as shown:

```
<filter-mapping>
<filter-name>SecurityFilter</filter-name>
<url-pattern>/xdo/tmp/*.tmp</url-pattern>
</filter-mapping>
```

Note that by relaxing this security policy as described above, any HTTP session can access and view these images without authentication. Although random numbers are used for image file names, it poses some risk to allow someone to write a program to explore dynamic images (charts and graph) used by BI Publisher HTML reports.

Rounding Issue When Adding Decimal Numbers

As Oracle XDK conforms to XSL standards for IEEE 754, you might encounter rounding issues when adding numbers that are decimals. For example, suppose you add 13683.80 and 516.39, using this syntax in Oracle BI Publisher:

<?13683.80 + 516.39?>

The value returned is 14200.189999999999 which is caused by a limitation based on the IEEE 754 Binary Floating-Point-Arithmetic.

To work around this issue, use the format-number function or the round syntax as shown here to obtain a return value of 14200.19:

<?format-number:(13683.80 + 516.39);'D99'?>

or

<?(round((13683.80 + 516.39)*100) div 100)?>

Function <?xdofx:chr(n)?> Fails

This has been corrected in 10.1.3.3.1.

If you use the <?xdofx:chr(n)?> function in an RTF template you may encounter the following error when trying to run or preview the report:

oracle.xdo.parser.v2.XPathException: Extension function error: Method not found 'chr'

PDF Template Issues

PDF Form Processor Lacks Support for Repeatable Fields in Landscape Templates

When you design a PDF template with repeatable fields, the output in portrait mode is correctly formatted. However, when the same report is created in landscape mode, the table headers are correct but the following occurs:

- Repeating line information (that is, each data field in the iteration) rotates by 90 degree.

- The repeating lines spread across in a horizontal direction from right to left instead of top to bottom in a vertical direction.

This issue has no workaround.

Adobe Acrobat Reader 8.0 Not Supported with PDF Mapping Tool

BI Publisher's PDF mapping tool used to map data fields to form fields in a PDF template, currently does not support Adobe Acrobat Reader 8.0. You must use Acrobat Reader 7.0 (or Acrobat Reader 6.0 if English is the only language required for your site).

BI Publisher Desktop Tools Issues

Concatenated Data Sources Do Not Load Properly to the Template Builder

If your data source is concatenated XML from multiple SQL queries, the XML data will not load properly to the Template Builder from the direct connection to the BI Publisher server.

To work around this issue, after building your data model, generate sample data and save it to an accessible directory. Use the Template Builder's load data function (Oracle BI Publisher > Data > Load Sample XML Data) to load the report data to the Template Builder. For more information on using the Template Builder in disconnected mode, see the *Oracle Business Intelligence Publisher User's Guide*.

When Working in Multiple Languages, Your OS Regional Settings Must Match the Target Language

If you are working in multiple languages, to show and input the text on the Template Builder dialogs correctly, you must set your operating system regional settings for the target language. To set the Regional and Language Options:

1. From the Control Panel choose Regional and Language Options.

2. Click the Advanced tab.

3. Under Language for non-Unicode programs, select the appropriate language from the list.

The Template Builder does not support other languages than those available from your system regional settings.

Analyzer for Excel Cannot Be Installed After the BI Office Add-in

If you wish to use both the BI Publisher Analyzer for Excel and the new BI Office Add-in (available with the Oracle Business Intelligence Enterprise Edition), you must install the BI Publisher Analyzer for Excel first. If you install the BI Office Add-in first, you must uninstall it before you can install the BI Publisher for Analyzer for Excel, then reinstall the BI Office Add-in.

Template Builder Fails To Load XML Data File - Compile error in hidden module: Module_starter

This has been corrected in 10.1.3.3.1.

If you are using the Template Builder for Word on Microsoft Windows XP and have applied the Microsoft Security Update for Windows XP KB936021, you may receive the following error when trying to load XML data:

"Compile error in hidden module Module-starter"

To work around this issue, perform the following:

1. Close Microsoft Word.

2. From the Windows Start Menu: Select Programs, then Oracle BI Publisher Desktop, then Template Builder for Word Language.

3. Select your language and click OK.

Flash Template Issues

Flash Player 9 Not Available for FireFox on Solaris

Flash templates require Adobe Flash Player 9. Currently the Flash Player 9 is not available for FireFox on Solaris. Until Flash Player 9 is released for this platform, Flash templates cannot be viewed on Solaris. This issue has no workaround.

Data Template Issues

Extended ASCII Characters Not Generated Correctly in XML Data

This is fixed in 10.1.3.3.1.

When using BI Publisher's data template to generate XML data, extended ASCII characters, such as é or ë are not created correctly in the XML data when the property scalable_mode is set to "on". This property is set in the <properties> section of the data template as follows:
`<property name="scalable_mode" value="on"/>`

Reports Using Data Template Fail with Data Not Defined

Reports based that use the BI Publisher data template as the data model may fail with the following error:

Data not defined

This will occur if you define a parameter in your data template that you do not pass a value to via the user interface. For example, if you define a data template with a parameter ("P1" in the example) similar to the following:

```
<dataTemplate name="prodTemplate" dataSourceRef="demo-hr">
   <parameters>
     <parameter name="P1" dataType="character" defaultValue="Hello"/>
   </parameters>
   <dataQuery>
     <sqlStatement name="prodStmt">
      <![CDATA[
        select last_name, first_name, salary
        from employees
        where salary > 4000
       ]]>
     </sqlStatement>
   </dataQuery>
</dataTemplate>
```

But you do not define this parameter in BI Publisher's Edit report page, you will get the error.

Note that reports defined this way would not cause an error in 10.1.3.2, but will result in the error in 10.1.3.3.

To work around this issue, define the parameter in BI Publisher's Edit report page.

Report Building Issues

BI Publisher Query Builder "Check All" Feature Selects Only the First Twenty Columns

The BI Publisher Query Builder includes an option to "Check All" when selecting columns from a table. If the table contains more than 20 columns, only the first 20 will be selected.

To work around this issue, you must manually select all columns.

Selecting "Default Data Source" When Creating an LOV May Cause Error

When creating a query for a list of values (LOV), you can choose the "Default Data Source" or select a specific data source. If you select the "Default Data Source," when you run the report it may either fail to run and return the following error:

Parameter name: <parameter> Can not establish database connection (null)

or just display the "Processing...." indicator, and never return any data.

To work around this problem, select a specific data source when creating a query for an LOV

Documentation Issues

BI Publisher User's Guide Version Not Updated for 10.1.3.3

The new features in the 10.1.3.3 and 10.1.3.3.1 releases are documented in the *Oracle Business Intelligence New Features Guide.* Use this document in conjunction with the *Oracle Business Intelligence Publisher User's Guide* version 10.1.3.2 found in the documentation library.

JDBC Connection String Format Shown Is Inaccurate

In the *Oracle Business Intelligence Publisher User's Guide*, in the chapter "Using the Admin Functions," section: "Setting Up Data Sources," subsection: "Adding a JDBC Data Source," the

format for the JDBC connection string for an Oracle database is incorrectly shown as:

```
jdbc:oracle:thin@server:port:sid
```

The correct format includes a colon after "thin" as follows:

```
jdbc:oracle:thin:@server:port:sid
```

New Features in This Release

The *Oracle Business Intelligence New Features Guide* contains detailed descriptions of the following new features in this release of Oracle BI Publisher:

- Template Builder Enhancements

- Flash Templates

- PowerPoint Output

- Integration with Oracle BI Discoverer

- Performance Improvements

- Converting Reports from Oracle Reports to BI Publisher

- Support for Digital Signatures in PDF Documents

- Support for PostScript Printers

- New Features in 10.1.3.3.1

- Oracle BI Publisher Web Services

This guide is included in the documentation library delivered with Oracle BI Publisher.

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