

# BIRT Deployment Strategy Package

Fact Sheet

## A Project Blueprint for the Right Start

The BIRT Deployment Strategy Package expands the one-day BIRT Strategy Workshop into a five-day engagement that results in a detailed Project Plan Document. This document is a project-specific blueprint that will include design documents and a project plan scoping all reporting tasks. It is written by a certified BIRT consultant in sufficient detail so that the project team can take action after the engagement.

Like the one-day BIRT Project Workshop, this engagement will cover reporting application architecture; best practice report design; data provisioning; report performance optimization; security and access control; and production best practices; and programmability and extensibility, but in significantly more depth to accelerate the project team getting started on reporting tasks faster.

## Collaborative Decisions and Planning

BIRT (Business Intelligence and Reporting Technology) redefines reporting, offering a wealth of options to development and reporting teams moving from traditional banded reports to interactive, rich-content BIRT reports.

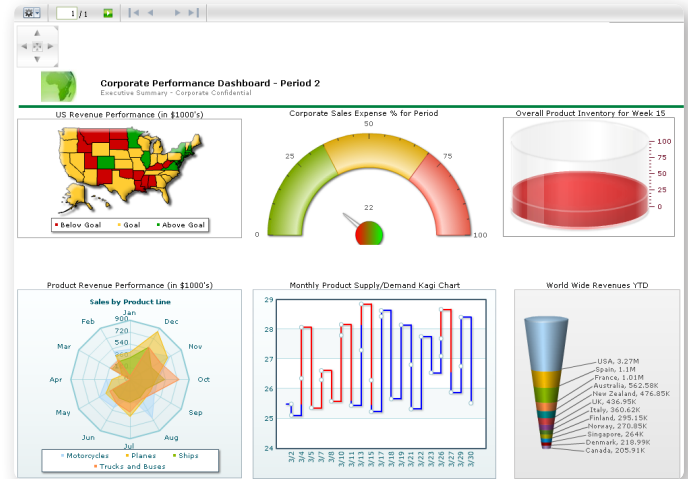
This five day engagement is collaborative, during which the consultant works side by side with different members of the project team on specific tasks to make decisions, develop designs and create the needed deliverable. As necessary, the consultant will lead the project team through a series of exercises to make the right decisions, develop the right architectural designs, start report designs and define the project's reporting tasks. All with the intent of knowledge transfer, and leaving the project team ready to start working on their own.

### Reporting Architecture

This engagement will determine the reporting architecture for BIRT and the project, whether seamlessly embedded in a web application, served as an End-user Reporting Portal where users can run reports on-demand and even develop new reports, or as a reporting service to one or more applications.

### Best Practice Report Design

This engagement will guide the team how to design their BIRT report libraries to encapsulate presentation, business logic and data access for easier maintenance and so that development roles can be distributed based on skill level.



### Data Provisioning

This engagement will make sure the project team is using the right data access method for their project and knows how best to provide the data to reports for performance and reuse.

### Report Performance Optimization

The consultant will work with the project team to determine the best approach for report design, hierarchical design, report navigation and query creation to optimize report performance.

### Security and Access Control

The consultant will guide the project team through determining which security approach to use and how to use it: within a report; from an external directory or application; or through a report server or web portal.

### Production Best Practices

The consultant will work with the project team to develop a process for the project to move from development, to test and production for maintainability and reliability.

### Programmability and Extensibility

Throughout the week, the consultant will keep in mind how the project team can benefit from the programmability and extensibility options within BIRT.

## The Process

### Getting Started

Prior to the engagement, a Professional Services Manager will work with you to gather any project requirements in order to assign the appropriate resources and tailor the agenda for the engagement

- Application requirements that pertain to any area of content creation, management and distribution
- Infrastructure requirements such as hardware platforms, operating systems, database servers, application servers, information technology standards and methodologies
- Project resources that will be involved in the engagement such as Developers; Business Analysts; or System, Database, or Application Administrators.

### Day 1: Overall Architecture Review

- Introduction
  - Discuss project business objectives and requirements
  - Discuss existing report implementations in organization
- Architecture
  - BIRT architecture and engine framework
  - Architecture options for the application at hand
  - Engine implementation options: embedded, reporting portal, or external reporting service
  - Architecture to ensure future flexibility and growth

### Day 2: Security, Availability and Deployment

- Security Integration
  - Overview of BIRT security and access control options: internal, existing or application-specific
  - Project security and access control requirements
  - Best approach to meet application security needs
- Availability and Scalability
  - Overview of BIRT architecture and designing for future capacity needs
  - Discuss application availability and future capacity requirements.
- Deployment Strategy
  - Devise strategy based on architectural requirements and develop "best fit" approach for current and future BIRT system requirements
  - Define and document tasks associated with architectural deployment strategy

### Day 3: Application Development Framework

- Best Practice Report Design
  - Review of project reporting needs and requirements
  - Define reusable reporting framework of components and templates to reduce development and maintenance effort
- Data Provisioning
  - Review of project data source
  - Best approach to access and provide the data to BIRT
  - Best practice on creating reporting tables to optimize development efficiency and report performance
- Production Strategy
  - Revisit deployment strategy developed on Day 2 and ensure cohesion between architecture and application development framework
  - Define and document tasks associated with application framework development

### Days 4 – 5: Delivery/Next Steps

- Develop and deliver Project Plan Document that includes architecture model, security model and project plan of tasks identified during engagement
- Discuss recommended next steps

## BIRT Exchange and Actuate

All services and training offered on BIRT Exchange are provided by Actuate Corporation, the sponsor for BIRT Exchange, and the BIRT Exchange team.

Actuate initiated and co-leads Eclipse BIRT (Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools), an Eclipse Foundation open source project. Actuate delivers value-add products, services, support, and training for BIRT.

### About Actuate Corporation

Actuate Corporation is dedicated to increasing the richness, interactivity and effectiveness of enterprise data, for everyone, everywhere. The company has over 4,200 customers globally in a diverse range of business areas including financial services and the public sector, many of which have a long history of deploying Actuate-based solutions for dozens, or even hundreds of their mission-critical applications. Founded in 1993, Actuate has headquarters in San Mateo, California, with offices worldwide. For more information on Actuate, visit the company's web site at [www.actuate.com](http://www.actuate.com).

### BIRT Exchange Community Site

Visit [www.birt-exchange.com](http://www.birt-exchange.com) for free trial software, forums, documentation and other resources.

### About Actuate Corporation

Actuate initiated and co-leads Eclipse BIRT (Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools), an Eclipse Foundation open source project. Actuate delivers support and training for BIRT, a product line that builds on BIRT, and products that support spreadsheets in Java.