

# Report This!

## *Negotiating Through the Most Common and Complex Reporting Problems*

**S**TALE DATA, AD-HOC REQUESTS that slow down the system and huge reports that are run out of habit rather than necessity. Those are just some of the reporting issues common to organizations today, issues that can cost companies both time and money.

Organizations need accurate, timely and relevant data in order to analyze where they are, determine where they should be going and how they should get there. But reporting needs can be complex in today's corporate environments, as organizations try to determine all they can about their business, while addressing customer needs and incorporating real-time data to facilitate effective and informed decision making.

Reporting House focuses exclusively on providing reporting and Business Intelligence (BI) solutions, and as such has made it their key focus and competency to help IT and business users with these very problems, making sure that users get the right reports when they want them and in the required format. Based out of Durham, North Carolina, the company provides reporting, Business Intelligence and analytics solutions for Enterprise Asset Management. They offer an integrated suite of technologies, tools and techniques to ensure that vast amounts of dissimilar data from across the enterprise can be securely and effectively accessed, analyzed, and delivered to stakeholders anytime and anywhere.

In other words, Reporting House makes reporting easier for organizations, by designing information delivery infrastructure,

auditing reporting systems, and providing report development services for the consolidation of reports from disparate data sources. They also help business users design reporting interface which is easy to navigate and adopt.

### **MaximoBIRT Portal**

Reporting House offers asset and maintenance management solutions to ensure optimized asset performance, by providing the following:

- The ability to leverage data from their existing CMMS and related applications;
- The facilitation of actionable information for effective decision making;
- Visibility in Safety, Health and Environment;
- Help in achieving quick time to value with shorter reporting implementation times;
- Help to achieve greater ROI on their assets.

Reporting House's MaximoBIRT portal solution – available in the BIRT Exchange Marketplace as of January 2010 – provides a set of pre-built BIRT reports to IBM Maximo users whose requirements are not fulfilled by the canned reports available in Maximo. This portal integrates operational reports, KPIs and dashboards for Maximo and non-Maximo applications. It helps mash up information from disparate data sources in a Web 2.0 interface and allows users to personalize and configure KPIs in





## The Top Five Reporting Issues

1. *Users require data from disparate applications.* This can lead to displeased users, and less effective reports.
2. *Users require ad hoc capability.* This can slow down the system.
3. *Reports take too long to run.* In this case, too many users may be part of the problem. Educating users may help to reduce the length of reports and therefore cut down on the length of time it takes to run.
4. *Users require dashboard capabilities that enable them to drill down to more detailed reports.*
5. *Users want to have a single portal to organize and mash up reports from multiple applications.*

a subject matter related dashboard. Its KPI generator can easily help create KPIs without actually creating BIRT report design documents which in turn helps in easily managing large number of KPIs.

### How Does BIRT Fit In?

IBM needed a reporting tool set that could not only leverage Open Source technology but also fit perfectly into their service-oriented architecture. They wanted a long-term solution not only for their Maximo products but also a reporting technology that could be leveraged throughout all of IBM's software portfolio. In Maximo 7, they introduced a new reporting system based on BIRT Open Source technology.

Reporting House chose BIRT for their solution because of its presence in the Open Source community, the following it has with millions of Open Source Business Intelligence developers around the world and the robustness of the technology. BIRT has the ability to create every type of report, from a simple listing report to a more complex report where there are multiple charts and graphs. Its web-centric output makes it easy for users to navigate around the report and even to drill down into other reports. All of this functionality is browser based and therefore user friendly and requires minimal end-user training.

For information, visit [www.reportinghouse.com](http://www.reportinghouse.com), or go to the BIRT Exchange Marketplace at <http://www.birt-exchange.com/be/marketplace/app-showcase/?app=39>.