

# IFS/BUSINESS ANALYTICS™

**INCREASE YOUR DESKTOP INTELLIGENCE**

**Business Analytics is a business intelligence solution that extends Microsoft Excel® from a desktop productivity tool to a full-fledged, enterprise-scale client for planning, reporting and analysis.**

IFS' key objective is to empower information workers to leverage business intelligence to its full potential. That is why Business Analytics is built around Excel. Design, presentation and analysis are based on Excel native functions to give you a 100% Excel experience. Meta data presented in Excel transforms data from any business process within IFS Applications™ into logical maps that makes the information easily accessible, even for non technical business managers. You don't need to mine transactional data sources or join tables. The result—anybody with basic Excel knowledge can create and roll out fully functional enterprise reports that are presented and analyzed interactively in workbooks. A database repository simplifies the process of publishing and locating reports. Reports created

are deployed and delivered through IFS Applications providing a secure, centralized way of generating, managing and delivering Excel spreadsheet reports. Reports can be scheduled and automatically stored within IFS Document Management, creating secure workspaces for collaborating and sharing information. Report users can take advantage of parameterized reports with drill-down and zoom-in functionality that provides instant access to related details through embedded links. It is even possible to move seamlessly to IFS Applications for the details to enable instant investigation or actions in the correct business context for the details.

### The best of both worlds



By integrating Excel as an interface to IFS Applications it is possible to secure user productivity whilst being manageable for the enterprise as a whole. With the benefits of IFS Applications you can create and receive live data in the familiar spreadsheet format for immediate analysis and action while providing vital centralized, managed spread-

sheet maintenance, archiving, versioning, and security. The source data is securely stored and easily accessed via an intuitive user interface. This solution allows you to operate from “one version of the truth”, resulting in better business decisions, while maintaining their autonomy. The result—information workers can generate the most accurate, useful spreadsheet reports possible, using the tools they already know and with limited additional training or support—in addition the IT department has the confidence to know that reports are regulated and secure.

### Increase your reach



With Business Analytics you can manage data using the presentation capabilities that Excel offers. You can also generate interactive reports that enable you to immediately update your analyses. And designing your reports couldn't be easier. By taking advantage of Excel's standard functionality for formatting, grouping and presentation you already have the know-how. Information that is gathered from

different areas of IFS Applications can easily be used in your planning or follow-up process and linked to your report and adapted so you can present it immediately if required. A great deal of the functionality available with Business Analytics has been designed to make it easier to extend planning and reporting and to cover a wider range of business areas and to combine them cross functional. Information about projects, financials, assets and manufacturing come just as easily to Business Analytics as does maintenance, supply chain and workforce. A sophisticated write back logic can be used to update planning data, once again taking full advantage of Excel and the data management and security in IFS Applications.

#### For your eyes only



To ensure that only those with correct privileges and grants can access mined data Business Analytics protects your data using the same high level of security that controls access to IFS Applications, down to row level security. No different security models to set up and manage. All activities and services within Business Analytics itself, such as design, publishing, zoom-in, ordering and write-back are also handled by IFS security model. Features as accurate and secure data capture and storage with secure workspaces, proactive monitoring of controls offers essential support for IT governance and compliance regulations. The fact that the integration and data access is based on .Net and IFS service-oriented

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**“This is a perfect fit with our information worker strategy and the collaboration with IFS is proof of the productivity potential in extending the Microsoft Office user experience to integrate ERP business processes. By creating an intelligent desktop which incorporates the best of both worlds we will enable the information worker to speed up decision making and improve workforce productivity.”**

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Ulf Avrin—Director of ISV Strategy, Microsoft EMEA

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architecture (SOA), without any usage of SQL, protects the IFS database from vulnerability.

#### Continually getting smarter

IFS’ mission is to continually empower information workers and to elevate performance levels in the workplace via increased software intelligence. Business Analytics is the first in a series of intelligence building office integrated solutions that IFS will be introducing to make life easier and business more profitability. IFS views the future as an exciting challenge that offers the opportunity to utilize the power of technology to create a working environment where people and business can get more out of the day.

#### Business Analytics functionality overview

##### Report Design (in Excel)

- 100% based on MS Excel functionality. IFS specific functionality is used for more advanced reporting features such as report parameters, filter criteria, design row and columns, repeaters, zoom-in and URL
- Write back of planning data
- MS Excel Pivot functionality is used for ad-hoc analysis

#### IFS/Data Mart

- New storage and presentation of the data within IFS Applications
- Based on materialized views and star schemas.

#### IFS/Meta Data

- Transforms data from the Data Mart into logical maps
- Controls Drill-down, Zoom-in, Write Back and URL relationships

#### IFS/Solution Manager

- Administration of Data Mart and Meta Data
- View, modify, and create Data Mart and Meta Data
- Import and export of Meta Data

#### IFS/Report Repository

- Data base storing and publishing of report templates

#### IFS/Info Services

- Online and scheduled report deployment and delivering

#### IFS/Document Management

- Scheduled reports can automatically be stored in Document Management
- Accurate and secure data storage; document version control
- Secure workspaces for collaboration and sharing information.
- Capturing of document approvals

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