



## Challenge

One of our client bought BusinessObjects Xlr2 to provide ad-hoc reporting for their internal and external users. They wanted to use Active Directory for authentication, and for internal user wanted to enable Single Sign-on, and secure the content so that users see only content they are authorized to see. Client's internal IT team did not have experienced BusinessObjects resource that could architect and deploy BusinessObjects Xlr2 and enable Single Sign-On.

Faced with these challenges, they invited SWExcellence to help them with BusinessObjects Xlr2 deployment architecture, installation, Single Sign-On with Active Directory.

## SWE's Expertise

SWExcellence is a solution provider, and can be a valuable asset to your team in deploying and administrating BusinessObjects Enterprise platform. We have certified, skilled, and experienced professionals. We put best practices and lessons learnt in our solution approach. Here are key areas of our expertise:

- Deployment Architecture
- Deployment for External users ( DMZ for example)
- Tuning, Sizing, and Capacity Planning
- Installation, configuration, and upgrades
- Clustering and Load Balancing
- Single Sign on with LDAP, Active Directories etc
- Security and User Administration
- Disaster Recovery Planning
- Backup and Restore Process
- Life Cycle Management
- Post Production Support

## Solution

### Deployment Architecture

We prepared deployment architecture where same BusinessObjects infrastructure was used by both internal and external users. Only difference was the Web Server and URL's for these users. For external users we placed a Web Server as a gateway in the DMZ. For internal users we placed a Web Server in the intranet. Both web servers directed user requests to Tomcat application server that was located in intranet, who then directed requests to the same BusinessObjects System.

### Single Sign-On with Active Directory

We configured Active Directory authentication, and implemented Single Sign-On using Vintella and Kerberos with Active Directory and Tomcat Application Server.

### Security Model

Our security model was a closed model. By default users didn't have access to any content. Access to content was granted to users through right inheritance from their parents group. The security model was build once, and going forward all it was required to add users to right user group.



## BusinessObjects Enterprise System Deployment and Administration

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Although Active Directory was used for user authentication, we implemented security using BusinessObjects enterprise groups. For every Active Directory user group, we created one corresponding enterprise group, and created a subgroup relationship between these two groups. By doing this, we made sure that we can move security along with content from one environment to another ( say from Dev to Test, and Test to Prod environment).

### **Capacity Planning, Sizing and Tuning**

Using performance benchmarks and guidelines calculated hardware spec to satisfy usage requirement.

Using Load Runner tool, performed load test to determine capacity of the current infrastructure and made future recommendations on vertical and horizontal scaling of their environment.

### **Life Cycle Management**

Established Life Cycle Management Process to promote code from one environment to another, maintain code versioning, and device a machinist to roll back changes if needed.

### **Disaster Recovery Planning**

Prepared Disaster Recovery Process document, and enabled Disaster Recovery Process.

### **Backup and Restore Process**

Put the process in place to backup BusinessObjects system database, and File Repository Systems. Established process to take regular BIAR file backup of the BusinessObjects system to support controlled restore of BusinessObjects contents.

### **Software Upgrade and Patching**

Documented and implemented software upgrade and patching process to stay current with latest version and to address known software bugs, and take advantage of new features introduced in the new release.

### **Auditing and Monitoring**

Auditor product is deployed to collect usage information. It provides with key indicators, making it easy to monitor system and check for anomalies. Using the information provided by Auditor, we can tailor resources to meet users' evolving needs, provide access to the right information by creating aggregate tables and indices, identifying and deleting unused objects/reports to make the solution easier for users to navigate.

### **Knowledge Transfer**

Throughout the engagement at client site, we worked with their IT resources, documented deployment architecture, security model, Single Sign-On configuration, installation and configuration steps and other related documents to share and transfer knowledge.

## **Result**

They were able to deploy BusinessObjects Xir2 to not only their employees but to their clients who were external users. Obviously client was very pleased with SWE's role in making their initiative a success. SWE takes pride in that we exceeded expectations of our client and helped them succeed.