# Sage Intelligence Reporting

# Sage 300 ERP 2012

Sage 300 ERP Intelligence Release Notes



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# **Release Notes**

### Introduction

These Release Notes contain important information about new features and resolved issues in Sage Intelligence Reporting. The notes within this document highlight the changes made between the release of Sage ERP 6.0 and Sage 300 ERP 2013.

# **New Features**

### **New Reports**

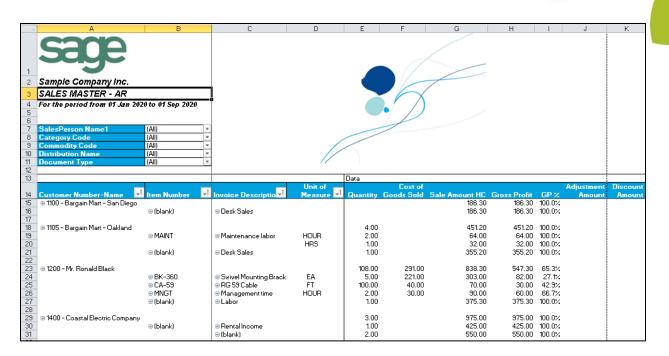
The following new reports below have been included with Sage ERP 2013 software.

### **Sales AR Master Report**

This report is located in the Sales folder in the Report Manager.

- This is a sales report that reflects sales information generated from the AR module within Sage 300 ERP 2013.
- Displays detailed line item sales information by customer, invoice description, and stock items sold.
- Displays Gross Profit and Gross Profit Percentage.



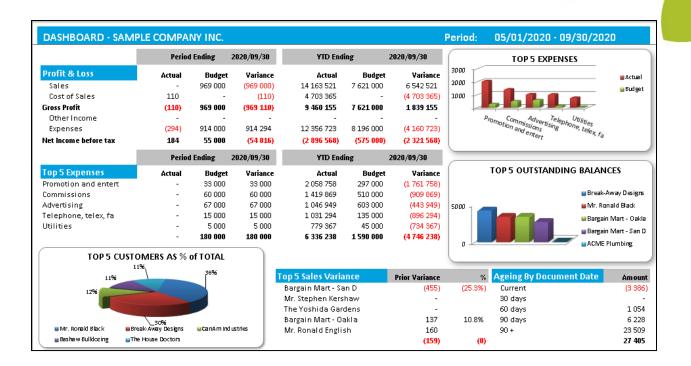


## **Dashboard AR Analysis Report**

This report is located in the Dashboard folder within the Report Manager.

- This is a dashboard report for managers who want a summarized view of what of what is happening within the organization.
- Displays the Profit and Loss YTD and Fiscal Period Figures
- Displays Top 5 Sales Variances
- Displays Top 5 Expenses
- Displays Top 5 Customers





### **Free Reports and Templates**

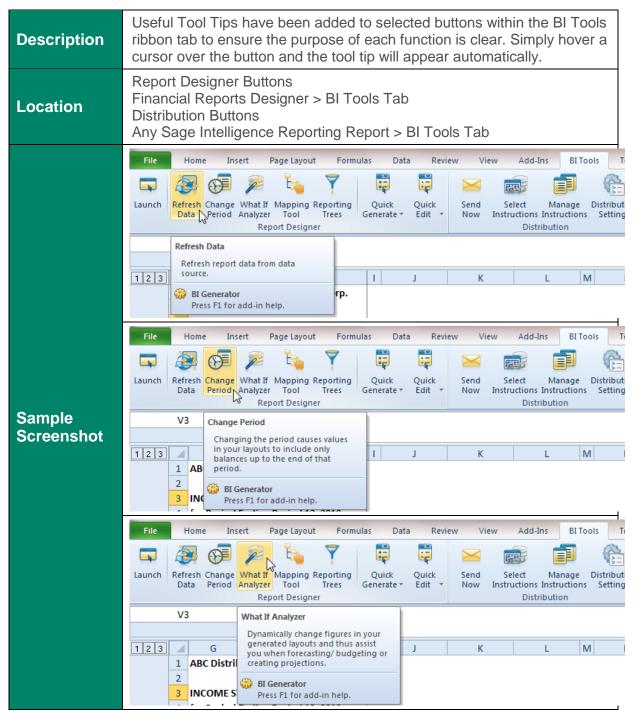
There are also free reports available for Sage 300 ERP 2013 that can be downloaded from the Sage Alchemex BI Community site <u>BI Community Free Report Templates</u>. This website is updated regularly with new reports.

**NOTE:** Any reports that are downloaded from the BI Community will need to be imported individually or imported using the Bulk Import feature within the Report Manager.



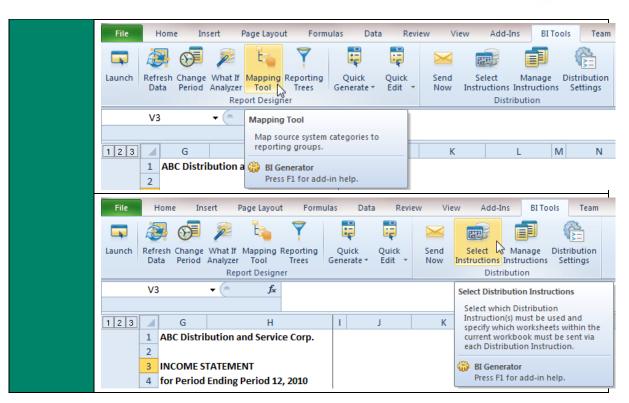


















### Report Designer: Progress Bar

Previously when generating layouts with the Report Designer software there was no way to cancel the generation of a report layout mid-way. This meant that if a mistake was made during the design of the layout, users would need to wait until the layout had finished generating before being able to correct the design mistake. Furthermore there was no indicator for users to track the progress of the layout generation. **Description** Sage Intelligence Reporting now displays a progress bar when any layouts are generated using the Report Designer. This progress bar has a 'Cancel' button allowing users to cancel report layout generation before the report has finished generating. Especially useful for eliminating the need to wait unnecessarily if large datasets are being reported off. Location Financial Report Designer > Report Designer > Generate Layout Quick Quick Send Generate ▼ Edit \* Now Instructions Ins **Balance Sheet** Balance Sheet - Account Group Sample IS - Actual Budget Prior **Screenshot** IS - Actual vs Budget IS - Actual vs Budget - Account Group IS - Actual vs Prior IS - Actual vs Prior - Account Group Trial Balance Generating Layout... Cancel





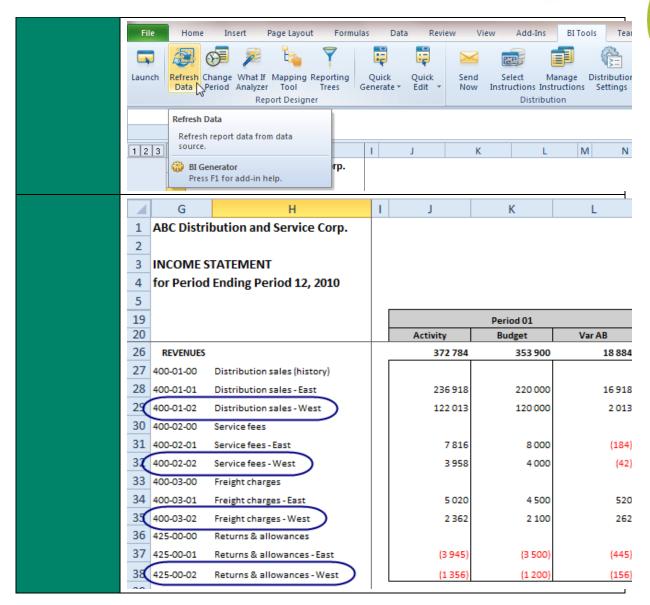


### Report Designer: Improved 'Refresh Data'

The 'Refresh Data' function refreshes the data in your workbook. For example if someone has added new accounts in your accounting package, and you have created and linked a layout, the refresh data will bring through all new accounts or remove deleted accounts if you have created and linked the layout. Previously in Sage Intelligence Reporting, using the 'Refresh Data' function within any Report Designer enabled report (i.e. Financial Reports Designer) would result in any new accounts being highlighted in a color and moved to the bottom of the account grouping within the open report – this would **Description** require you to do some manual formatting and re-ordering work to get your report presentable. Improvements have been made to the Refresh Data function within Sage Intelligence Reporting to ensure that you no longer need to perform any manual work after new accounts are discovered. The Refresh Data function will now ensure that all new accounts are placed into the correct account groupings in the correct order (ordered by account number) with the same formatting as the rest of the report (complex custom formatting support is limited). Location Financial Reports Designer > BI Tools Tab > Refresh Data G 1 ABC Distribution and Service Corp. 2 3 INCOME STATEMENT for Period Ending Period 12, 2010 5 19 Period 01 20 Budget Var AB Activity 24 Sample 25 REVENUE 229 000 245 808 16 808 **Screenshot** 26 REVENUES 245 808 229 000 16 808 27 400-01-00 Distribution sales (history) 28 400-01-01 Distribution sales - East 236 918 220 000 16 9 18 29 400-02-00 Service fees 30 400-02-01 Service fees - East 7816 8 000 (184)31 400-03-00 Freight charges 32 400-03-01 Freight charges - East 5 0 2 0 520 4500 33 425-00-00 Returns & allowances 34 425-00-01 Returns & allowances - East (3.945)(3500)(445)









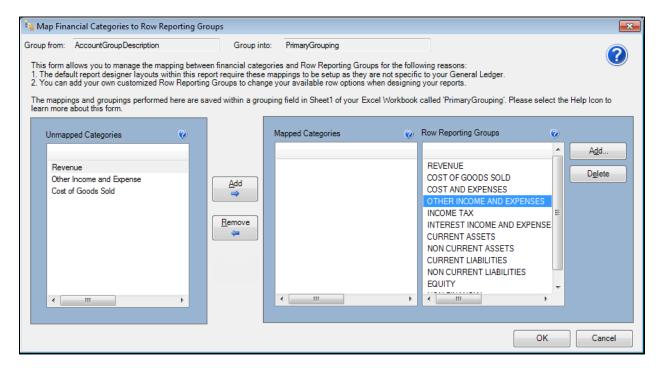


## **Enhanced Report Designer Mapping Tool**

Due to popular demand the Report Designer's mapping tool has been enhanced within this release of Sage Intelligence Reporting with the most notable enhancement being the ability for end-users to natively add and delete Row Reporting Groups from within the Mapping Tool's interface.

#### Location:

- Run Report Designer Report with unmapped categories/accounts
- Select 'Mapping Tool' from BI Tools ribbon tab after running out a Report Designer Report



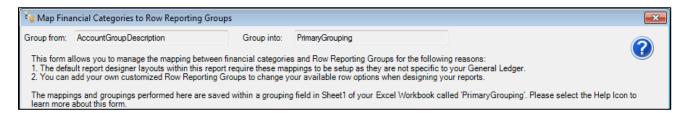




### **Minor User Interface Update**

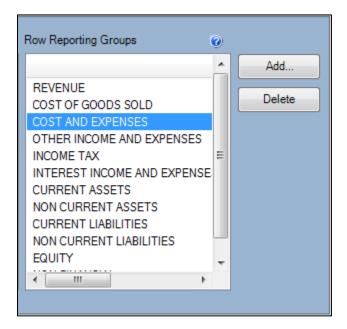
The Mapping Tool has been improved with a more descriptive explanation of the purpose of the Mapping Tool; research showed that new users often did not necessarily understand the reason for this tool popping up the first time a Report Designer report is run. Each of the column lists has been widened to accommodate longer values and the help icon has been enlarged and now links directly to an improved help file topic on the Mapping Tool instead of only popping up a basic textbox.

In addition, a selected item within the 'Unmapped Categories' list would previously lose its highlight once focus was given to another list on the form – this has now been resolved and the item retains its highlight, making this form easier and faster to use.



### **Ability to Add and Delete Row Reporting Groups**

Based on requests to give users more control of the Row Reporting Groups that the Report Designer uses to group GL accounts on a layout, end-users can now take full control of their reporting layouts by adding their own new reporting groups and deleting existing reporting groups.







### 'Group from' and 'Group into' Fields Now Visible

The Mapping Tool now shows very clearly that it has been configured to use predetermined fields from within your Report Designer report to perform mappings. The objective of showing the Group from and Group into fields is to ensure users understand that the 'Available Categories' field list can be sourced from different fields within your report, like Account Number for example (allowing you to map account numbers to Row Reporting Groups instead of mapping standard grouping categories to Row Reporting Groups).

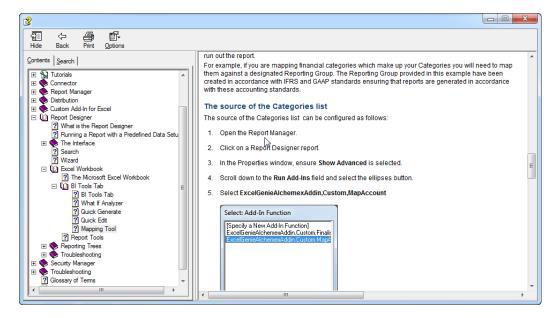


### **Improved Performance**

The Mapping Tool now maps categories to Row Reporting Groups faster than ever, as we opened up the ability for users to add their own Row Reporting Groups we also made sure the Mapping Tool's internal logic was reviewed to handle larger amounts of Row Reporting Groups even quicker.

### **Mapping Tool section within Help File Improved**

The Mapping Tool section has been reviewed and improved to ensure that the users can get access to the correct level of detail if required. Additionally, instructions on how to configure the mapping tool to use different 'Group from' fields have been added to the same help file topic.







Previously users were forced to map their Available Categories to Row Reporting Groups before being allowed to run out Report Designer Reports. This rule has now been relaxed in favor of explaining the purpose of the Mapping Tool clearly and then giving users more control over when they would like to approach the design of their reports. The Mapping Tool can then be accessed via the BI Tools Ribbon tab once the report has run out into MS Excel.

### **Report Designer Layout Text Column Auto-size**

Previously any text columns placed into a Report Designer layout would not automatically size according to the content within them, usually needing users to manually resize the second column like account description. The need for this manual action has now been eliminated and the Report Designer now correctly sizes each text column according to the longest value that the field contains, saving you the time needed to resize manually.

### Location:

Generate a Report Designer layout with text columns.

1	G	Н	1	J	K	L
1	Global En	terprises				
2						
3	INCOME S	TATEMENT				
4	4 for Period Ending Period 12, 2010					
5						
19					Period 01	
20				Activity	Budget	Var AB
24						
25	REVENUE			372 784	353 900	18 884
26	REVENUES			372 784	353 900	18 884
27	400-01-00	Distribution sales (history)				
28	400-01-01	Distribution sales - East		236 918	220 000	16918
29	400-01-02	Distribution sales - West		122 013	120 000	2 013
30	400-02-00	Service fees				
31	400-02-01	Service fees - East		7 816	8 000	( 184)
32	400-02-02	Service fees - West		3 958	4 000	( 42)
33	400-03-00	Freight charges				
34	400-03-01	Freight charges - East		5 020	4 500	520
35	400-03-02	Freight charges - West		2 362	2 100	262





### Report Designer Row Loading Indicator

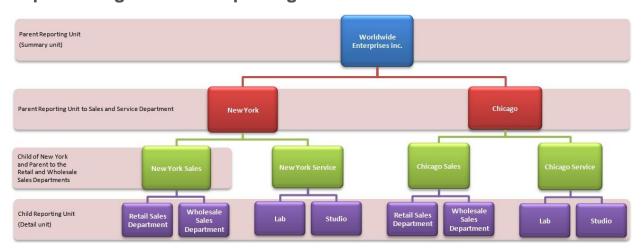
In the event of many Row Reporting Groups being selected for use within a Report Designer layout, the 'edit layout' manager may take a bit longer to load rows giving the impression of an unresponsive form. To avoid this perception, a circular progress indicator has been added to the 'Rows' section of the Report Designer layout manager and will appear immediately if the software detects that loading rows will take longer than usual.

#### Location:

- Load an existing Report Designer layout via the 'Launch' button within BI Tools tab
- Quick edit an existing Report Designer layout via BI Tools tab



### **Report Designer: New Reporting Trees**



### **Report Designer: Reporting Trees**

One of the highlight features within Sage Intelligence Reporting is the inclusion of Reporting Trees. Although you can create financial reports without the aid of a reporting tree, a reporting tree allows you to model a very sophisticated reporting structure and view your organization in many different ways with the click of a button. Some companies may have very complex





corporate hierarchies that require hundreds of tree units, as well as other hierarchies that require much fewer tree units.

Most organizations have a hierarchical structure in which departments (or other business units) report to one or more higher-level units. In a traditional organizational chart, the lower units on the chart typically report to increasingly higher units.

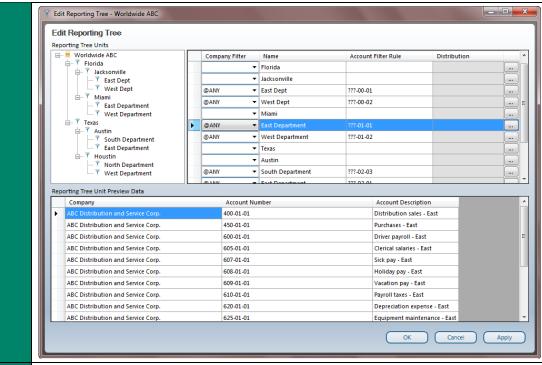
Sage Intelligence Reporting uses the term reporting unit for each box in an organizational chart. A reporting unit can be an individual department from the general ledger, or it can be a higher-level, summary unit that combines information from other reporting units. For a Report Designer layout that includes a reporting tree, one report is generated for each reporting unit and at the summary level. All of these reports use the text columns, row and column layouts that are specified in the Report Designer.

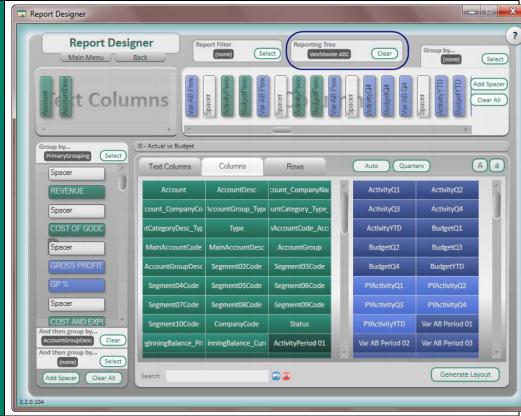
Each reporting tree contains a group of reporting units. Sage Intelligence Reporting allows you to easily add or change reporting units without requiring a change to your financial data. After saving a Reporting Tree, simply link it to one or more Report Designer layouts that you have saved within your workbook.





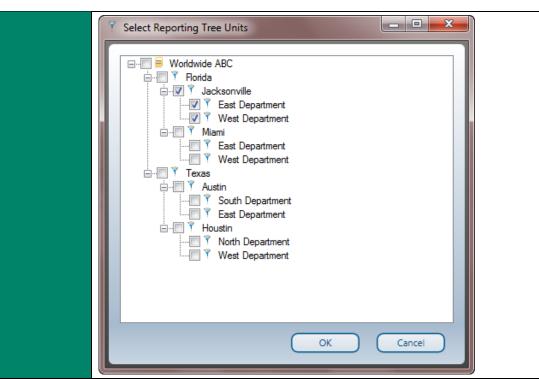








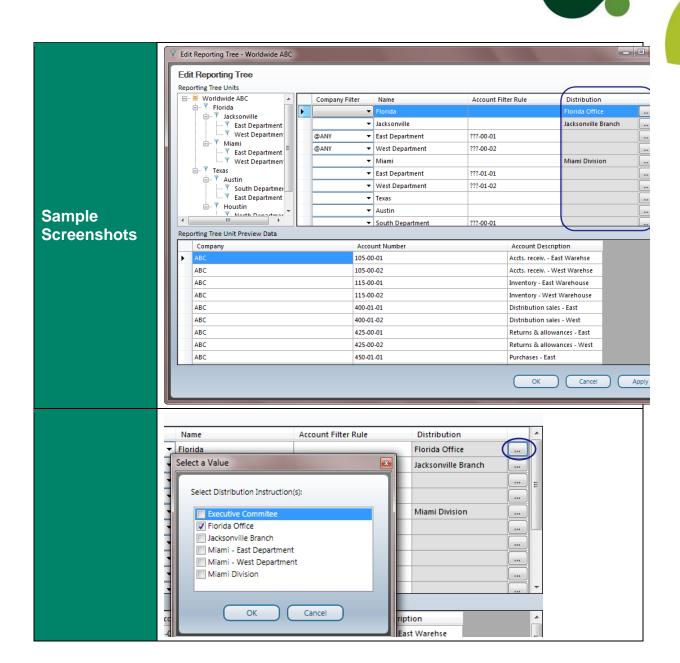




# Report Designer: Linking Reporting Tree Units to Distribution Instructions

Description	Once a report is generated using Sage Intelligence Reporting, Distribution Instructions need to be selected manually to set up links between worksheets inside a report and available Distribution Instructions. These links or relationships are stored within the report workbook only meaning that every new workbook needs to have the links set up manually.  The new Reporting Tree enhancements made to the Report Designer in Sage Intelligence Reporting allows users to save time by eliminating the need to manually select Distribution Instructions every time a new report is generated. By specifying which Distribution Instructions should be linked to each Reporting Tree unit before layout generation, these settings are stored inside the Reporting Tree which saves its data centrally with the Sage Intelligence Reporting reports repository. Once a Reporting Tree has Distribution Instructions linked to any of its units, relationships between the resulting worksheets and available Distribution Instructions will be set up automatically during layout generation, saving users the need to manually set these relationships up.
Location	Report Designer Enabled Report > BI Tools Toolbar > Reporting Trees



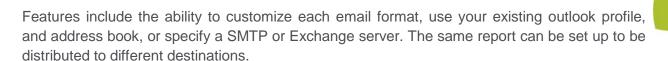


## **All Reports: New Report Distribution**

Improve workflow and speed up business processes by automating report delivery and distribution. Report distribution is a powerful feature which saves time and effort by allowing you to send reports to a file, ftp site, or email in a number of standard formats.

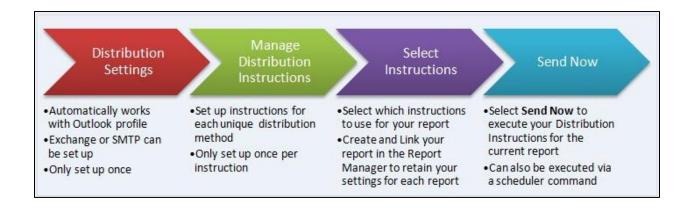
Simply set up which reports you would like to distribute, whether you would like them in Microsoft Excel, MHMTL or PDF and who it should be sent to. You can even create custom criteria for sending out reports.





Distribution is ideal for sending reports out to line managers or providing corporate management with tailored reports.

### **Process Flow**



### **BI Tools Tab Extension**

Description	The BI Tools tab now contains additional functionality to cater for the new powerful report distribution engine within Sage Intelligence Reporting.	
Location	Any Sage Intelligence Reporting Report > BI Tools Tab	
Sample Screen shot	File Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Add-Ins BI Tools Team  Launch Refresh Change What If Mapping Reporting Data Period Analyzer Tool Trees Generate Page Council Co	





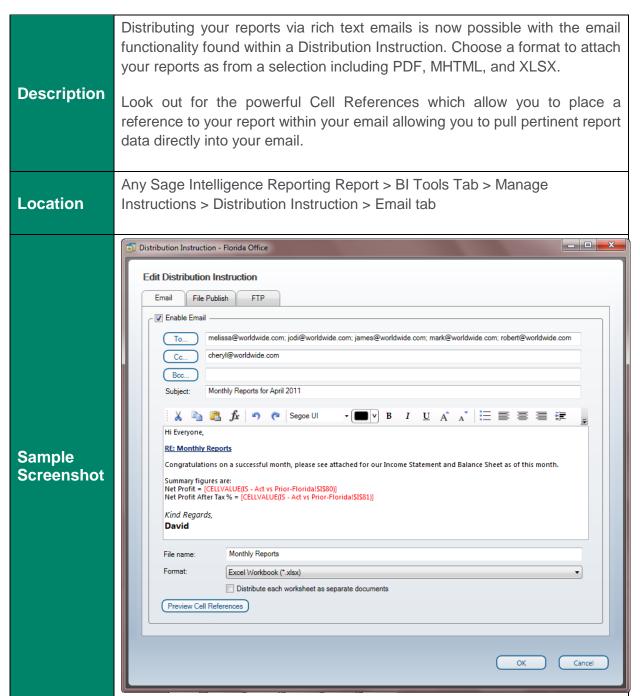


Description	Distribution Instructions save time by sending reports, along with pertinent information, automatically to the right person/people using the chosen electronic method. Use the Manage Distribution Instructions to set up different instructions for each report that requires a unique distribution method, i.e. distributed to different people or via different methods e.g., Email, FTP, or File Publishing.
Location	Any Sage Intelligence Reporting Report > BI Tools Tab > Manage Instructions > Add
Sample Screenshots	File Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Add-Ins BI Tools Teal  Launch Refresh Change What If Mapping Reporting Data Period Analyzer Tool Trees Report Designer  Manage Distribution Instructions  Manage Distribution Instructions    Manage Distribution Instructions





### **Email**

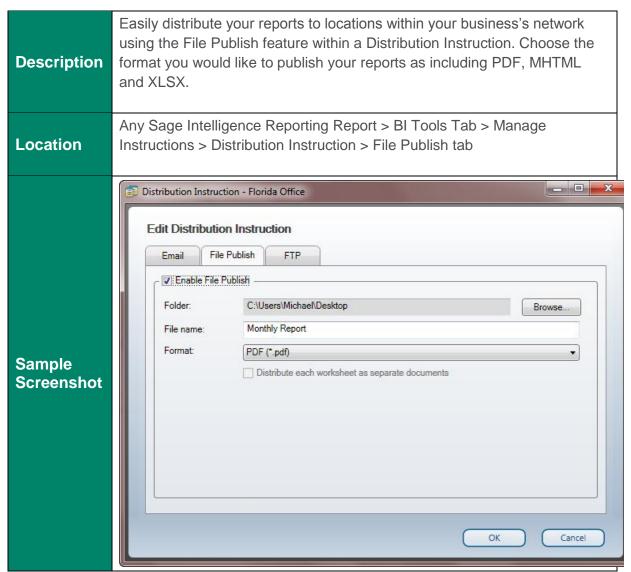








### File Publish

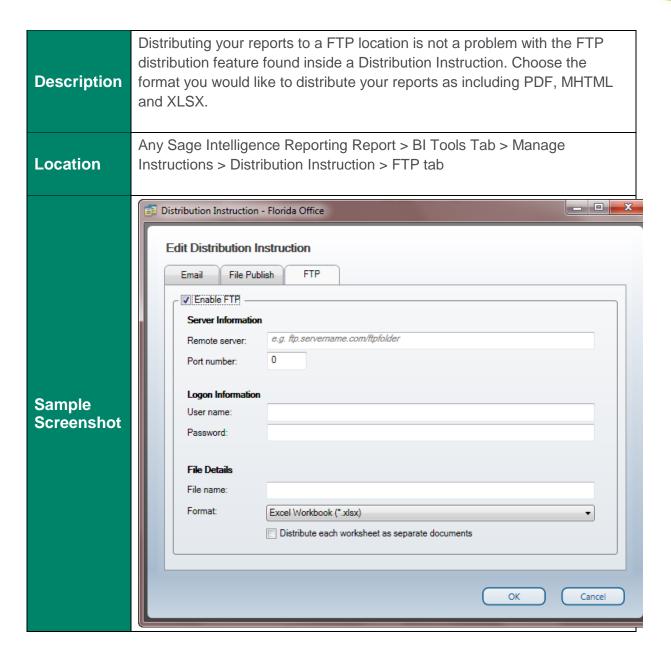








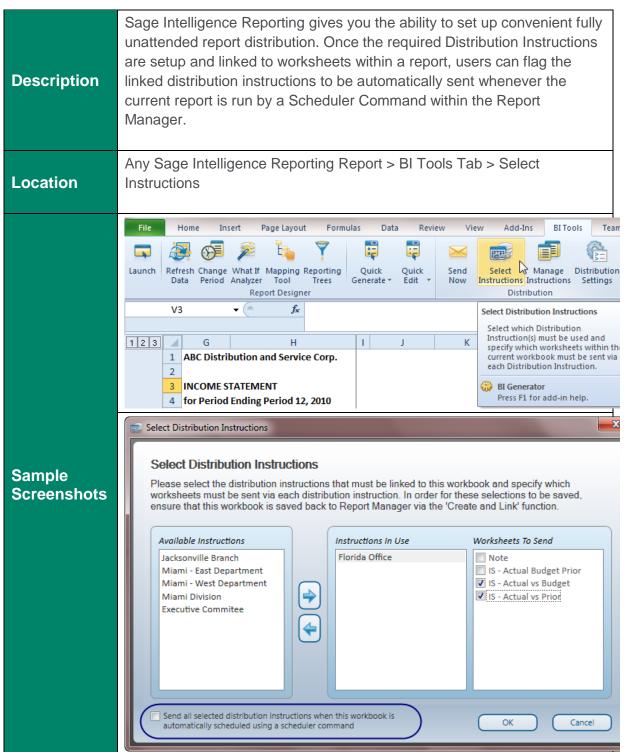
## **File Transfer Protocol (FTP)**





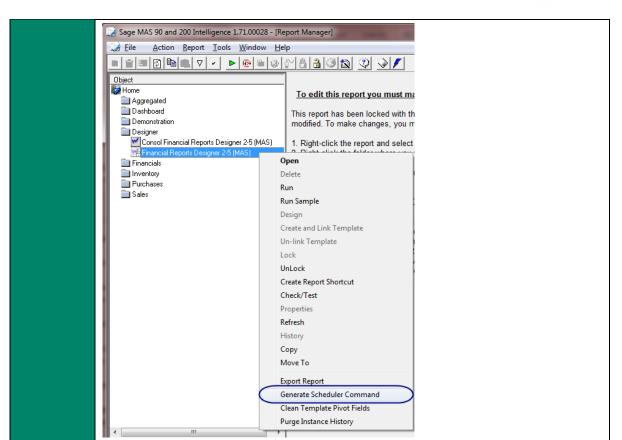








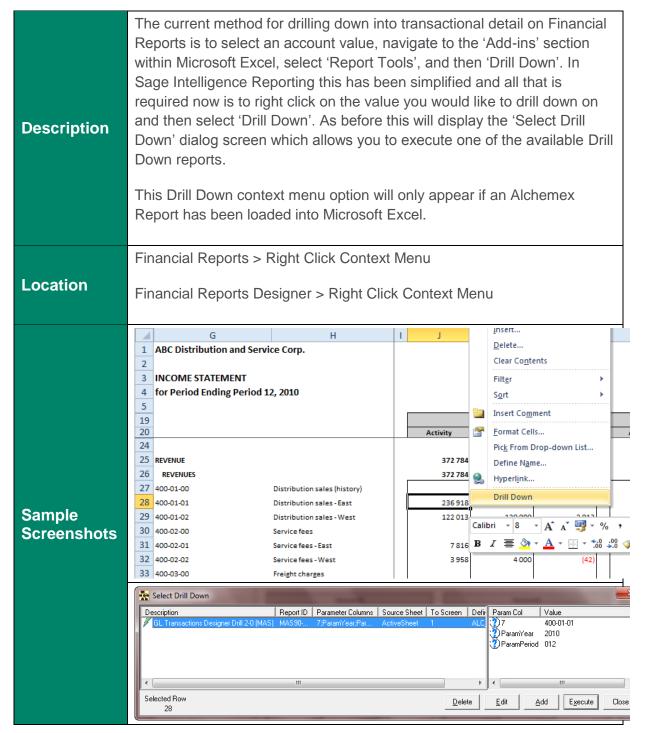








## Financial Reports: Easier 'Right Click' Drill Down







# **Financial Reports: Performance Improvement**

# (Up to 6x Faster)

Description	Any Financial Reports created within Sage Intelligence Reporting that use an add-in called 'TBSync' to manage the process of inserting financial data into Microsoft Excel will now see performance increases. This 'TBSync' add-in has been significantly improved within Sage Intelligence Reporting to ensure that financial data is inserted into Microsoft Excel faster than ever.		
Location	Run 'Financial Reports' report.		
Sample Screenshot	Data Out : Report [Financial Reports 2-4 (MA  Status  Calculating Sheets Running Add-In : [~PLPLUGA.A.RemovePiv  Add-In: [~PLPLUGA.A.RemovePivotBlanks(() Running Add-In : [~PLPLUGA.B.TBSync2(G  Add-In: [~PLPLUGA.B.TBSync2(GLCatPivot  Running Add-In : [~PLPLUGA.B.TBSync2(SI  Add-In: [~PLPLUGA.B.TBSync2(Sheet1 Acc  Calculating Sheets  Cancel		





# **Core/Operating System**

New features have been added to the Sage Intelligence Reporting core software.

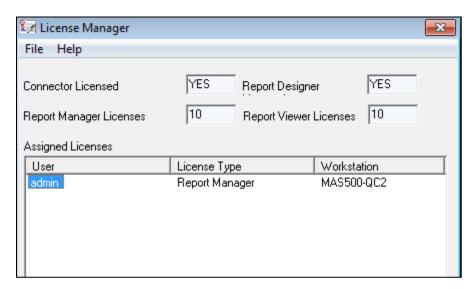
# **Support for Citrix and Terminal Services Load Balanced Environments**

Official support for Citrix and Terminal Services load balanced hosted environments has now been added in the form of additional configuration settings which can configure Sage Intelligence Reporting to run in a behavior required specifically when using Sage 300 ERP Intelligence within a secured load balanced hosted environment.

**NOTE:** This support only applies to integrated versions of Sage Intelligence Reporting which have been configured to have their licensing handled using the Integrated License Manager depicted below.

### Location:

Config.ini settings file.







## New Switches Now Supported within Config.ini File

The following configuration switches are now supported within Sage Intelligence Reporting Config.ini settings file:

- DisableAddConnections
- DisableViewConnectionProps
- MaxCubeDimensions
- HideReportRepositoryPath
- HideTemplateStorageLocation

### **Support for Simplified Chinese Windows 7 OS**

Sage Intelligence Reporting now functions correctly (in English) on Windows 7 with a Simplified Chinese Language Pack installed and Simplified Chinese MS Excel.





## **Resolved Issues**

### **License Manager Issues**

### Wording

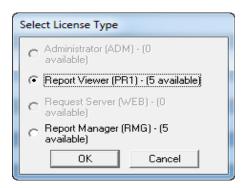
The License Manager can be localized to operate with the wording 'Registration' instead of 'Serialization'. In some instances the word 'Serialization' was discovered to still exist within systems configured to 'Registration' localization.

## **Error When Adding a New Workstation**

Previously while adding a new workstation, if the OK button was selected before specifying an option within the "Select License Type" window, a Runtime Error '94'Invalid Use of Null displayed. This has been resolved by making a selection mandatory before selecting OK on this form.

#### Location:

 Launch Non-Integrated License Manager > Right Click on first object within object list > Select Add Workstation License.







# **Software Availability**

This software can be downloaded from the following locations:

- https://partners.sagenorthamerica.com
- https://customers.sagenorthamerica.com

