
Oracle Business Intelligence Enterprise Edition Delivers the Holy Grail of Essbase Reporting Solutions

Having worked with Essbase for over a decade with several clients, there has always been a common theme for the ultimate Essbase solution: that is the desire for seamless drill through from Essbase into the supporting transaction data. In the past the best option for delivering this was to build Essbase solutions leveraging Essbase Integration Services (EIS). While this approach does provide drill through into relational data, it does have its limitations:

- The relational drill through report must be predefined by the EIS developer.
- The drill through report contains only unformatted columns of data.
- If the Essbase report being drilled from includes Essbase formula based metrics, these will not be displayed in the drill through report.

So in summary, the end user has no control over the actual transaction detail report, which means they cannot add any additional dimensional attributes or measures, they cannot format the report, and they cannot create a chart.

This is where OBIEE takes Essbase reporting to the next generation of analysis. OBIEE has always been an excellent relational OLAP reporting solution; allowing the user to format and analyze relational data in a variety of ways. Now with the integration of Essbase to handle all of the upper level aggregations, we have a solution that can be thought of as the perfect storm. Essbase provides high performance of all the aggregated levels up the dimensional hierarchies (no summary fact tables to deal with); and the integrated supporting relational data allows for seamless drill through into formatted reports that the end user can create, modify, or even perform advance analysis like charting, traffic lighting, and KPI gauges. OBIEE even allows the solution to go a step further by allowing the user to open up stored images associated with the given transaction, like an invoice or purchase order document. Thus the user can start with high level dashboard reporting, and navigate all the way down through the supporting transactions and into the underlying document images; a very powerful capability.

Please feel free to contact us at Analytic Vision if you wish to view a demonstration or have any questions answered.

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