

# Sage 100, 300, and 500 ERP Intelligence Reporting Comparison with BizNet



Sage ERP Intelligence Reporting provides Sage ERP customers with Excel®-based financial and operational reporting, empowering you to effortlessly create reports and analyze data, improving your visibility into your organization and helping you make informed business decisions. Sage customers frequently ask what the differences are between Intelligence Reporting and third-party solutions. This document provides a comparison between Sage ERP Intelligence Reporting and BizNet's Excel Suite ([www.biznetsoftware.com/products/](http://www.biznetsoftware.com/products/)) to provide Sage customers with a reference point in their evaluation.

Benefits	Sage 100, 300, and 500 ERP Intelligence Reporting	BizNet
<b>New Release Version Support</b>	As part of the Sage family of products, Intelligence Reporting is always compatible with the latest software release at launch, and the Sage Business Care team aligns version support to the ERP systems. Sage Intelligence supports Sage 100 ERP (formerly Sage ERP MAS 90 and 200) 4.4, 4.5, and 2013; Sage 300 ERP (formerly Sage ERP Accpac) 5.6, 6.0, and 2012; Sage 500 ERP (formerly Sage ERP MAS 500) 7.3, 7.34, and 2013; and Excel 2003, 2007, 2010, and 2013.	Compatibility will need to be verified after each ERP product update or new release. BizNet supports Sage 100 ERP 4.1 and higher, Sage 300 ERP 6.0 and higher, Sage 500 ERP 7.2 and higher, and Excel 2003, 2007, 2010.
<b>Immediate Value</b>	With every new Sage 100 and 300 ERP system customers get one <b>free Report Manager License</b> (new Sage 500 ERP customers receive four) which includes <b>12 ready-to-run reports</b> . The free license(s) is (are) also available to all Sage ERP customers on Sage Business Care running the following versions: Sage 100 ERP—1 Free License—4.4 or higher Sage 300 ERP—1 Free License—5.6 or higher Sage 500 ERP—4 Free Licenses—7.3 or higher	No free licenses.
<b>Click-and-Run Installation</b>	Easy installation. As a module of your Sage ERP package, Intelligence Reporting can be deployed seamlessly without any hurdles. <b>Simple click-and-run installation completes in less than ten minutes.</b>	Manual installation takes several hours to complete.
<b>User Interface—Ease of Use</b>	Intelligence Reporting leverages the familiar interface of Excel for report formatting, as well as a proprietary interface within Excel for financial reporting.	BizNet has a proprietary interface within Excel for report creation.
<b>Standard Reports</b>	Intelligence Reporting allows you to get started producing meaningful reports right away. <b>A library of ready-to-run report templates is included</b> with the module that goes well beyond financial statements, including GL trend analysis dashboards, customer sales, inventory status, and vendor purchases.	BizNet provides prebuilt database connectivity. There are no prebuilt reports to start with. Reports must be built from scratch.
<b>Real-Time Access</b>	Intelligence Reporting reports are <b>linked to live data</b> at run-time of the report. Trusted, up-to-date data is automatically pulled directly from your Sage ERP system into Excel each time the report is run.	BizNet Excel reports are <b>live-linked to cached data</b> , which has been extracted from your database into Excel. Changes in Sage 100, 300, or 500 ERP (transactions and so on) are not automatically reflected in your reports; reports need to be “refreshed” to display up-to-date information.
<b>Powerful Drill Down</b>	Intelligence Reporting Dashboard and Financial reports ship with real-time <b>prebuilt drill downs</b> to live data. Users also have the ability to <b>create and configure custom real-time drill downs</b> to any data they choose.	<b>Dynamic drill down</b> is prebuilt and automatically available once you drag a function into a spreadsheet. Users cannot create or configure custom drill downs.
<b>Multicurrency*</b>	Intelligence Reporting <b>supports the Sage ERP multicurrency capabilities</b> , incorporated in your report designs inside standard Excel. In addition, the Report Designer for Sage 300 and 500 ERP allows you to easily create multicurrency reports with <b>flexible drag-and-drop functionality</b> . ( <b>Note:</b> Multicurrency is not available for Sage 100 ERP.)	For Sage 100 and 500 ERP, BizNet has a multicurrency add-on module.
<b>Performance/Scalability/Technology</b>	With the Report Designer, <b>In-Memory data caching</b> is used for enhanced financial reporting performance. All data is cached into memory up front, which allows it to be immediately accessible for use in formulas and functions, making for an uninterrupted report design experience. For nonfinancial reports, data is filtered and cached inside Excel for convenient access, allowing PivotTables to be easily created.	BizNet uses <b>In-Memory data caching</b> , so data is retrieved and stored in local memory. Data is cached into memory each time a formula or function is used within the Excel spread sheet.

<b>Flexible Reporting Trees (Replacing FRx)</b>	<p>With Intelligence Reporting you can set up powerful and flexible Reporting Trees, which can <b>replace any FRx reporting tree</b>. Reporting Trees are easy to create using the friendly interface and are stored centrally, making them available to all reports once created. Users can <b>model their business units independently of their chart of accounts and quickly change reporting angles</b>. Users can also automatically roll up child reporting units based on relationship.</p>	<p>Biznet's virtual roll-up technique allows you to <b>build an account filtering tree manually</b> inside Excel. As virtual roll-ups are done inside your Excel report, each rollup within the virtual rollup needs to be set up individually; hence, they will need to be set up within each Excel report. A good knowledge of <b>SQL syntax</b> is required to replicate FRx account ranges with multiple account segments or dimensions.</p>
<b>Automated Report Distribution</b>	<p><b>Improve your workflow with fully automated report distribution</b> inside Excel. Use this powerful feature of Intelligence Reporting to easily create <b>rule-based alerts</b>, insert previews of report data within the body of your rich text email, and select what worksheet you want to send to the recipient, in the format you choose: PDF, HTML, or Microsoft Excel. Choose the reports you want to distribute and who will receive them and customize the format of each email using your existing Microsoft Outlook profile and address book. Distribution methods include <b>email, FTP site, SharePoint, SkyDrive, Drop box, and shared network folders</b>. The distribution rules are created once and can be reused across all reports.</p>	<p>Report distribution is <b>defined manually</b> in Excel. Reports are generated and distributed to recipients in the format you choose: PDF, HTML, MHTML, EPS, CSV, or Microsoft Excel. <b>Conditional delivery and alerting</b> can also be defined. Distribution methods include <b>email, Network Folder, SharePoint, and website</b>.</p>
<b>Drag-and-Drop Reporting</b>	<p>Intelligence Reporting offers <b>drag-and-drop reporting</b>. For Financials, this is provided through an automated wizard or by dragging and dropping <b>live data</b> directly into Excel using the Report Designer Add-In. For nonfinancial reports, Excel PivotTable functionality can be leveraged.</p>	<p>BizNet offers <b>drag-and-drop live reporting</b> to Excel through static generic templates, data lists, and prebuilt functions. Data caching of financial formulas can occur before users have finished entering parameters.</p>
<b>Dynamic Reports</b>	<p>The new Report Designer Add-In powers all financial reports with an In-Memory engine for <b>real-time dynamic interactivity</b> with GL data. Easily change period, department, and budget sets, without pause.</p>	<p>BizNet reports are built once and refreshed manually to refresh data thereafter. Report parameters, such as period, department, and so on allow users to interact with the database real time.</p>
<b>Access to Any Data</b>	<p>The Intelligence Reporting Connector module provides access to all your system data beyond what is provided in the standard reports and <b>beyond the GL</b>. You can help yourself to information from across your business by pulling information from all aspects of your Sage ERP system, including Manufacturing, Inventory, CRM, and more. Sage Intelligence allows you to report off any ODBC-compliant data bases. The <b>capability to fully customize your reports gives you total flexibility</b> to cater to all your reporting needs.</p>	<p>With BizNet, access to data is limited to the <b>predefined content pack</b>—GL, AP, and AR for Sage 100 ERP and GL, AP, AR, and Project Accounting in Sage 300 and 500 ERP. Users cannot add extra data fields or report from additional ERP modules or other systems.</p>
<b>Convert FRx Reports and Leverage Existing Spreadsheets</b>	<p>The Report Designer Add-In easily allows users to convert their FRx reports by simply exporting them into Excel and linking them. All existing Excel financial spreadsheets can be converted using this method. <a href="#">Download this Conversion Guide to take you through a useful step-by-step process.</a></p>	<p>BizNet converts FRx reports by copying and pasting row formats into Excel. You can leverage existing Excel spreadsheets and live link them.</p>
<b>Sage Support</b>	<p>Support is provided by Sage Business Care product experts and includes 24/7 access to the self-serve knowledgebase.  Specific Intelligence Reporting information, resources, and training are readily available from the <a href="#">Sage Intelligence Knowledgebase</a>, Sage Communities, <a href="#">BI Community</a>, <a href="#">regular webcasts</a>, <a href="#">discounted Sage University Anytime Learning classes</a>, <a href="#">Sage Intelligence how-to videos</a>, and in-product help.</p>	<p>BizNet Support, Online Support Submission, Knowledgebase, Product FAQ, Webinars, Video Center.</p>

Since the initial release, Sage has added the following enhancements in response to requests from customers:

- Integrated installation and licensing for Sage 300 ERP in October 2009
- Report Designer Wizard providing drag-and-drop reporting in August 2010
- Improved functionality for Sage 100 ERP with Reporting Trees and Report Distribution released in October 2011
- FRx conversion utility released in February 2012
- Improved usability and flexibility with the Report Designer Add-In in September 2012
- Improved performance with in-memory processing in September 2012
- Integrated into Sage 100 ERP installation coming with the 2014 release
- Further usability enhancements coming from Sage starting in 2013

For additional information on Sage ERP Intelligence Reporting please visit: <http://sageerpsolutions.com/intelligence>