

Cognos Impromptu

Cognos Impromptu

- Object oriented architecture
- Users access Impromptu through GUI
- Querying and reporting unified – so users get data quickly and easily
- Database reporting tool – offers complete control over all reporting
- Supports scalability
- User friendly interface look

Impromptu Information Catalog

- Reporting begins with Information Catalog
- A LAN-based repository of business knowledge and data-access rules
- Protects user from technical aspects of database as SQL syntax, table joins and repeated queries & unnecessary processing
- Creating impromptu catalog is simple

Object-oriented Architecture

- Inheritance-based administration and distributed catalog
- I.e changes to business rules, permission sets, query activities cascade automatically throughout the enterprise -> refers changes are global
- Governors allow admin to control enterprise reporting environment

Activities and process – controlled by governors

- Query activity
- Processing location
- Database connections
- Reporting permissions
- User profiles
- Client/server balancing
- Database transactions
- Security by value
- Field and table security

Reporting

- To produce reports -> reportwise templates and headstarts are used
- Apply data to produce report

Impromptu's - Reportwise templates - Headstarts

- Impromptu's predefined reportwise templates
- Templates for mailing labels
 - Invoices
 - Sales reports
 - Directories
- These templates are complete with formatting, logic, calculations
- Organizations can create templates for standard company reports and then deploy to every user who needs them
- Templates are database-independent
- Variety of page and screen formats - Headstarts

Special reporting options - Picklists and prompts

- User create reports by selecting from list of values
 - Eg: select a picklist of all sales representatives with a single click of mouse
- Too many values for single variable -> prompts
- Supply values at run time

Special reporting options - Custom templates

- Standard templates with global calculations and business rules created once and distributed

Special reporting options – Exception reporting

- Conditional filters
- Conditional highlighting
- Conditional display

Special reporting options -Interactive reporting

- Users perform querying and reporting by Interacting with live data

Special reporting options - Frames

- Building blocks used to produce reports that are formatted with fonts, borders, colors, shading
- Frames know about contents and how to display them
- Designing multiframe report saved as template and rerun at any time with other data
 - List frames
 - Form frames
 - Chart frames
 - Text frames
 - Picture frames

Impromptu Request Server

- User request the server to execute query
- Server execute the request and generate the sreport

Assessment

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Excel window titled "Conditional formatting highlight target percentage.xlsx". The active sheet is "Sheet1". The formula bar shows the formula "=60%" in cell B5. The worksheet contains a table of scores and a key for conditional formatting.

Conditional formatting highlight target percentage

Score
60%
70%
78%
80%
85%
89%
95%
98%

Key:

Score	Rating	Formula
90%	Good	=B5>=90%
80%	OK	=B5>=80%
<80%	Poor	=B5<80%

The scores in the table are color-coded: 60%, 70%, and 78% are pink; 80%, 85%, and 89% are yellow; 95% and 98% are light green. The ratings in the key are also color-coded: Good is light green, OK is yellow, and Poor is pink.