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Business Objects' Dashboard Capabilities

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Background

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About the Authors

This evaluation was jointly prepared by Cindi Howson, Founder of BIScorecard, and Mike Ferguson, Managing Director of Intelligent Business Strategies (<http://www.intelligentbusiness.biz>). With over 26 years of IT experience, Mike has consulted for dozens of companies on business intelligence strategy, technology selection, enterprise architecture, enterprise portals, business process integration, SOA, and data integration.

Evaluation Methodology

Some of the BI products look increasingly similar, and yet beneath the covers, there are significant differences. At BIScorecard, we want to make sure you buy the best products for your company, avoid shelfware, and reach a decision faster. BIScorecard is the only analyst firm that tests BI suites hands-on based on over 100+ detailed criteria and from the customer's perspective. Within each strategic and functional area, vendors and products are scored on various criteria that are based on:

- Features and aspects that customers often look for in evaluations
- Unique capabilities identified while evaluating products
- Vendor marketing claims that are either a point of differentiation or confusion

To evaluate products, we rely on customer references, feedback from partners and consultants, and vendor briefings and demonstrations. To ensure an objective, consistent comparison of products, we also evaluate the software hands-on.

Each feature is assigned a score of 0 to 3:

Score	Explanation
3	Exceptional capabilities.
2	Very good capabilities.
1	Limited capabilities, difficult to do, or may require a work around.
0	Minimal capabilities out of the box. The software may require customization or coding to accomplish.