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Name of Standard: **NRM Standards for Formal Reports**

Submitter Name: Jeff Johnson

Stakeholder(s) Impacted by Change: **BPMs, Technical Architects**

Type of Change: **Medium**

Change to Standard: Oracle Reports is now in its 'terminal' release. Now recommending switching from Oracle Reports to Jasper Reports in next major application release.

Changes	
Title Page	New division and Architecture section names
Section 2.1.3	CSNR changed to IIT; IMB changed to Architecture and Business Strategy Section
Section 4	Removed allowed condition for Oracle Reports that let some new applications use it. Added note that Oracle has announced that current release of Oracle Fusion Middleware is the final one to support Oracle Reports, and all applications must plan to convert to Jasper reports in their next major release.

Standard

Version Control

Date	Author	Version
September 12, 2018	Jeff Johnson	1.3.0

1. Introduction

The purpose of this document is to provide contractors and Sector staff with an overview to the Sector approach for development of formal reports.

Formal reports are considered to be static, printer-ready presentations of data, such as invoices and business performance summaries.

2. List of any SDLC Deliverables this standard directly relates to

Perhaps the Application Delivery Checklist and Software Design Description

3. Standard

Supporting Documentation: None. This is a very small standard.



**Information, Innovation & Technology Division
Architecture & Business Strategy Section**

NRM Standards for Formal Reports

Last Updated: September 12, 2018
Version: 1.3.0
Document: NRS_Standards_for_FormaI_Reports

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1. Version Control

Document Version	Revision	Date	Author(s)	Change Reference
1.0.0		Dec 31, 2011	Mark Will	Combined Reports Standards documents from MOE/MAL, GeoBC, MFR to create a Natural Resource Sector standard.
1.0.0	Final	Apr2012	Lorelei Solomon	Published
1.1.0		Oct 2014	Jeff Johnson	Jasper Reports is now the standard technology; Oracle Reports now legacy.
1.2.0		Jun 2017	Jeff Johnson	Minor update with clarifications
1.3.0		Sep 2018	Jeff Johnson	Oracle reports now deprecated. Jasper Reports Server version updated.

2. Introduction

Formal reports are considered to be static, printer-ready presentations of data, such as invoices and business performance summaries. This characteristic distinguishes them from simple result sets that are delivered as a “grid” or in a basic spreadsheet and which are usually intended for further manipulation by the requester. Common examples of formal reports include invoices and business performance summaries.

2.1. Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide contractors and Sector staff with an overview to the Sector approach for development of formal reports.

2.2. Audience

This document is intended for the use of all Application Administrators, Project Managers, Project Leaders, Business Analysts, Database Designers and Developers involved in planning and delivering applications for the Sector.

All contractors engaged to perform all or some of the functions related to report development are instructed to follow and conform to the standards outlined in this document. **This fact must be specified in the RFP and the contract.**

2.3. Scope/Exclusions

The scope of this document covers formal reporting, as described above, for sector Web-based line-of-business applications.

Where conflicts, if any, are perceived between this document and other standards, the *Head of Architecture* must be consulted.

2.4. Assumptions

It is assumed that users of this document are familiar with the basic functions and applications of the standard report development technologies.

2.5. Definitions

The following definitions apply throughout this document.

Standards

A standard is a specific statement of the rules and constraints governing the naming, contents, and operations of software. A standard must be followed. There is a contractual obligation on the part of the vendor/developer to adhere to all relevant standards.

Guidelines

A guideline is a method or custom, which through common usage has become an accepted method of work. A guideline is not enforced, and is not a standard.

Sector

Unless otherwise specified, "Sector" is taken to collectively mean the Ministries and agencies which are included under the umbrella of the Natural Resource Sector. All are served by a common Information, Innovation & Technology Division (IIT) and Architecture & Business Strategy Section with the mandate to formulate and maintain application development standards.

2.6. Other Standards

[NRS Standards for Jasper Reports](#)

[NRS OFM Delivery Standards](#) (This document includes Oracle report delivery standards)

[NRS Standards Inventory](#)

2.7. Contacts

All inquiries regarding these standards should be directed to the Business Portfolio Manager assigned to the project.

2 Standard Reporting Technology

Jasper Reports is the standard technology for **formal reports in Sector web-based line-of-business applications**. All new reports should be developed for the Jasper Reports environment.

Note that many types of 'reports' are not included in the 'formal reports' definition. For example, applications with HTML-based 'reports' not intended to be printed, but only displayed in a browser, need not use Jasper reports.

In addition, some types of applications that are not web-based line-of-business applications also produce reports, such as smaller applications written in Microsoft Access, and this standard does not apply to them.

3 Legacy Reporting Technology

Oracle Reports is a *legacy* technology. Applications may use it only when certain conditions apply:

- (i) When the work involves existing reports based on Oracle Reports.
- (ii) When the work involves new reports for an application that is already using Oracle Reports.

In any case, the decision on whether or not to use a legacy technology resides with the IIT Architecture & Business Strategy Section, and exceptions can be requested through the Architecture Working Group (AWG).

Note that Oracle has announced that Oracle Reports will not be supported past Oracle Fusion Middleware 12c R2. ***All applications currently using Oracle Reports should be planning a change to Jasper Reports in their next major update.***

4 General Reporting Standards

Report development for an application can involve multiple technical considerations that vary among initiatives, whether for new or maintenance work, so a comprehensive prescriptive approach cannot be practically defined. Instead, each situation requires specific analysis. Therefore, when initiating new work involving reports, one should expect to communicate with the Architecture Group.

5 Detailed Reporting Standards

5.1 Detailed Jasper Reports Standards

Developers must develop reports that comply with the [NRS Standards for Jasper Reports](#)

6 Other types of reports

Where report requirements call for the ability to manipulate result sets or other features that cannot be satisfied by the standard reporting technology, the Architecture Group must be consulted.