# Features and Functionality of BI Publisher

## Presented to: SCOUG

June 7, 2010

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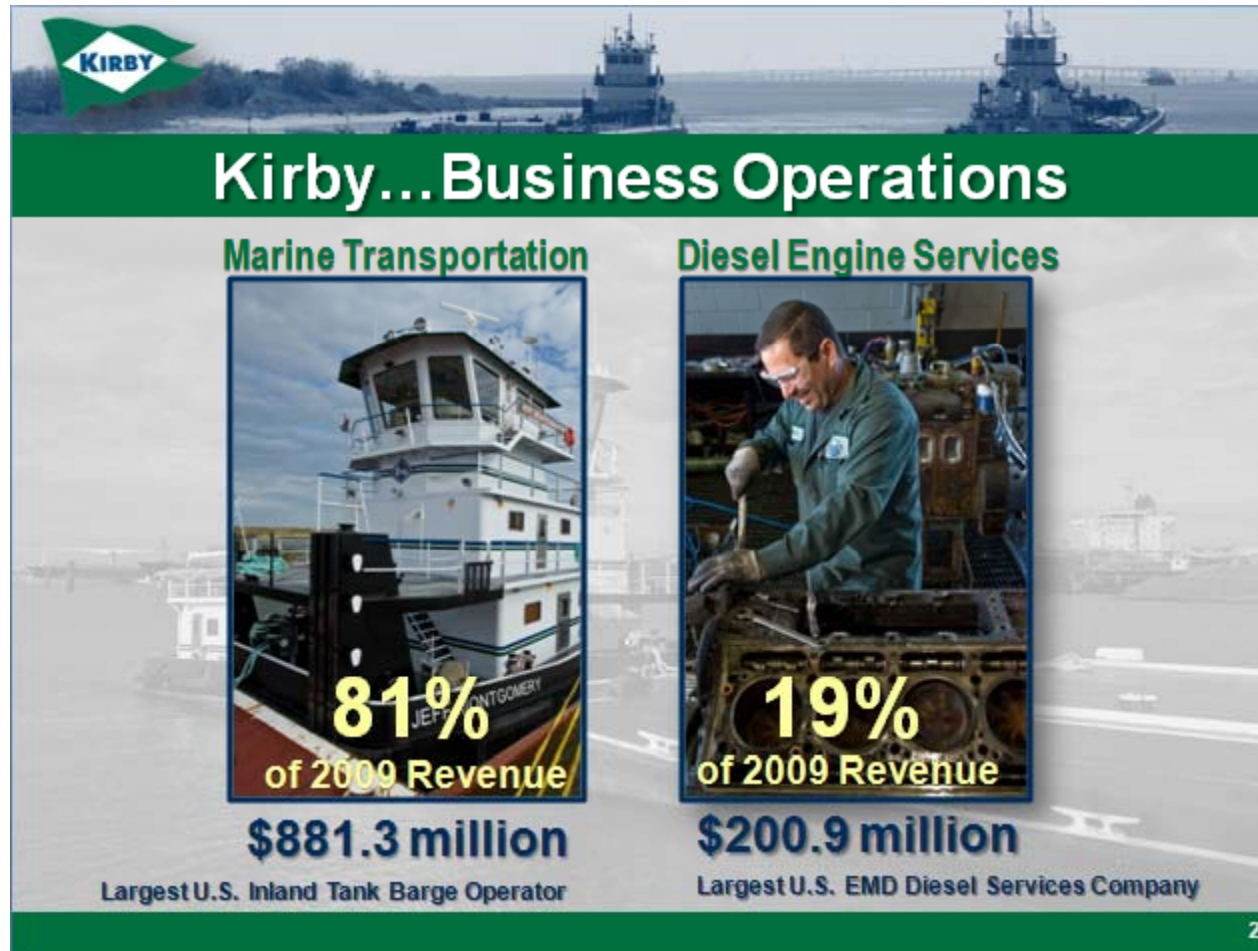KIRBY

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# Kirby Corporation

# Kirby Corporation



Kirby...Business Operations

**Marine Transportation** — 81% of 2009 Revenue — $881.3 million — Largest U.S. Inland Tank Barge Operator

**Diesel Engine Services** — 19% of 2009 Revenue — $200.9 million — Largest U.S. EMD Diesel Services Company

# Kirby Corporation



## Kirby Facts

- Largest inland tank barge operator
- Operates 861 barges and currently operating 224 towing vessels
- Sustainable competitive advantages:
  - Lowest cost due to economies of scale
  - Best positioned for growth opportunities
  - "One Stop Shop" for customers
- 75% of inland marine transportation revenues under term contracts, of which approximately 50% are under time charters
- Successful integration of 25 marine and 15 diesel acquisitions

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# Kirby Corporation

- Currently on Oracle 11.5.10+
- Two Instances
  - Financials(Accounts Receivable, Accounts Payable, General Ledger, Cash Management, Fixed Assets), Purchasing, Inventory, Order Management  and Advanced Pricing
  - Financials , Purchasing, and Discrete Manufacturing (Inventory, Order Management, Advanced Pricing, Bill of Materials, Cost Management, WIP, Quality, Configurator), and Mobil Supply Chain

# Kirby - Needs

- 3<sup>rd</sup> party check printing solution
  - Old technology
  - Pre-printed paper
  - Printer issues – becoming unsupported
  - Different locations get different check styles
- Update existing AR Invoice printing solution
  - Pre-printed paper
  - Every change in format required a change to the Oracle Report.
- Solution – Oracle BI Publisher

# Oracle BI Publisher

- Oracle BI Publisher is an enterprise reporting solution to author, manage, and deliver all types of highly formatted documents eliminating the need for costly point solutions

- Developed to solve Oracle Apps reporting problems

- Released with Oracle E-Business Suite 11.5.10 in 2003

- BI Publisher can query or accept data from practically any data source and produce custom data to…multiple destinations like printers, e-mail, fax, WebDav, or ftp

- It is the current and future reporting standard for all Oracle publishing needs.

# What can BI Publisher do for you

- Experienced end users are able to insert data fields into Word documents without any help from IT

- Changes to the format can be performed in MS Word – requiring no additional training. Examples include:
  - replacing the company logo
  - altering column width
  - changes to fonts or boilerplate text

- The template builder add-in allows end users to mark up word documents easily with charts, data tables and calculations.

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# Simplified Self-Service Reporting

## Reporting Evolution

- Replaces most standard reports with data extracts and templates

- Merges custom templates and data extracts at run-time

- Delivers output in PDF, HTML, RTF, Excel (HTML), or text for use with EFT and EDI transmissions

## Benefits

- Put reporting in the hands of the business user

- Create report formats using desktop tools (Adobe Acrobat, MS Word, MS Excel, and XSL Editors)

- Publish in any format, to the web and electronically

- Drive reporting consistency with one source of data

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# Old School Reporting



**Data logic**

**Layout**

**Translation**

Report file
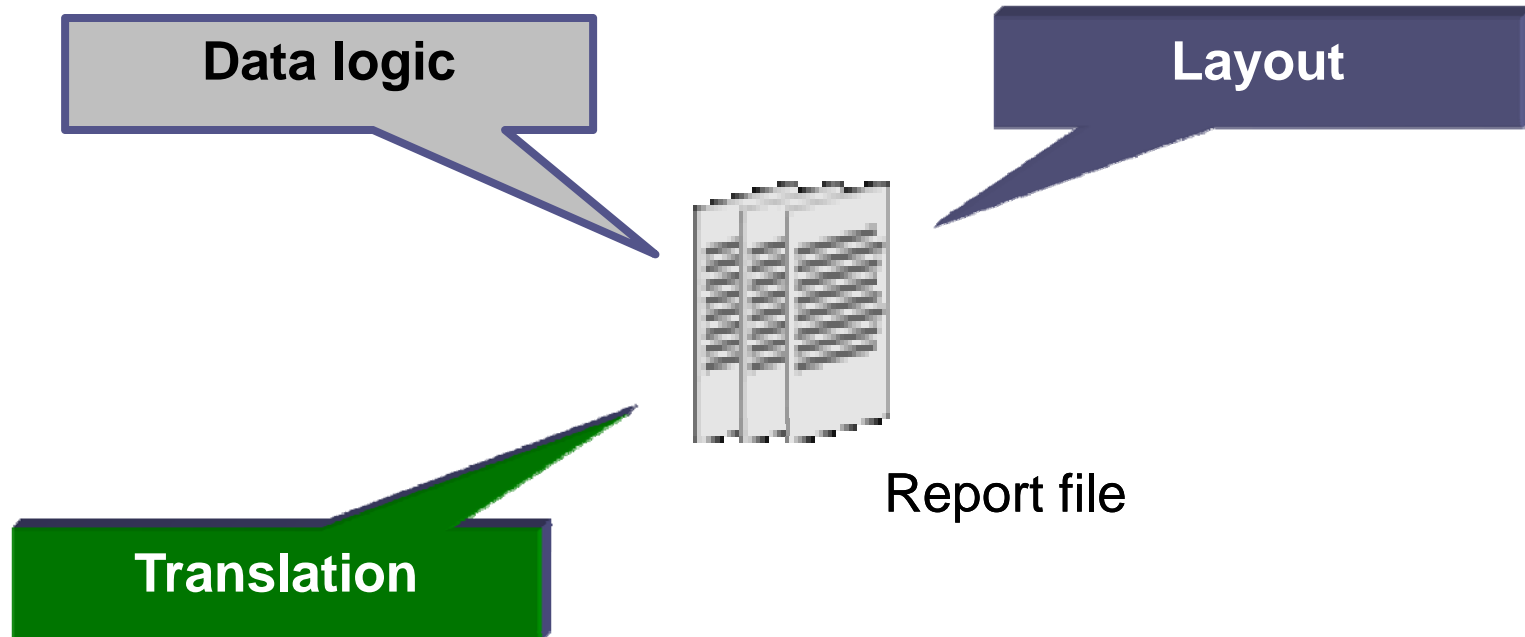
- High development cost
- Low flexibility
- High customization cost
- Difficult upgrade

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# XML Publisher Reporting Paradigm

## Separate data / layout / translation

Data Logic

Layout

Translation

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**XML Publisher**

**Report output**
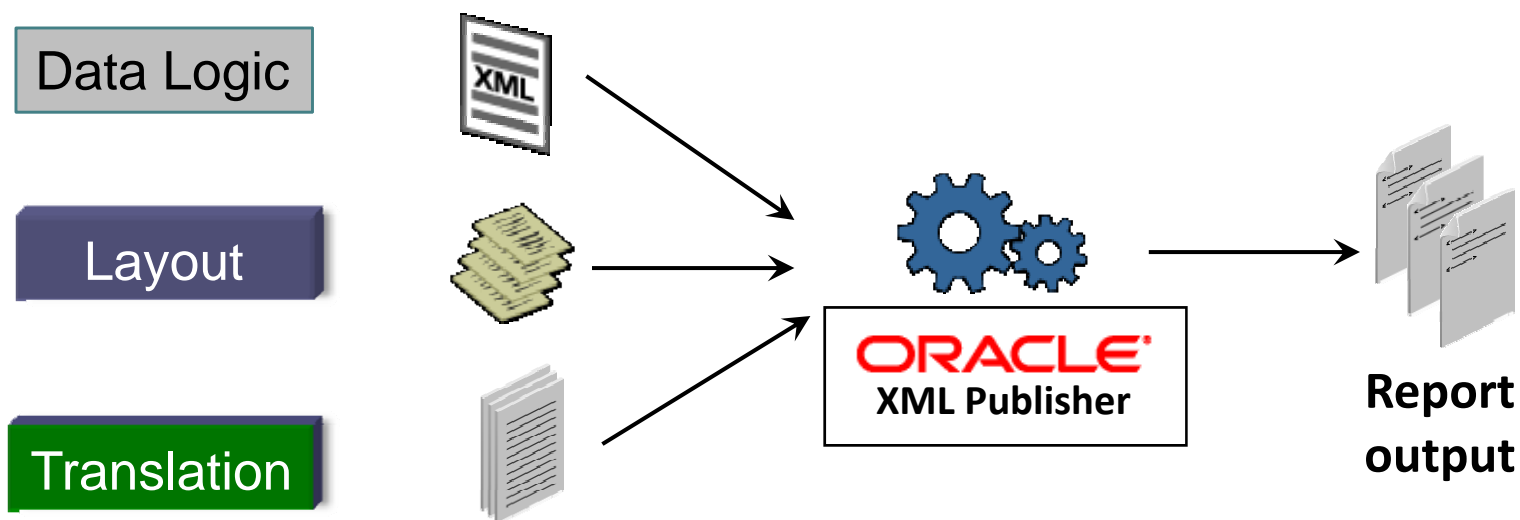
- More flexibility
- Reduced maintenance

# From Data to Destination

**Data Source**



Oracle,
SQL Server

PeopleSoft,
SAP, Siebel

Java, C++,
Pearl, etc

Web Services

**Layout Tools**

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XML Publisher

Templates

- Word
- Excel
- Acrobat
- XML Spy
- Scriptura
- Others

**Output**

PDF

RTF

HTML

Excel

XML

EDI

EFT

**Destinations**

Email

Printer

Fax

Repository

e-Commerce

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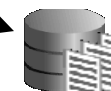
# Extract Once – Publish Multiple Times

**Payment Data**

XML

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XML Publisher

EFT → Banking (EFT)

Excel → Controller

HTML → CEO

PDF → Government (Adobe PDF)

XML → B2B (XML)

**Different Templates for different output formats**

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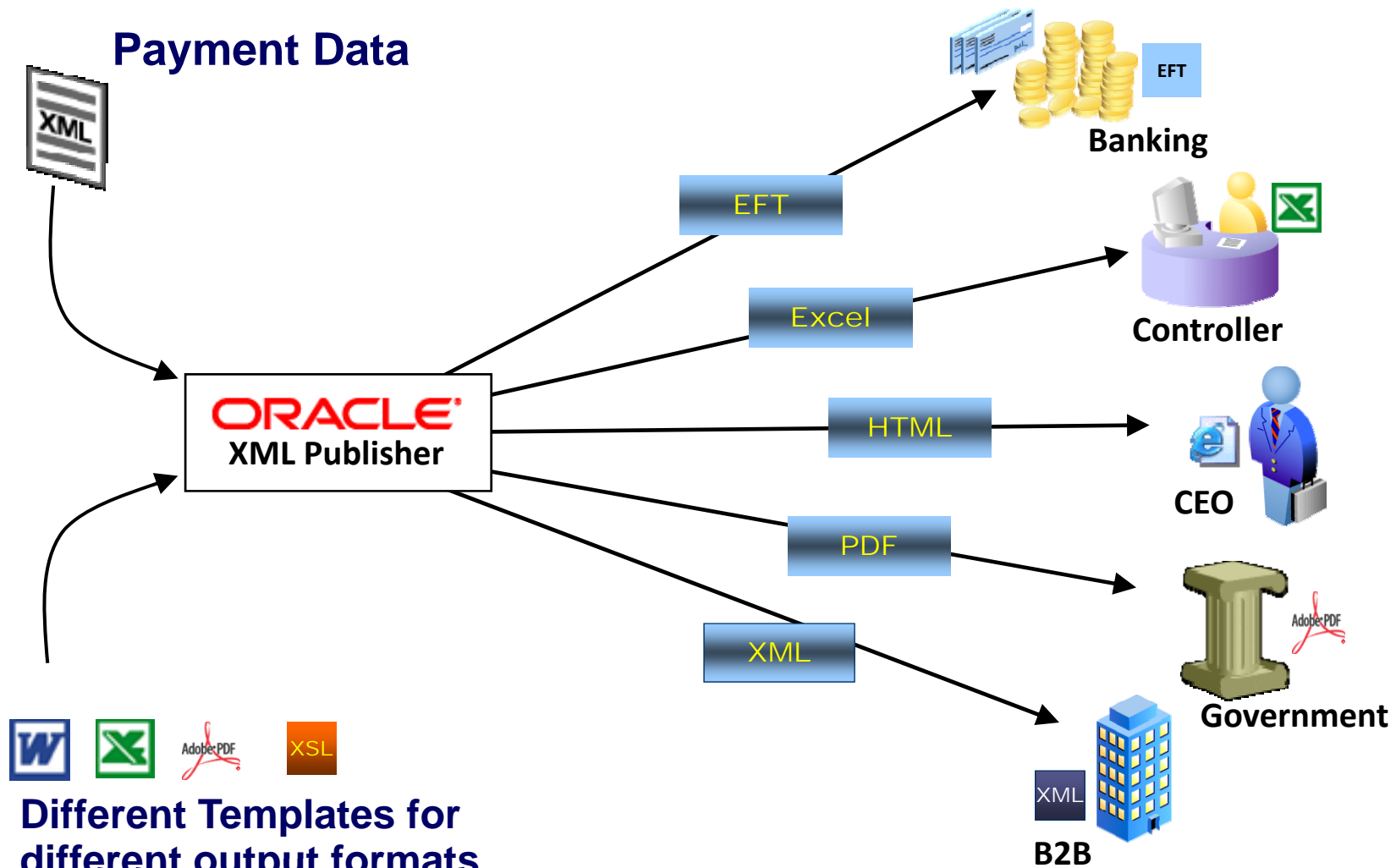
# XML Publisher Technology

## Industry Standard Templates

- Using desktop applications
  - Adobe Acrobat
  - MS Word
  - MS Excel
  - XSL Editors
- Template Builder Add ins

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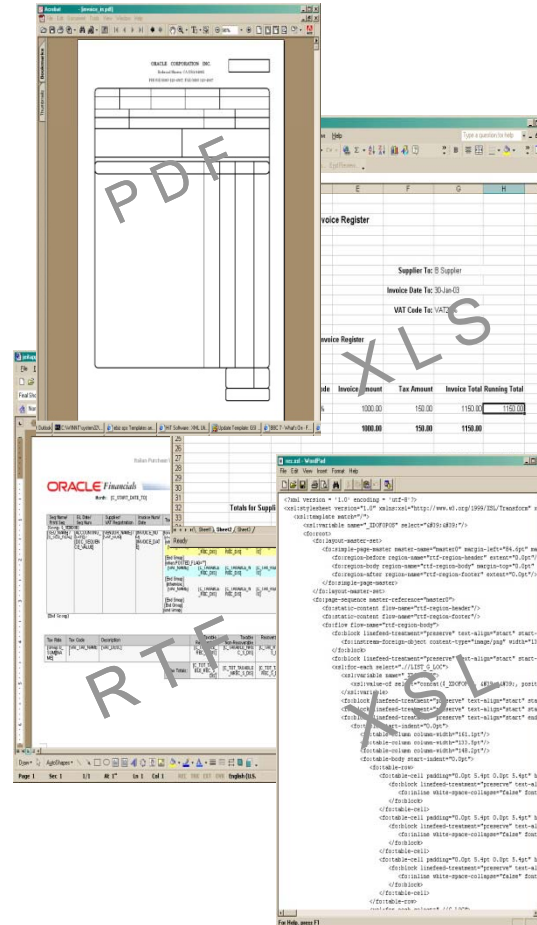
# One solution for ALL Print needs

# BI Publisher - Components

- XML Publisher Administrator - Responsibility and User Interface
  - Manage Templates and Data Definitions
- XML Report Publisher Concurrent Request

# BI Publisher Components

- Oracle BI Publisher Desktop Application
  - Template Builder – Microsoft Word Add In
  - Template Viewer – quick and easy viewing of designs
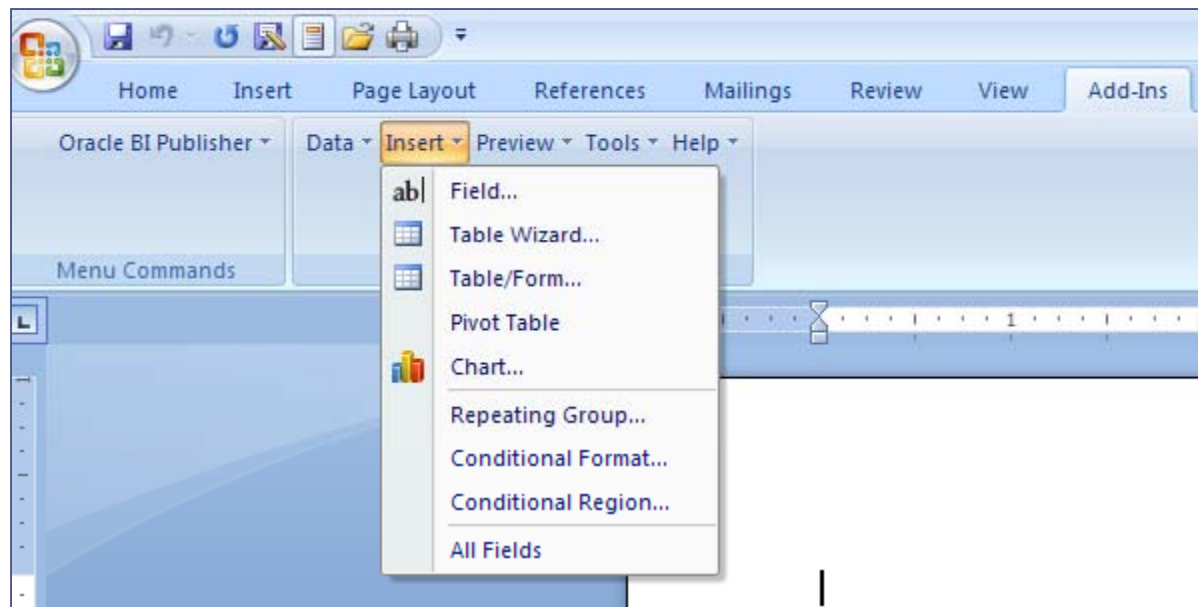
# Kirby Inland Marine – Checks

- Current State
  - 3rd Party Solution
  - Different pre-printed checks for various locations
  - Solution support was running out
  - High Risk with old solution and printing hardware
- Future State
  - Integrated Oracle Solution
  - Less need for pre-printed checks
  - Single format for various destinations
  - Easily maintained

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# BI Publisher Check Creation Steps

- Download Oracle Desktop BI Publisher from Oracle
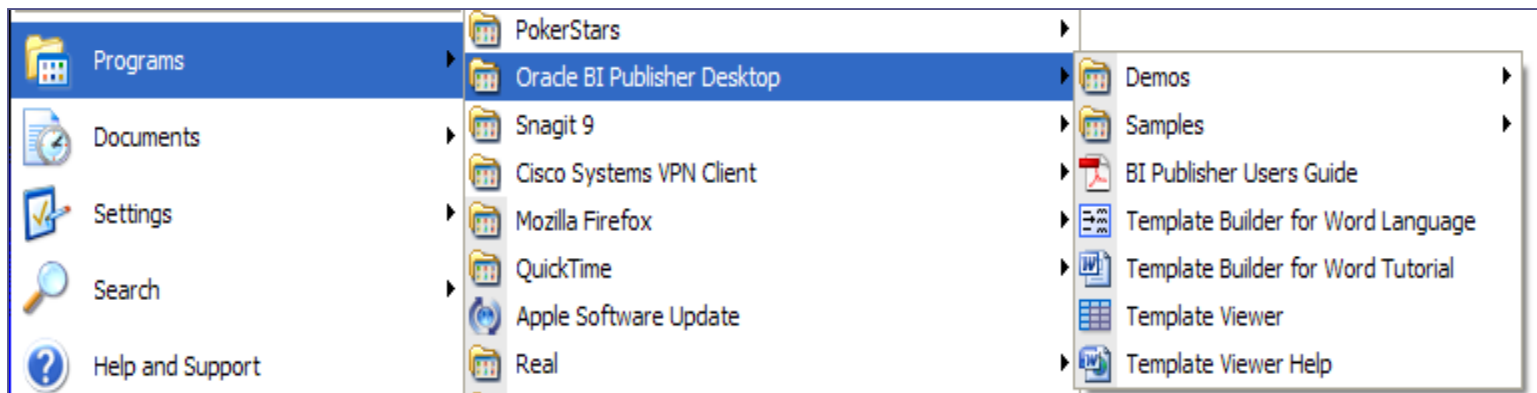
# BI Publisher Check Creation Steps

- Add the XML Publisher Administrator responsibility to the appropriate users

# BI Publisher Check Creation Steps

- Assign the XML Report Publisher to the appropriate request group

# BI Publisher Check Creation Steps

- Update the Format Payments Program to have an output of XML

# BI Publisher Check Creation Steps

- Update the Format Payments Program to have an output of XML

# BI Publisher Check Creation Steps

- Save a copy of the XML Output after running the payment program for use in designing your template.

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
- <!--
  Generated by Oracle Reports version 6.0.8.27.0
  -->
- <APXPBFEG>
- <LIST_G_CHECKS>
- <G_CHECKS>
  <C_CHECKRUN_NAME>CWKTESTXML01</C_CHECKRUN_NAME>
  <C_CHECK_NUMBER>449462</C_CHECK_NUMBER>
  <C_CHECK_AMOUNT>1034.66</C_CHECK_AMOUNT>
  <C_STATUS_LOOKUP_CODE />
  <C_VENDOR_NUMBER>1334</C_VENDOR_NUMBER>
  <C_VENDOR_NAME>ORACLE CORPORATION</C_VENDOR_NAME>
  <C_VENDOR_SITE_CODE>CHICAGO</C_VENDOR_SITE_CODE>
  <C_CUSTOMER_NUMBER />
  <C_ADDRESS_LINE1>PO BOX 71028</C_ADDRESS_LINE1>
  <C_ADDRESS_LINE2 />
  <C_ADDRESS_LINE3 />
  <C_CITY>CHICAGO</C_CITY>
  <C_STATE>IL</C_STATE>
  <C_ZIP>60694-1028</C_ZIP>
  <C_PROVINCE />
```

# BI Publisher Check Creation Steps

- Begin Designing Your Template
  - Open Microsoft Word
  - Create Layout
  - Add data fields and XML simplified tags
  - Save as RTF

# BI Publisher Check Creation Steps

- Begin Designing Your Template

# BI Publisher Check Creation Steps

- Flexibility is the key!
- You can insert fields, tables, and groups with the template builder

# BI Publisher Check Creation Steps

- You can also use the basic RTF method or you can use the Form Field method to add XSL/XSL-FO tags for the fields and commands you would like to use.

- When using the RTF method you are using simplified syntax.
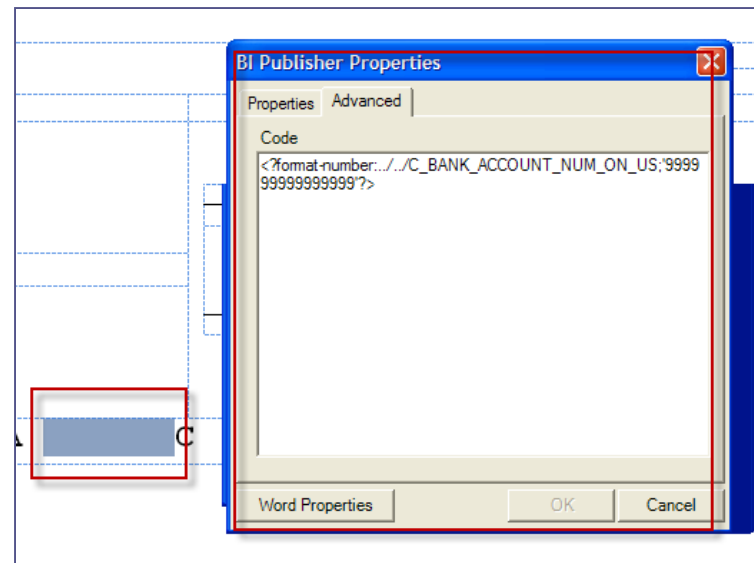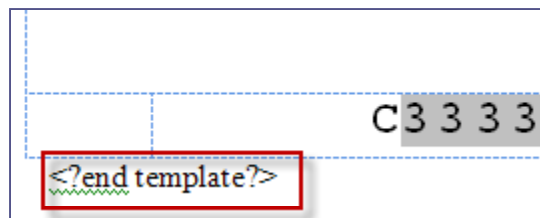
# BI Publisher Check Creation Steps

- It is recommended that you utilize tables to aide in your layout formats.

# BI Publisher Check Creation Steps

- You can also use the template builder to preview the check output prior to loading the template into Oracle
- Load the data from your XML sample, then preview in PDF
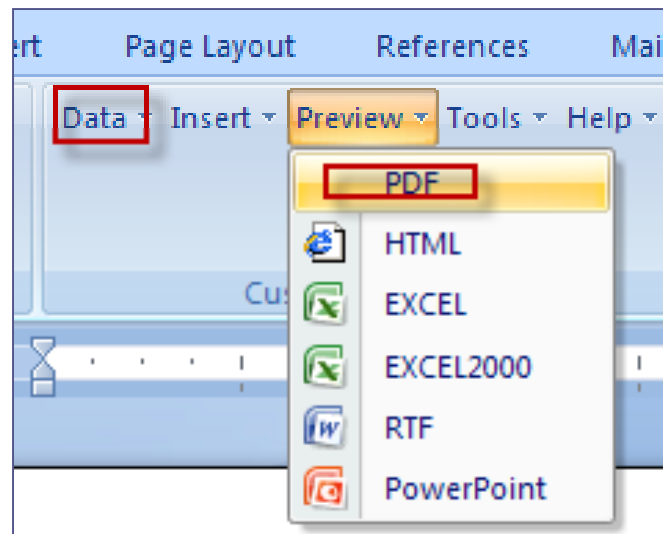
# BI Publisher Check Creation Steps

- When you have completed your template, it is time to add the data definition for the report to XML Publisher Administrator

- This step provides the BI Publisher with the name of the report that it will be using for data

Data Definitions >

**View Data Definition: Kirby XML Checks**

**General**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Name | Kirby XML Checks | Code | APXPBFEF |
| Application | Payables | Start Date | 21-Nov-2008 |
| End Date | | | |

# BI Publisher Check Creation Steps

- Next Step is to register your newly created Template



**Templates**

**Search**

| Name | Kirby% | | Code | |
| Application | | | Data Definition | |
| Type | | | Active | Yes |

Go

| Name | Application | Data Definition | Type | Start Date | End Date |
|------|-------------|-----------------|------|------------|----------|
| Kirby Signed Check | Payables | Kirby XML Check | RTF | 21-Nov-2008 | |
| Kirby Check Copy | Payables | Kirby XML Check | RTF | 01-Nov-2008 | |

# BI Publisher Check Creation Steps

- Run through your payables process and create the check

# BI Publisher Check Creation - Keys

- Load your own font for the MICR

- Utilize a MICR gauge to measure

- Get the requirements from your bank before beginning

- Plan on multiple test cycles with your bank and making tweaks to the check spacing.

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# Kirby - other

- Kirby also created AR Invoices with BI Publisher.
- The process was basically the same

# Kirby - other

- Bursting to communicate the AR invoice via e-mail

- The Bursting Engine accepts a data stream and splits it based on multiple criteria to be delivered via a specific channel.

- E-mail and Printers are two ways that can be dynamically delivered via the bursting engine.

- A bursting file is added to the data definition.

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# Kirby - Other

- Bursting File Example

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
- <xapi:requestset xmlns:xapi="http://xmlns.oracle.com/oxp/xapi" type="bursting">
  - <xapi:request select="/RAXINV/LIST_G_ORDER_BY/G_ORDER_BY/LIST_G_INVOICE/G_INVOICE">
    - <xapi:delivery>
      - <xapi:email server="tkofweb2-2.kmtc.com" port="25" from="OracleSupport@kirbycorp.com" reply-to="OracleSupport@kirbycorp.com">
        - <xapi:message id="123" to="${BILL_TO_CONTACT_EMAIL}" cc="" attachment="true" content-type="text/html" subject="Kirby Invoice Number: ${TRX_NUMBER}">
            <![CDATA[ <html><body>Please see attached Invoice File: ${TRX_NUMBER} <br/><br/>
            Thanks,<br/>
            Kirby Accounts Receivable Dept.<br/>
                        </body></html>  ]]>
          </xapi:message>
        </xapi:email>
      </xapi:delivery>
    - <xapi:document output="${BILL_CUST_NAME}_${TRX_NUMBER}.pdf" output-type="pdf" delivery="123">
        <xapi:template type="rtf" location="xdo://AR.KIRBYX_Print_Invoice.en.US?getSource=true" />
      </xapi:document>
    </xapi:request>
  </xapi:requestset>
```

# BI Publisher Benefits

## End Users

- Easy to use
- Consistent user interface
- Reports in multiple formats
- Multiple delivery channels

## Business Analysts

- Uses familiar tools to prototype reports
- Allows focus on business requirements
- Increases productivity

## Reporting Specialist

- Report matches prototype
- Reduces maintenance
- Faster results

## Developer

- Focus on data provisioning
- More time for strategic, value-add initiatives

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# Questions?

## Thank you

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