

Reporting Software Comparison

Jaspersoft's JasperReports Community Edition

Benefits

- The best developed and most widely used of the free open source reporting packages
- Free Introductory open-source version available.

Disadvantages

- Very limited features and functionality
- Lacks sufficient introductory and support documentation
- Requires use of complicated iReport application to produce files needed to run reports

What It Means For You

JasperReports faces the same drawbacks as most other open source software packages. A lack of support, features, and functionality all contribute to the poor reputation of JasperReport's Community Edition. JasperReport's interface is easy to learn, but it lacks the more powerful features and functionality other reporting packages offer. Users enticed by the "Free" package label will be surprised to find that documentation comes at a high price tag and they will also be pressured to purchase JasperReport's Enterprise Edition.

Summary

JasperReports is best for companies who want a simple reporting package with basic functionality.