

Oracle Business Intelligence Enterprise Edition (OBIEE) - Common Questions
(Last updated: 3/20/2018)

1. Why are we doing this project?
 - a. Datamart users have used the 'Oracle Hyperion Interactive Reporting Studio' (IR Studio) application throughout the years as their main Business Intelligence tool for various processes to help with critical business decisions. However, the IR Studio product is at its end of life with Oracle setting an April 2015, 'Premium support' and an April 2018 end of 'extended support' deadlines. With customers depending on daily/weekly/monthly information obtained from the Datamart, a reliable query tool is essential.
2. When was the official start of the OBIEE project?
 - a. On 11/27/17, the Datamart Admin received an endorsement letter from the OSCIO's office to officially begin the project. In addition, an email was sent to the Datamart news list, alerting users that DAS is starting this project.
3. How do I find up-to-date information about what is happening with the project?
 - a. Users should sign up for the Datamart news list (<http://listsmart.osl.state.or.us/mailman/listinfo/datamart-news>), for periodic project updates.
4. Will I be able to continue to use Hyperion?
 - a. The state owns an Enterprise license, which allows for all state employees to have the Oracle Hyperion Interactive Reporting Studio (IR Studio or Hyperion) application loaded on their desktop.
 - b. The state can continue to use the Hyperion application, due to the Enterprise license; however, Hyperion is no longer supported and at risk for failure. It is highly recommended users convert to the new platform as soon as available.
5. What is the new application costing my agency?
 - a. The initial start-up costs are included in the current biennial budget.
 - b. Going forward, data usage and server costs will be monitored closely and will be reflected in the budget, no different than in the past.
6. Is the Datamart changing?
 - a. The Datamart is staying the same. All load times will be on the standard schedule (shown on the Datamart website – Processing Calendar).
 - b. Users will log into the OBIEE server and the OBIEE server will access the Datamart directly.
7. What kind of platform will this product be installed?
 - a. The Datamart admin is obtaining a server edition of the product and it will be loaded at the State Data Center (SDC).
8. How will I access the new product?
 - a. Users will log in through a web portal.
9. Will techs be able to install the product on users' desktops?
 - a. There will be no need for agency techs to install the application. It is housed on a server at the SDC and will be accessed through using the internet.
10. Can my agency start to download and use OBIEE or other various Oracle software?
 - a. Agencies should contact the DAS OSCIO's office to determine how best to move forward with any Oracle products.

11. Will there be training?
 - a. Yes, training will be provided as soon as it is available. Classes will be created and taught through the DAS training lab, in a similar manner as the Hyperion courses.
 - b. The Datamart admin team will be looking into alternative training as well (demo, etc.).
 - c. Once the full transition to OBIEE is complete, training for the Hyperion application will no longer be offered.

12. What kind of software license agreement does the state have with Oracle?
 - a. The state has an Unlimited License Agreement (ULA) with Oracle through June 2022, which provides the application at minimal costs. Once the contract is over, the state will pay the annual maintenance fee for the application.

13. Are there any limits on users or restrictions to using the new product?
 - a. There are no limits or restrictions to using the new product in this environment.

14. Will agencies be able to access internal databases?
 - a. Currently, agencies will not be able to access internal databases; however, this feature will be available in the future and the Datamart admin will be determining how best to roll out this type of process.

15. Will the new application have updated firewall requirements?
 - a. Yes, once the server set up and testing is complete, agencies will need to work with their internal firewall team or the SDC to update these requirements.

16. Will we use our standard log in and password set up as we have today?
 - a. We plan to continue to log in using RACF authentication. If this plan changes, agencies will be notified.

17. Are there any new features of the application that I should be aware of?
 - a. There is a 'scheduling' function built into the new application that should help users immensely.

18. When will the product go live?
 - a. The Datamart team is working hard on making this a reality; however, we do not currently have a solid 'go live' date.

19. Can my agency volunteer to test the new product?
 - a. Yes, all volunteer testers are welcome. Please email "Datamart.support@oregon.gov" if you desire to help with the testing efforts.

20. Does this product work with Microsoft products (Excel, Word, etc.)?
 - a. This product does work with standard Microsoft products. It has the capability to move data to and from Microsoft applications.

21. Will there be a Datamart Repository as there is today?
 - a. Yes, the Datamart admin will build a new Repository for the OBIEE product.
 - b. This will take time as it is all new; however, with your help, we can make it a great resource for all.

22. Will there be a demo for agencies to see before going live with the new product?
 - a. The Datamart admin will be looking into setting up a demo, prior to going live with the new product.