

# Panorama™ NovaView® for SAP NetWeaver BI®

## Enterprise Business Intelligence Solutions

SAP is the leading provider of enterprise software solutions in virtually every major industry. More than 32,000 companies around the world rely on SAP to run their mission critical operations. SAP NetWeaver Business Intelligence (SAP NetWeaver BI) provides a powerful platform for SAP data integration and offers SAP Business Explorer Suite (SAP BEx), a toolkit for analyzing and creating reports.

In the current SAP environment, the SAP BEx (Business Explorer) designer tools that enable access to and manipulation of SAP NetWeaver BI data are primarily the domain of business analysts and IT staff. As a result, business users rely on analysts and IT to build reports, modify them and run sophisticated data analysis. This scenario leaves business users with minimal capabilities to create reports, explore data and interact with it.

### Extending the Reach of SAP NetWeaver BI and SAP BEx

Panorama NovaView for SAP NetWeaver BI offers enterprises a complete and integrated web-based BI solution including analysis, reporting, dashboards, scorecards, modeling and visualization. It focuses on simplifying the user experience by extending the reach of SAP NetWeaver BI and SAP BEx to empower business users to create their own reports, interact with data and collaborate in a unique and intuitive way.

Panorama NovaView connects directly to SAP NetWeaver BI, eliminating the need for data or metadata extraction. With Panorama NovaView, business users can access SAP NetWeaver BI InfoCubes, Queries, and Operational Data Stores to build reports, conduct analysis and monitor performance – in a simpler, user-friendly environment.

Panorama NovaView's BI suite includes:

### Panorama NovaView Analytics

Users can perform moment-in-time analysis, accessing OLAP data from SAP NetWeaver BI in an ad hoc fashion or according to pre-defined analysis paths. NovaView Analytics provides end users with the full capability to sort, filter, and rank data inside a report with a single click. Full integration across Panorama's suite enables users to move back and forth seamlessly between viewing reports, dashboards, and scorecards and analyzing them. Analysis functionality includes advanced capabilities

such as guided analysis, bubble up exceptions, and offline analytics.

### Panorama NovaView Smart Reporting

Panorama NovaView Smart Reporting incorporates interactivity, supports additional analysis, and integrates the at-a-glance capabilities of end user self service reporting from creation to navigation.

The report interface is simple, making it easy for any business user to create reports and transfer seamlessly to analysis for deeper understanding of performance results. By eliminating the boundaries between reporting and analysis, Smart Reporting avoids wasted effort from manually reworking the data. It also encourages further insight and action by allowing users to pursue new avenues of inquiry the moment they spot them.



### **Panorama NovaView Business Modeler**

With Panorama NovaView Business Modeler, you can create a concise and collated view of the different data elements in your organization. Using one solution, you can articulate what you want to measure and pull information from multiple data sources. The result is sophisticated, multi-dimensional models that incorporate historical performance metrics. Through a very simple process, you can transform your data into relational tables and analysis cubes to understand past performance and inform future action.

### **Panorama NovaView Dashboards**

NovaView Dashboards provides metrics, alerts and management modules to monitor performance and analyze business drivers, trends and variances. With NovaView Dashboards, you can access and display data from multiple data sources in the form of gauges, charts and tables; move seamlessly from performance monitoring to analysis and reporting with a single click; and deliver the right information and the right level of information configured for each user.

### **Panorama NovaView Scorecards**

Designed to help you analyze performance and consistently track it against evolving strategy and objectives, NovaView Scorecards gives your users — from senior executives to information workers — an at-a-glance view of results and issues. NovaView Scorecards shows KPIs in the most intuitive way. With advanced analytics capabilities, users can drill down from a KPI into the underlying data to understand causes and effects. Sophisticated charts and advanced visualization tools enable users to better understand the results they get, compare different sets of results, see trends clearly and take the correct action in response to their business intelligence.

### **Panorama NovaView Visuals**

Panorama NovaView Visuals allows you to take the data you would normally present in typical spreadsheets, charts, and graphs and transform it into compelling visuals. Whether it's financial models or business summaries, NovaView Visuals supports multiple chart types and visual presentations.

### **Panorama NovaView SDK**

The Panorama NovaView SDK offers everything you need to customize, integrate and extend your BI

solution with Panorama technology. With full access to the Panorama platform, you can deploy a tailored BI solution quickly while leveraging its advanced analytic, query, and security capabilities.

### **Panorama NovaView for Microsoft Office**

Panorama NovaView for Microsoft Office extends BI functionality into the Office suite, enabling users to incorporate enterprise data into Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, and SharePoint.

### **Connecting to SAP NetWeaver BI**

Panorama NovaView supports SAP NetWeaver BI versions 3.1, 3.5 and 7. It connects to the SAP NetWeaver BI platform using the ODBO-COM protocol (OLEDB for OLAP). Using this industry-standard connection, Panorama NovaView can query SAP NetWeaver BI data without modifying it in the back end or creating another copy of the data in a middle tier layer.

The ODBO provider is installed as part of the SAP GUI (the protocol name MDRMSAP). While the Panorama NovaView server uses Windows and SQL Server to run its software, Panorama NovaView can work against SAP NetWeaver BI running on any platform, including Unix.

### **Business Intelligence Using Panorama NovaView**

With Panorama NovaView, users have two options to gain intelligence from SAP NetWeaver BI business data:

- Connect directly to the InfoCube to build views that can be saved in a personal briefing book (i.e. a set of reports). In this scenario, users do not save Queries on the SAP NetWeaver BI server, but rather they save the report metadata in the Panorama NovaView server. As a result, every user can create and modify reports without impacting the back-end server (SAP NetWeaver BI). This process eliminates the bottleneck commonly associated with generating Queries using BEx.
- Connect directly to the SAP NetWeaver BI Queries and present the Query in a Panorama NovaView report view, leveraging the knowledge invested in the Query design and structure. End users gain increased interactivity and flexibility when connecting to existing Queries. Users can manipulate the data and generate insights (top five, bottom five, exceptions, highlights), without having to rely on IT staff.

A single NovaView installation/server can connect and view data from multiple SAP NetWeaver BI servers and/or Microsoft SQL Server Analysis Services or a combination of both. From the Panorama perspective, users can connect to either an InfoCube, Query, or ODS.

### Selecting a Query:

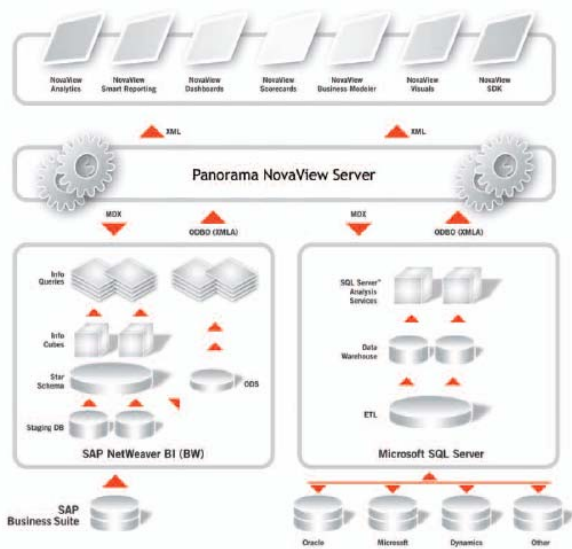
When opening the new view wizard, the user gets a list of catalogs (e.g., CRM Analysis). The catalog contains the different Queries that are “released for ODBO.” The user can select a Query and start interacting with it.

### Selecting an InfoCube:

In the new view wizard, \$InfoCube is the last item in the catalog list. When the user selects \$InfoCube, the left side will list all the InfoCubes available for access (even when there are no Queries “released for ODBO”).

### Selecting an ODS:

Panorama supports direct connection to Operational Data Stores, which can also be reached by connecting to a Query built over SAP ODS. An ODS is a raw representation of the cube data and is usually created as part of the staging phases when preparing the cube data.



## User Management

Panorama NovaView has been optimized to support user authentication and management for SAP NetWeaver BI. Users connect to their BI dashboard (either through mySAP Portal, HTML, Microsoft

SharePoint, Excel, and PowerPoint) and authenticate using their SAP username and password. Once authentication has been validated, encryption continues inside the NovaView mapping tables.

When connecting to a view with SAP NetWeaver BI information, the username is located in the Panorama NovaView mapping table, and NovaView establishes a query session with SAP NetWeaver BI using the username and decrypted password.

Depending on the implementation strategy, NovaView may require users to have read/view access of the SAP NetWeaver BI cubes and Queries as the foundation for building personalized views.

## Security

Panorama NovaView Server for SAP offers security options at the Portal/Web Access, Report/View, and Data levels.

### Portal/Web Access:

- Panorama NovaView for SAP supports both User and Group impersonation protocols.
- View Security - This layer is crucial to the initial user identification and system decision to grant the user access to the BI system, filtering visitors, unknown guests, and users unrelated to the BI system.

### Report/View:

- System users can arrange reports into various sets and subsets and then determine which users can access the reports.
- Reports and report-sets can be secured on a role level.
- There are visible and hidden attributes for a view and increased security on report-set levels, allowing or restricting context menus or advanced functionality.
- OLAP security allows the creation of roles which restrict/permit user access to a certain cube or certain characteristics of reports.

### Data:

- NovaView offers separate security settings per cube, per briefing book, and per report.
- Panorama NovaView Slicer method lets administrators set member security to permit access to only a portion of the data based on security characteristics.

## Performance and Scalability

Panorama NovaView for SAP NetWeaver BI

improves performance and scalability via its Smart Caching, MDX Optimization, and Connection Pooling capabilities.

#### Smart Caching and MDX Optimization:

The Panorama NovaView server saves a cache of previously accessed reports in various states, improving response times for subsequent queries. In addition, the server produces optimized MDX to promote more rapid and efficient data retrieval within SAP NetWeaver BI.

#### Connection Pooling:

Queries with similar characteristics (i.e. user roles or slicing authorizations) can be routed to a single OLEDB connection. As a result, the server addresses all requests using a small group of connections, which enhances resource utilization. With reduced system resource load, more users can access the server at any given time, improving query response time.

You can also achieve scalability using the linear increments method. Adding more CPUs can provide a linearly improved response time. Statistically, a two-processor machine can support 200 users with almost half the response time of a single CPU. Alternatively, NovaView supports farm scenarios using network load balancing (software or hardware), which can statistically improve linear performance.

Panorama also integrates with SAP's BI Accelerator.

### Usability

Panorama NovaView for SAP uses application metadata to promote user collaboration and reduce system resource load. Users can create a view directly from data in the SAP NetWeaver BI platform and save it in a public location (i.e., on the Panorama NovaView server) or in a private view-set, called a private briefing book. Once done, users can access the view again without making additional queries to the SAP NetWeaver BI server. They can also choose to share briefing book contents. By allowing other users to access the

previously generated views saved on the Panorama NovaView server, they can reduce query volume, data traffic, and system load because they are not constantly querying the SAP NetWeaver BI server.

This approach simplifies the user experience and empowers business users to create and modify their own BI reports so they don't have to rely on the analysts that manage the BEx design tools.

Panorama NovaView can be integrated as an iView component in a mySAP Portal or as a web part in SharePoint, Excel, or PowerPoint (as a live object). This enables users to access BI and collaboration within those commonly used productivity applications.

The server can also authenticate SAP users from within Panorama NovaView, leveraging integration capabilities and enabling a streamlined and efficient work process. Panorama NovaView server properties can be configured using the NovaView Administration Interface, avoiding potential issues associated with multi-access configuration requirements.

### Monitoring

The Panorama NovaView server has logging and auditing options. These features enable system tracking and monitoring. By examining query and usage patterns, administrators can better understand usage trends.

### For the Developer

Panorama NovaView is designed and optimized for information workers, making it easy for them to navigate and explore data. For developers that want to integrate or customize BI capabilities, Panorama NovaView provides a flexible framework that can be embedded and configured into any existing Web environment. The web-based UI is intuitive and powerful, eliminating the complexity most developers face when working with BEx in a web environment.

For more information about how you can use Panorama NovaView for SAP to simplify the user experience in your organization, please contact us at [info@panorama.com](mailto:info@panorama.com) or call:

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