Spreadsheet Integration, MS Excel

SPIDER™

Application

SPIDER offers an integration of the industry standard spreadsheet MS Excel®, using an add-on COM component. This gives an easy-to-learn and easy-to-use spreadsheet capability of the system.

Objects from different data sources, like the Avanti™ real-time database, the Oracle™ database in UDW 200 and various ODBC sources may be combined in a single spreadsheet.

The spreadsheet implementation can be used for advanced presentation of data in a tabular and business graphics spreadsheet form, change database data, produce reports, as well as to print out reports.

The spreadsheet is also used to perform calculations, directly and by using scripting languages. Spreadsheet printouts can be printed manually on demand and automatically on timer basis.

Functions

The picture on the top describes a screen snapshot of a production report using Microsoft Excel presenting quality coded real-time data. The content of the SPIDER menu is presented. From this menu data navigation, report configurations and timer-controlled reports are defined.

Integration Features

- Presentation of real-time and data warehouse data with Spreadsheet type of presentation using Microsoft Excel
- Presentation of data in tabular and business graphics format
- Combination with other data from any ODBC source
- PC styled point and click configuration from Excel menus
- Printout of Excel reports on timer basis

- Visual Basic as scripting language
- Data sets enable grouping of data in reusable overlay sets without switching spreadsheet

Authority

By a log-in procedure, it is checked that the user has permission to view and or update data in the SPIDER system from the Microsoft Excel spreadsheet.

ODBC

The Microsoft ODBC support in Microsoft Excel enables a combination of access to SPIDER data with data from any ODBC supporting data source.
Functions, continued

The figure shows the tree and property oriented type of report configuration used to configure the SPIDER spreadsheet reports.

**Visual Basic**

The use of Microsoft Visual Basic™ as scripting language in Microsoft Excel provides a well-known and easy-to-use programming environment, enabling also advanced reports to be created.

Combined with the SPIDER ActiveX API supporting Visual Basic, such reports may include any data and services supported by the API.

**Time Controlled Printouts**

It is possible to initiate printout of Microsoft Excel spreadsheet reports manually and on timer basis. Configuring reports for timer activated printing is done through on-line dialogs from the menu bar.

**Business Graphics**

Spreadsheet reports using the full range of business graphics, including trends, provided by Microsoft Excel are possible to specify.

**Data Sets**

Data sets enable the possibility to switch selected objects within one report on-line without switching spreadsheet. The principle is similar to the SPIDER Value Select function that enables on-line switching of attribute presentation for one and the same picture display element and data object.

**On-line Help**

There is an HTML based on-line help system describing the functionality of the spreadsheet integration.