

BI316

# **Ad Hoc Reporting with Report Builder**

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#### Current Poll

**How useful will Yukon CLR programming be to you?**  
CLR programming is eagerly awaited by .Net

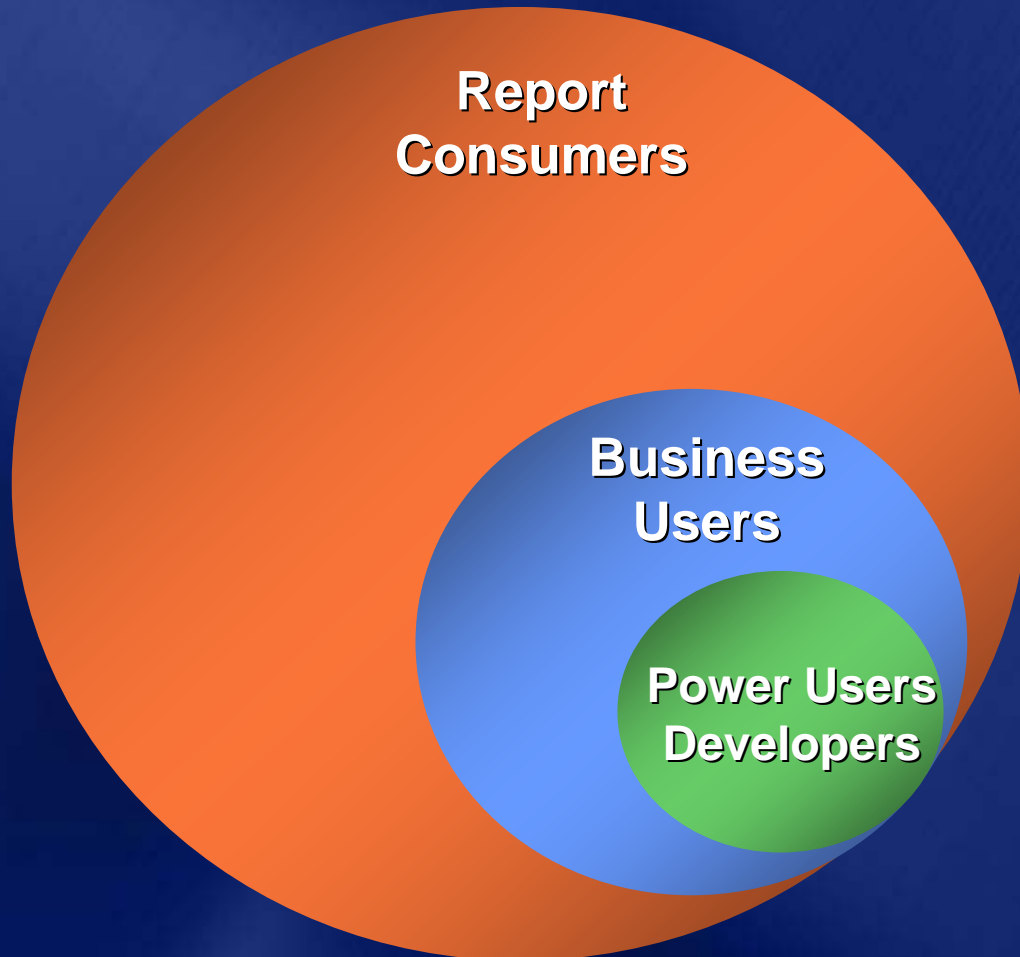
#### Events

- 17/08/2004  
[Melbourne: Changes to Backup and Recovery in SQL Server 2005 \(August 2004 meeting\)](#) Venue: Melbourne Microsoft Office - Level 9 Como Office Tower, 644 Chapel Street, South Yarra, Melbourne
- 27/07/2004  
[Sydney: SQL Server 2005 - What's new in the relational and storage engines \(July 2004 meeting\)](#) Venue: Clifton's Level 2, 190 George Street Sydney
- 21/07/2004  
[Melbourne: SQL Server 2005 - What's new in the relational and storage engines \(July 2004 meeting\)](#) Venue: Melbourne Microsoft Office - Level 9 Como Office Tower, 644 Chapel Street, South Yarra, Melbourne
- 19/07/2004  
["Zero to Corporate Reporting in Two Intense Days" workshop. 6 Sessions July thru Aug](#) Venue: All Capital cities - See MS Web for more details.
- 13/07/2004  
[Canberra: SQL Server 2005: What's new in the relational and storage engines](#) Venue: Microsoft - Canberra
- 12/07/2004  
["Zero-to-BI in Two Intense Days" workshop. 6 sessions in July](#) Venue: All Capital cities - See MS Web for more details.
- 22/06/2004  
[Sydney: Accelerator for Business Scorecards & Accelerator for Excel Reporting \(June 2004\)](#) Venue: Dimension Data Learning Solutions Offices, Level 10, 301 George Street Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
- 15/06/2004  
[Melbourne: Replication Lessons from the Real World \(June 2004 meeting\)](#) Venue: Melbourne Microsoft Office - Level 9 Como Office Tower, 644 Chapel Street, South Yarra, Melbourne
- 27/05/2004  
[Brisbane: Ongoing management of replication / Web Assistant Wizard \(June 2004\)](#) Venue: Brisbane Microsoft Office - 9th floor 1 Eagle St. (Waterfront Place)
- 25/05/2004  
[Sydney: Replication Lessons from the Real World \(May 2004\)](#) Venue: Sydney User Group: Dimension Data Learning Solutions Offices, Level 10, 301 George Street Sydney
- 18/05/2004  
[Melbourne: Reporting Services from a deployment perspective \(June 2004\)](#) Venue: Melbourne Microsoft Office - Level 9 Como Office Tower, 644 Chapel Street, South Yarra, Melbourne

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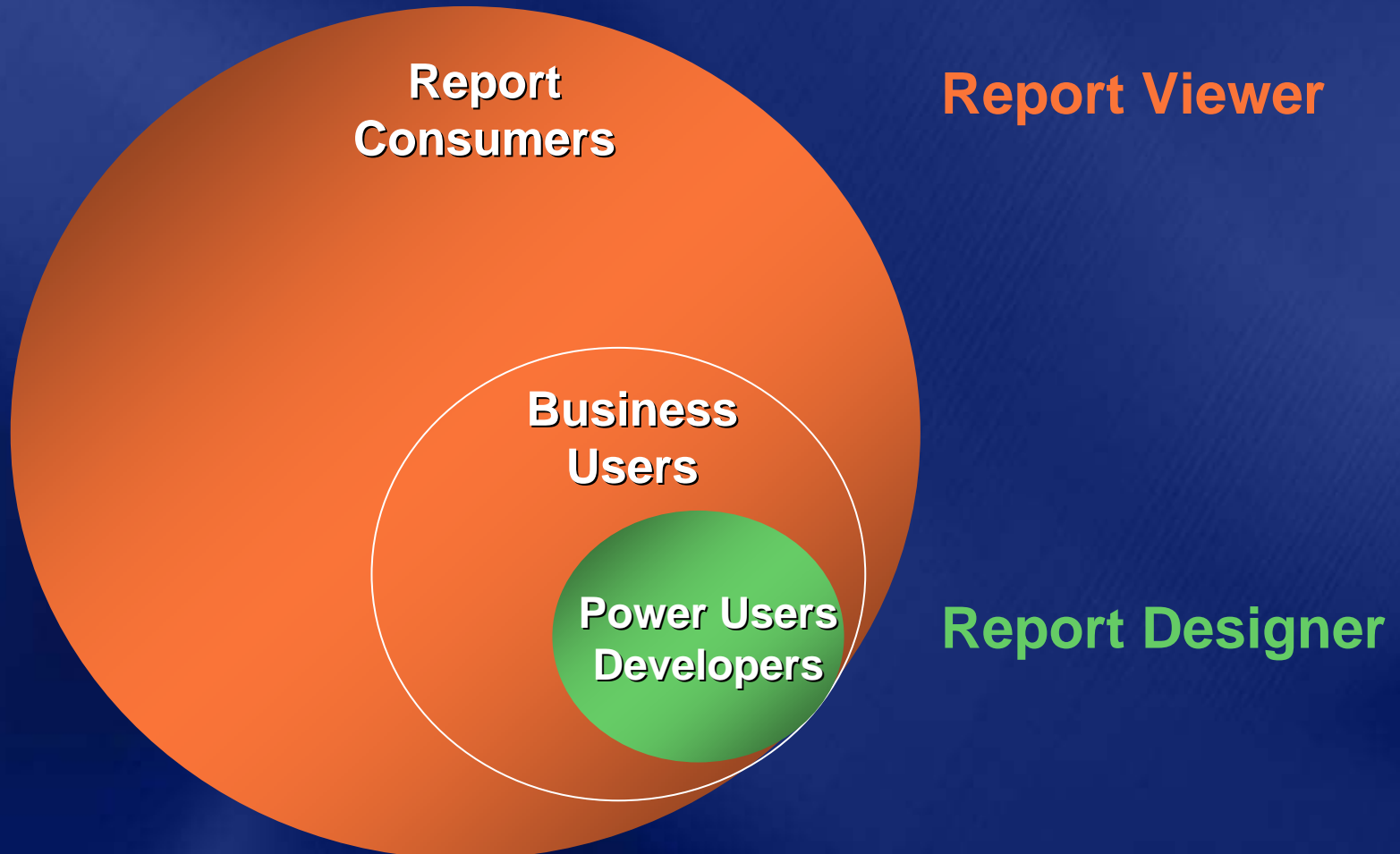
#### Headlines

# Why Report Builder?



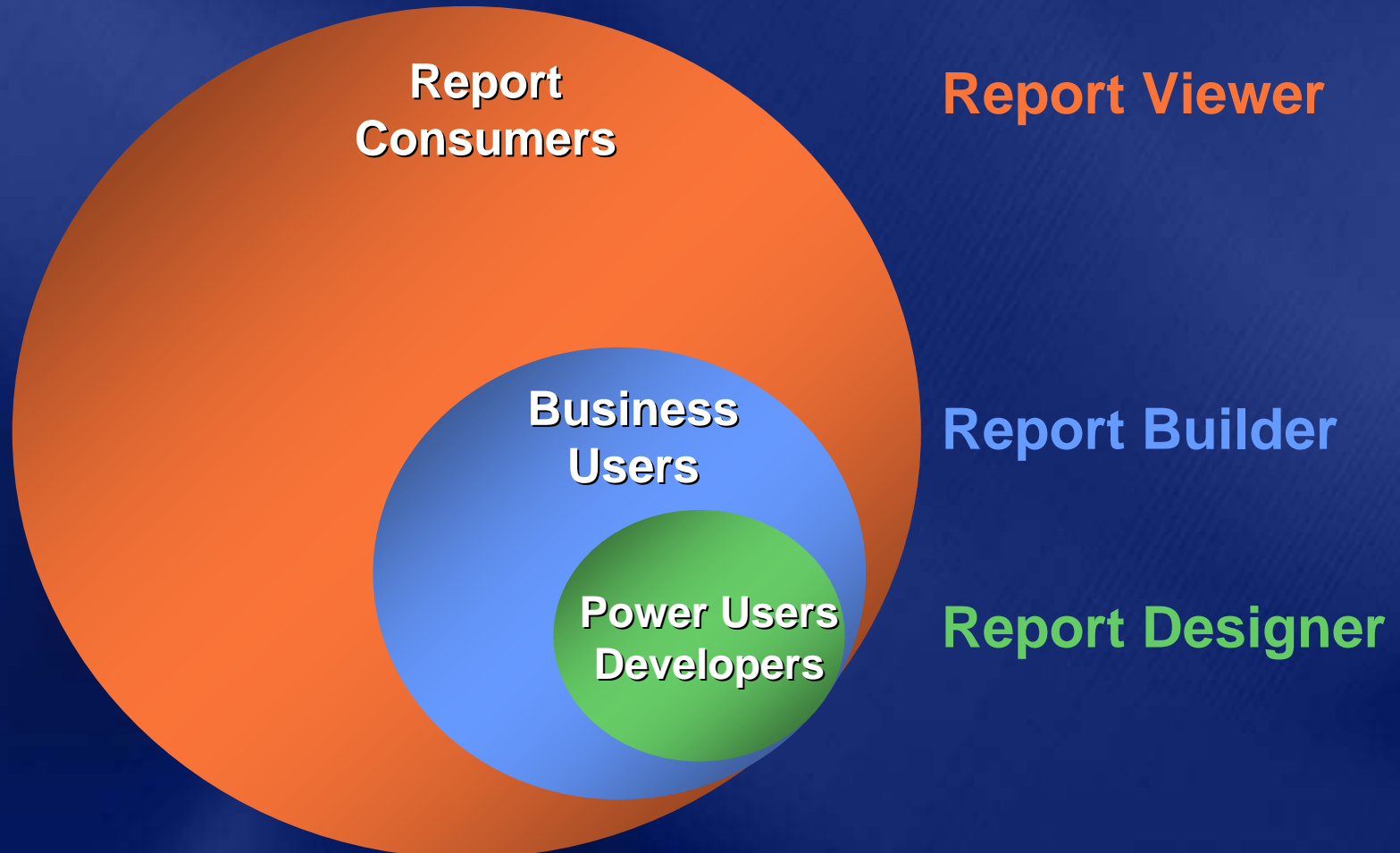
# Why Report Builder?

Microsoft  
**SQL Server™** 2000  
Reporting Services



# Why Report Builder?

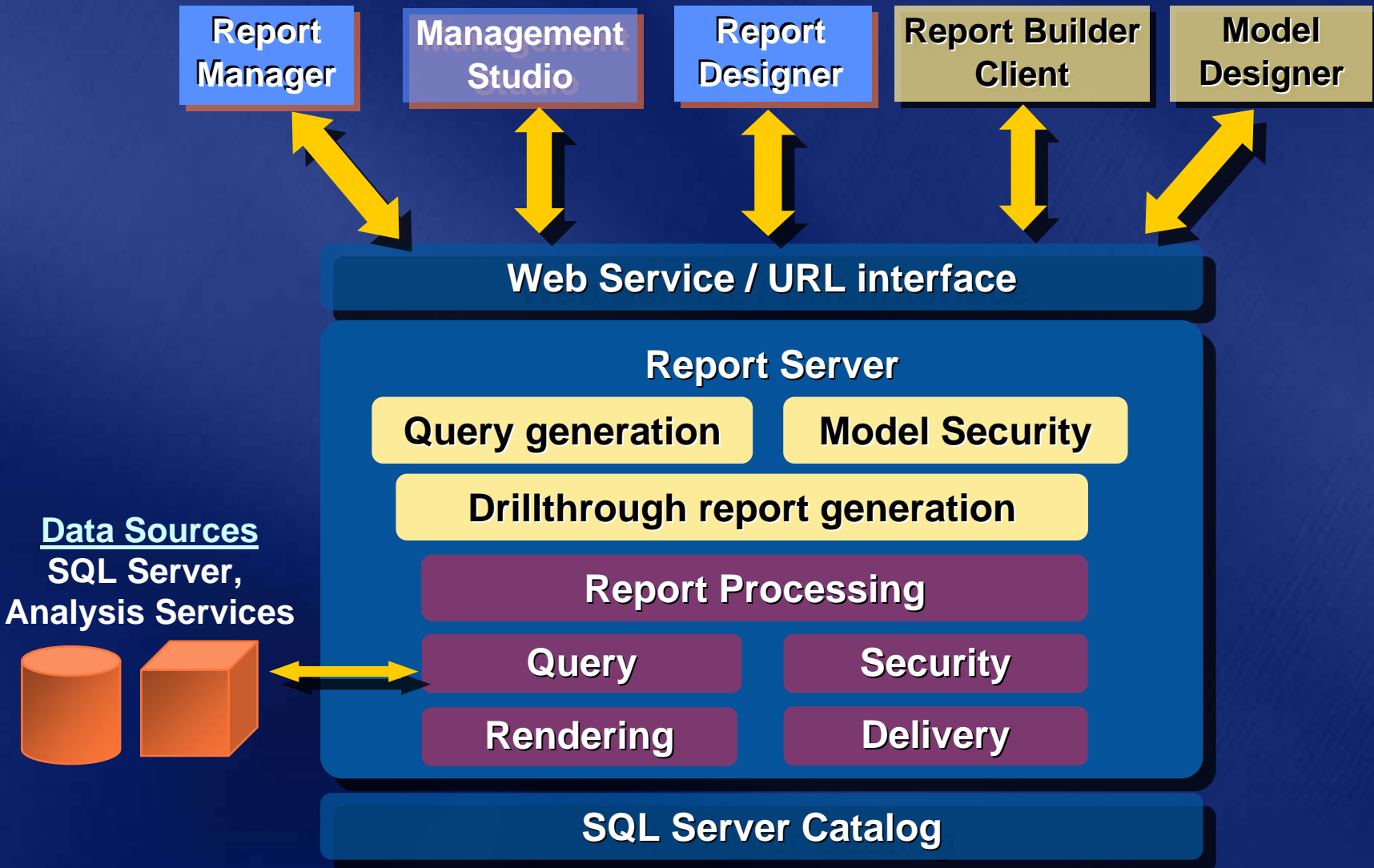
Microsoft  
**SQL Server™** 2005  
Reporting Services



# What is Report Builder?

- A new ad-hoc report design tool for SQL Server Reporting Services
- Targeted at business users
  - who want to find and share answers to interesting questions
- Driven from a business model of the data
  - so users do not need to understand the underlying data structures
- Fully integrated with Reporting Services
- Delivered in SQL Server 2005
- Not
  - a Full analytical client
- Nor
  - Replacement for Pivot Tables

# Report Builder Architecture





# Report Builder Client

- Report Builder is a “Click Once” Windows application managed on the Report Server
- Requires .NET Framework 2.0
- Users download and launch the client from the Report Manager or 3rd party applications
- Built on top of familiar Microsoft Office paradigms: Excel, PowerPoint
- Reports built with report templates (textboxes, tables, matrices, charts)
- Finished reports can be saved on the server



demo

**Report Builder**

# Report Builder Reports

- Report Builder reports are just like any other Reporting Services report...
  - Report Builder reports are defined in RDL
  - Managed by the same APIs
  - Secured by the same APIs
- Except: Report Builder reports contain semantic model metadata
  - When an Report Builder report is requested by report processing, the metadata is used to generate a query in the source language
  - A new component on the Report Server handles the query generation

# Infinite Drill

- Automatic generation of new drillthrough reports allows users to explore data along model navigation paths
- Queries for navigation reports are generated on the fly, passing the context of the user's current "location"
- Users can keep drilling as long as there is a path to follow from the current item
- Custom reports can be specified for model items

# Model Design

- **Model Designer** is interface for designing and editing a model
  - New project type in BI Development Studio
  - Define fields and roles
  - Define calculated fields
  - Organize model
- **Models can be auto-generated** in Model Designer or on the Report Server
  - Generates entities, fields and roles based on source metadata
  - Auto-generation against SQL Server and Analysis Services databases

demo

**Model Designer**

# Report Models

- Models define entities, fields and roles available for Report Builder
- Models reference a data source
  - (either SQL Server or Analysis Services)
- Models are stored in the Report Server as a new item type
  - Includes new management APIs
- Published models can be secured
  - Items within models (entities, fields, roles) can also be secured
  - Users only see items they have permissions to see
- Model security and management through SQL Server Management Studio

# Report Builder vs. Report Designer

Report Builder	Report Designer
Targeted at business users	Targeted at IT pros and developers
Ad hoc reports	Production reports
Auto-generates queries using semantic layer on top of the source	Native queries (SQL, OLE DB, XML/A, ODBC, Oracle)
Reports built on templates	Free-form (nested, banded) reports
Click-once application, easy to deploy and manage	Integrated into Visual Studio
<del>Cannot import Report Designer reports</del>	Can work with reports built in Report Builder

**Can now import Report Designer reports,**  
If created using Model as data source



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Q&A



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# Resources

<http://www.microsoft.com/SQL/Reporting>

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