

Monthly Enhancements Made to OAKS Business Intelligence Cognos

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OAKS Business Intelligence is pleased to announce the April 2011 enhancements made to the OAKS BI Cognos instance. These enhancements, the sixth batch since go-live, were all requested by users, approved by the chairs of the Business Intelligence Shared Committee, and then built, tested and validated. They represent the OAKS BI team's continuous effort to enhance the BI program and make it responsive to its users' growing reporting needs. The four FIN and two HCM enhancements include new dimensions, new standard reports, and modifications to existing standard reports.

The enhancements to the FIN package are as follows:

1. A new dimension table, "Chartfield Lookup" has been added to the "GL-Period Balances", "GL-Aggregated Balances" and "GL-Journal Entries" subject areas. This table allows users to look up all chartfield combinations that have been used in FIN. This will be useful for anyone building a report using cascading prompts, looking up agency chartfields, or for chartfield combo exception reports. The prompt for GL-0071 (enhancement 5 on this list) is a good example of how this lookup can be used. If the user selects a department, the fund prompt is automatically limited to those funds used by that agency.
2. A new report, "GL-0072A Chartfield Lookup Report" has been added to the "Actuals" folder of standard General Ledger reports. This report will show any chartfields used by a given department. It will allow users to drill down to details at the journal level via a new drill down report, "GL-0072B Chartfield Lookup Detail Report" that allows users to look for all chartfield combos associated with a given chartfield.
3. Two new features, "Appropriations Analysis" and "Allotment Analysis", have been added to the FIN Quick Analysis. The appropriation report allows users to enter their department and quickly view budget statuses for any or all of their funds and ALIs. Additionally, users can drill down from appropriations to allotments with a single mouse click. The biggest advantage of these two features is their speed and flexibility in retrieving, and quickly filtering and refreshing, budget status views.
4. A new report, "GL-0071 Agency Cash Balance Report", has been added to the "Actuals" folder of standard General Ledger reports. This report displays fund balances and monthly income statement activity for multiple funds at once, without limit. It can be run for a point in time to obtain the balances and the YTD activity from past accounting periods.

The enhancements to the HCM package are as follows:

1. A new prompt variable has been added to the "WFP-0037 Vacancy Rates Report" in the "Position Management" folder, allowing users to choose whether or not to display the position approval status in the report output (table and graph). The report will still allow users to drill through to "WFP-0010 Open/Filled Position Report".
2. A new report, "WFP-0052 Employee Location Report", has been added to the "Employee Information" folder of the HCM standard reports package. The report shows an employee's job location, home address, and contact information.

If you have questions or concerns about these enhancements, please contact the OAKS Help Desk via e-mail at oaks.helpdesk@oaks.state.oh.us or by phone at 614-644-6625 or 1-888-OhioOAKS (1-888-644-6625).