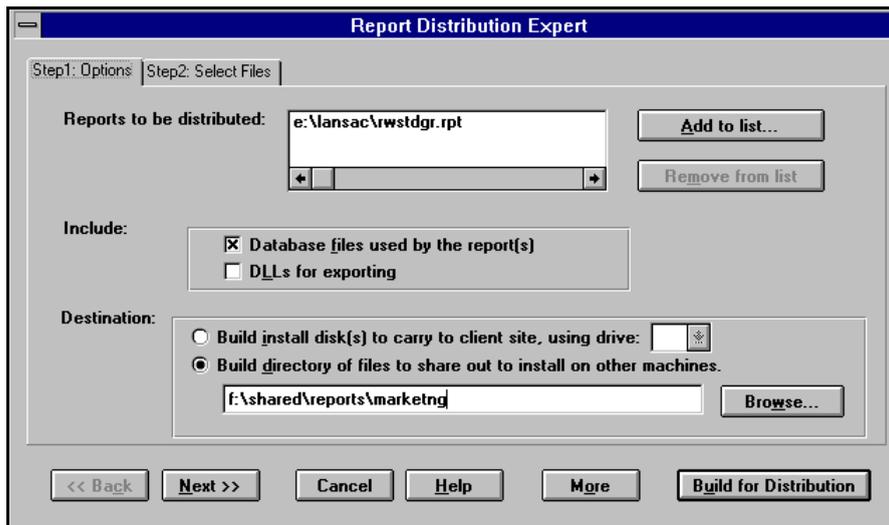


Crystal Reports for LANSAC/Client: Distributing Reports



Crystal reports for LANSAC/Client allows you to distribute reports. By distributing a report you make that report available to other PC or LAN users. The Report Distribution Expert makes it very easy to select the reports of your choice with all their related database files and DLLs and it will create an easy to use setup procedure for the recipient(s). There is no charge for the run-time licence of Crystal Reports for LANSAC/Client and you are free to distribute ready-to-run reports to other PC users

Typically, you may want to distribute compiled reports, meaning executable .EXE files, rather than report definitions. (Compiling reports is discussed on a separate page.)

Below is a step by step walk through of how to distribute a report:

1. With the report that you want to distribute in your current window, select the Report Distribution Expert from the Report menu. The Report Distribution Expert includes a compile, so you do not have to compile your reports as a separate step. (Compiling reports is discussed on a separate page).

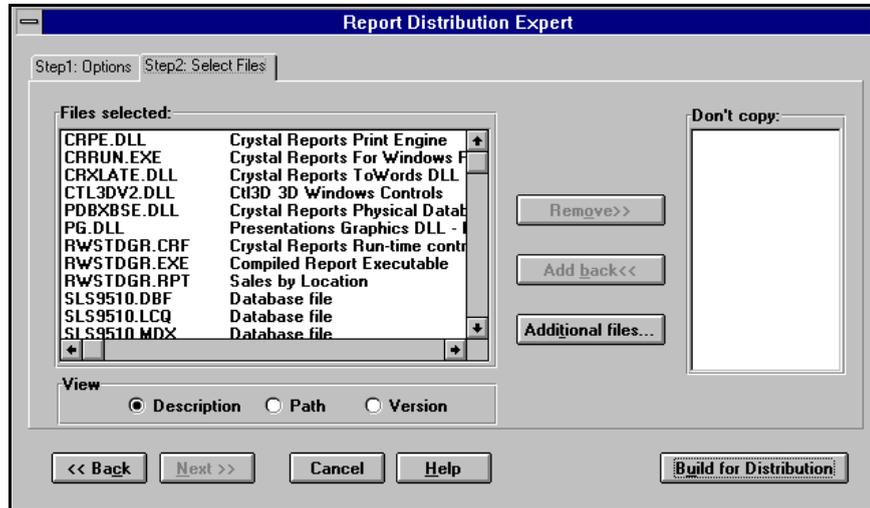
The Options dialog box of the Distribution expert as pictured above appears.

2. Select the reports to be distributed:
The Reports to be Distributed list box contains the current report. You can add additional reports or remove reports by pressing the appropriate button.
3. Indicate which files you want to include in the list of files to be distributed:
 - Indicate whether you want to include the database files used by the report(s):
 - You do not have to include the files if the receiving PC has access to the database files (created by LANSAC/Client on the LAN or PC), or if the data is saved with the report(s).
 - In all other cases you have to include the database files. If you include the database files for distribution, you should consider the following:
 - The distributed report(s) expect to find the database files in the directory specified for the report. If the receiver of your distributed reports does not have a directory of the same name, then the reports won't work properly. Therefore it is most efficient to set the database location for all your distribution reports to "**Same as Report**". (Use the 'Set Location' command from the Database menu to do this.) If the location has been set to Same as Report, then the report will just look in its 'own' directory to find the database files.
 - If you want to allow Export facilities from the distributed reports, then include the DLLs for exporting (exporting is covered on a separate page).

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4. Choose a destination for your export files. The destination can be either a (diskette) drive or a directory on any drive available on your PC or LAN.

If you would like to check the list of files and perhaps add or remove files to/from the list, then press the "Next" button. The Select Files dialog box of the Distribution Expert as pictured below appears. This may take a few seconds, because all selected reports are (re-) compiled at this moment. The list of selected files is by default filled with names based on the options you have selected in the previous dialog box.



You can add files to or remove files from the list as required. If you are sure that the recipient of the distributed reports already has all the DLLs to run the report, then you can remove them from the list and select only the files directly related to your report.

If the list of files to be distributed is complete, press the Build for Distribution button. The Distribution Expert will create the diskette or directory with the compressed distribution files.

This completes the distribution step. The recipient can now install the reports.

5. To **install** the reports, you simply execute the setup.exe created by the distribution expert. You will be prompted to select a destination drive and directory for the reports. You also have the opportunity to automatically add a program icon for each installed report to the Crystal Reports for LANSA/Client Windows group (this group will be created if it isn't yet there).

