



# Integrating and Extending **BIRT**

Jason Weathersby • Don French • Tom Bondur  
Jane Tatchell • Iana Chatalbasheva

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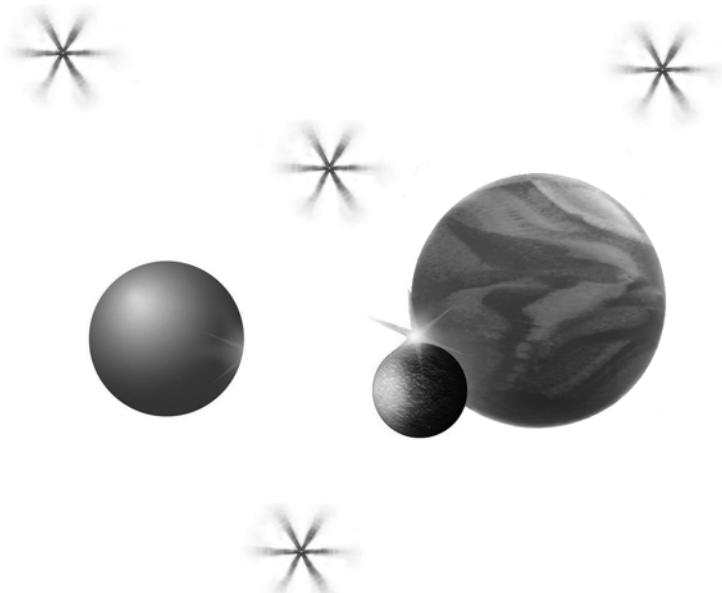
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Jason Weathersby • Don French • Tom Bondur  
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◆ Addison-Wesley

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It is a common misconception that Eclipse projects are focused on simply providing great tools for developers. Actually, the expectations are far greater. Each Eclipse project is expected to provide both frameworks and extensible, exemplary tools. As anyone who has ever tried to write software with reuse and extensibility in mind knows, that is far more difficult than simply writing a tool.

“Exemplary” is one of those handy English words with two meanings. Both are intended in its use above. Eclipse projects are expected to provide tools that are exemplary in the sense that they provide an example of the use of the underlying frameworks. Eclipse tools are also intended to be exemplary in the sense that they are good and provide immediate utility to the developers who use them.

Since its inception, the BIRT project has worked hard to create both reusable frameworks and extensible tools. This book focuses primarily on how to extend BIRT and how to use BIRT in your own applications and products. As such, it illustrates BIRT’s increasing maturity and value as an embedded reporting solution.

As Executive Director of the Eclipse Foundation, I’m pleased with the tremendous progress the BIRT team has made since the project’s inception in September of 2004, and I’m equally pleased with the vibrant community that has already grown up around it. As you work with BIRT and the capabilities that are described in this book, I’d encourage you to communicate your successes back to the community, and perhaps consider contributing any interesting extensions you develop. The BIRT web site can be found here:

<http://www.eclipse.org/birt>

It includes pointers to the BIRT newsgroup, where you can communicate and share your results with other BIRT developers, and pointers to the Eclipse installation of Bugzilla, where you can contribute your extensions. If you like BIRT—and I am sure this book will help you learn to love it—please participate and contribute. After all, it is the strength of its community that is the true measure of any open source project’s success.

Mike Milinkovich  
Executive Director, Eclipse Foundation

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## About this book

BIRT is a powerful reporting platform that provides end-to-end reporting solutions, from creating and deploying reports to integrating report capabilities into other enterprise applications. Two companion books, *BIRT: A Field Guide to Reporting* and *Integrating and Extending BIRT*, cover the breadth and depth of BIRT's functionality.

This book informs report developers about how to write scripts that:

- Customize the report-generation process
- Incorporate complex business logic in their reports

This book also informs application developers about how to:

- Deploy reports
- Integrate reporting capabilities into other applications
- Extend BIRT functionality

By its very nature, reporting is not a stand-alone technology. It draws on data generated by applications and is frequently integrated tightly within those applications. In some applications, such as performance monitoring, reporting provides the most tangible expression of value. Therefore, a successful reporting platform must emphasize interoperability and extensibility, and, a successful implementation of that platform must always involve some measure of integration and extension.

As you read this book, you will see the significant investment that has been made in BIRT to provide support for interoperability and extensibility. In the area of interoperability, for instance, BIRT supports flexible deployment of its report engine and viewer to a wide variety of J2EE application server environments. Other provisions for interoperability in the BIRT platform include the ability to dynamically build or modify reports from within an application using the design engine application programming interface (API).

and the ability to access native data objects using the scripted data source mechanism.

In the area of extensibility, BIRT provides hooks to build upon platform capabilities in the following areas:

- Report Items

New controls may be added to the BIRT designer palette using the report item extension API.

- Complex Logic

Event handlers written in JavaScript or Java may be included in the generation or presentation phase of report or chart execution to incorporate custom logic required by the application.

- Data Access

The Open Data Access (ODA) extension provides the means to develop drivers for new, non-JDBC data sources as well as create graphical user interfaces for query specification.

- Rendering

New report output formats or output for specialized devices can be developed using the report rendering extension API.

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## Who should read this book

This book is intended for people who have a programming background. These readers can be categorized as:

- Embedders and integrators

These individuals work with the software to integrate it into their current application infrastructure.

- Extenders

These individuals leverage APIs and other extension points to add capability or to establish new interoperability between currently disparate components or services.

To write scripts in report design, you need knowledge of JavaScript or Java. More advanced tasks, such as extending BIRT's functionality, require Java development experience and familiarity with the Eclipse platform.

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# Contents of this book

This book is divided into several parts. The following sections describe the contents of each of the parts.

## Part I, Installing and Deploying BIRT

Part I introduces the currently available BIRT reporting packages, the prerequisites for installation, and the steps to install and update the packages. Part I includes the following chapters:

- *Chapter 1, Prerequisites for BIRT.* BIRT provides a number of separate packages as downloadable archive (.zip) files on the Eclipse web site. Some of the packages are stand-alone modules, others require an existing Eclipse environment, and still others provide additional functionality to report developers and application developers. This chapter describes the prerequisites for each of the available packages.
- *Chapter 2, Installing a BIRT Report Designer.* BIRT provides two report designers as separate packages, which are downloadable archive (.zip) files on the Eclipse web site. This chapter describes the steps required to install each of the available report designers.
- *Chapter 3, Installing Other BIRT Packages.* This chapter describes the steps required to install each of the available packages.
- *Chapter 4, Updating a BIRT Installation.* BIRT packages are Eclipse-based, so it is easy to update any of them from earlier releases to release 2.0 or later. This chapter describes how you can install the latest packages without interrupting your work.
- *Chapter 5, Deploying a BIRT Report to an Application Server.* This chapter introduces the distribution of reports through an application server such as Apache Tomcat, IBM WebSphere, or BEA WebLogic. The instructions in the chapter provide detailed guidance about deploying a BIRT report to Apache Tomcat version 5.5.7. From those instructions, a developer can infer how to deploy to other versions.

## Part II, Understanding the BIRT Framework

Part II introduces the BIRT architecture and the Report Object Model (ROM) and provides background information that will help programmers design or modify reports programmatically, instead of using the graphical tools in BIRT Report Designer. Part II includes the following chapters:

- *Chapter 6, Understanding the BIRT Architecture.* This chapter provides an architectural overview of BIRT and its components, including the relationships among the BIRT components and BIRT's relationship to Eclipse and Eclipse frameworks. Architectural diagrams illustrate and clarify the

relationships and workflow of the components. The chapter also provides brief overviews of all the major BIRT components.

- *Chapter 7, Understanding the Report Object Model.* This chapter provides an overview of the BIRT ROM. ROM is a specification for a set of XML elements that define both the visual and non-visual elements that comprise a report design. The ROM specification includes the properties and methods of those elements, and the relationships among the elements.

## Part III, Scripting in a Report Design

Part III describes how a report developer can customize and enhance a BIRT report by writing event handler scripts in either Java or JavaScript. Part III includes the following chapters:

- *Chapter 8, Using Scripting in a Report Design.* This chapter introduces the writing of a BIRT event handler script in either Java or JavaScript, including the advantages and disadvantages of using one language over the other. BIRT event handlers are associated with data sets, data sources, and report items. BIRT fires specific events at specific times in the processing of a report. This chapter identifies the events that BIRT fires and describes the event firing sequence.
- *Chapter 9, Using JavaScript to Write an Event Handler.* This chapter discusses the coding environment and coding considerations for writing a BIRT event handler in JavaScript. This chapter describes several BIRT JavaScript objects that a developer can use to get and set properties that affect the final report. The BIRT JavaScript coding environment offers a pop-up list of properties and functions available in an event handler. A JavaScript event handler can also use Java classes. This chapter includes a tutorial that describes the process of creating a JavaScript event handler.
- *Chapter 10, Using Java to Write an Event Handler.* This chapter discusses how to write a BIRT event handler in Java. BIRT provides Java adapter classes that assist the developer in the creation of Java event handlers. The report developer uses the property editor of the BIRT Report Designer to associate a Java event handler class with the appropriate report element. This chapter contains a tutorial that steps through the Java event handler development and deployment process. This chapter also describes the event handler methods and their parameters.
- *Chapter 11, Using a Scripted Data Source.* BIRT supports getting data from any data source that can be processed with Java or JavaScript. To use a scripted data source in a BIRT report, the report developer implements an open and a close method for the data source and an open, a fetch, and a close method for the data set. A scripted data source can be an EJB, an XML stream, a Hibernate object, or any variety of custom sources of data. This chapter provides a tutorial about how to add a scripted data source to a report and how to write the event handlers for that data source.

## Part IV, Integrating BIRT Functionality into Applications

Part IV describes the public APIs that are available to Java developers, except the extension APIs.

- *Chapter 12, Understanding the BIRT APIs.* This chapter introduces BIRT's public API, which are the classes and interfaces in three package hierarchies:
  - The report engine API, in the org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api hierarchy, supports developers of custom report generators.
  - The design engine API, in the org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api hierarchy, supports the development of custom report designs.
  - The chart engine API, in the org.eclipse.birt.chart hierarchy, is used to develop a custom chart generator.
- *Chapter 13, Programming with the BIRT Reporting APIs.* This chapter describes the fundamental requirements of a reporting application and lists the BIRT API classes and interfaces that are used to create a reporting application. This chapter describes the tasks that are required of a reporting application and provides an overview of how to build a reporting application. The org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api package supports the process of generating a report from a report design. The org.eclipse.birt.report.model.api package supports creative new report designs and modifying existing report designs.
- *Chapter 14, Programming with the BIRT Charting APIs.* This chapter describes the requirements of a charting application, either in a stand-alone environment or as part of a reporting application. The org.eclipse.birt.chart hierarchy of packages provides the charting functionality in BIRT. By describing the fundamental tasks required of charting applications, this chapter introduces the API classes and interfaces that are used to create a chart. This chapter also describes the chart programming examples in the chart examples plug-in.

## Part V, Working with the Extension Framework

Part V shows Java programmers how to add new functionality to the BIRT framework. By building on the Eclipse platform, BIRT provides an extension mechanism that is familiar to developers of Eclipse plug-ins. This part also provides information about how to build the BIRT project for developers who need access to the complete BIRT open source code base. Part V includes the following chapters:

- *Chapter 15, Building the BIRT Project.* This chapter explains how to download BIRT 2.0.1 source code and build the BIRT project for development. This chapter describes how to configure an Eclipse workspace, download BIRT and Data Tools Platform (DTP) source code from the Eclipse Concurrent Versions System (CVS) repository, and build the BIRT report and web viewers.
- *Chapter 16, Extending BIRT.* This chapter provides an overview of the BIRT extension framework and describes how to use the Eclipse Plug-in

Development Environment (PDE) and the BIRT extension points to create, build, and deploy a BIRT extension.

- *Chapter 17, Developing a Report Item Extension.* This chapter describes how to develop a report item extension. The rotated text extension example is a plug-in that renders the text of a report item as an image. The extension rotates the image in the report design to display the text at a specified angle. This chapter describes how to build the rotated text report item plug-in and add the report item to the BIRT Report Designer using the defined extension points.
- *Chapter 18, Developing a Report Rendering Extension.* This chapter describes how to develop a report rendering extension. The Comma-Separated Values (CSV) extension example is a plug-in that writes the table data in a report to a file in CSV format. This chapter describes how to extend the emitter interfaces using the defined extension points to build and deploy a customized report rendering plug-in that runs in the BIRT Report Engine environment.
- *Chapter 19, Developing an ODA Extension.* This chapter describes how to develop several types of DTP ODA extensions. The CSV ODA driver example is a plug-in that reads data from a CSV file. The Hibernate ODA driver example uses Hibernate Query Language (HQL) to provide a SQL-transparent extension that makes the ODA extension portable to all relational databases. This chapter shows how to develop an ODA extension to the BIRT Report Designer 2.0.1 user interface that allows a report designer to select an extended ODA driver. This chapter also describes how to implement an extension to an ODA JDBC driver to use a supplied connection.

The *Glossary* contains a glossary of terms that are useful to understanding all parts of the book.

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## Typographical conventions

Table P-1 describes the typographical conventions that are used in this book.

**Table P-1**      Typographical conventions

Item	Convention	Example
Code examples	Courier font	<code>StringName = "M. Barajas";</code>
File names	Initial capital letter, except where file names are case-sensitive	<code>SimpleReport.rptdesign</code>

**Table P-1** Typographical conventions (*continued*)

Item	Convention	Example
Key combination	A + sign between keys means to press both keys at the same time	Ctrl+Shift
Menu items	Capitalized, no bold	File
Submenu items	Separated from the main menu item with a small arrow	File ➔ New
User input	Courier font	2006
User input in Java code	Courier italics	<i>chkjava.exe</i> <i>cab_name.cab</i>

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## Syntax conventions

Table P-2 describes the symbols that are used to present syntax.

**Table P-2** Syntax conventions

Symbol	Description	Example
[ ]	Optional item	int count [= <value>];
	Array subscript	matrix[ ]
< >	Argument that you must supply	<expression to format>
	Delimiter in XML	<xsd:sequence>
{ }	Groups two or more mutually exclusive options or arguments when used with a pipe	{TEXT_ALIGN_LEFT   TEXT_ALIGN_RIGHT}
	Defines array contents	{0, 1, 2, 3}
	Delimiter of code block	if ( itemHandle == null ) { // create a new handle }
	Separates mutually exclusive options or arguments in a group	[public   protected   private] <data type> <variable name>;
	Java bitwise OR operator	int newflags = flags   4

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## A c k n o w l e d g m e n t s

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John Arthorne and Chris Laffra observed, “It takes a village to write a book on Eclipse.” In the case of the BIRT books, it has taken a virtual village in four countries to create these two books. Our contributors, reviewers, Addison-Wesley editorial, marketing, and production staff, printers, and proofreaders are working in Austin, Boston, Closter, Indianapolis, Inman, Los Angeles, Paris, San Francisco, San Jose, Shanghai, South San Francisco, Upper Saddle River, and Windsor.

We want to thank Greg Doench, our acquisitions editor, who asked us to write a book about BIRT and has been holding his breath ever since to see if we could possibly make the schedule that we set for ourselves. Of course, we want to acknowledge the staff at Addison-Wesley who are working to support our schedule. In particular, we would like to acknowledge John Fuller, Mary Kate Murray, Julie Nahil, Sandra Schroeder, and Beth Wickenhiser. We also want to thank Mike Milinkovich at the Eclipse Foundation and Mark Coggins at Actuate Corporation for providing the forewords for the books.

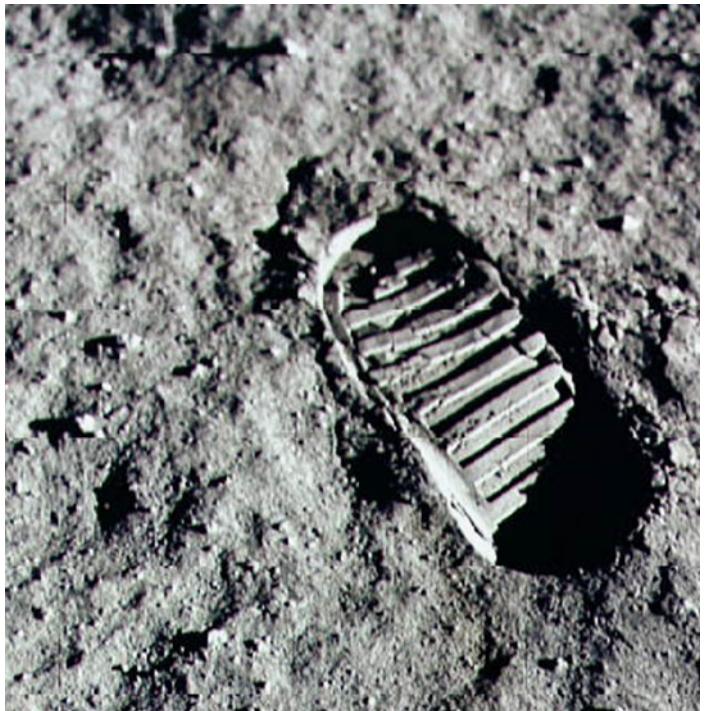
We particularly want to acknowledge the many, many managers, designers, and programmers too numerous to name who have worked diligently to produce BIRT, giving us a reason for these two books. You know who you are and know how much we value your efforts. The following technical staff members at Actuate Corporation have been of particular assistance to the authors: Linda Chan, Wenbin He, Petter Ivmark, Rima Kanguri, Nina Li, Wenfeng Li, Yu Li, Jianqiang Luo, David Michonneau, Kai Shen, Aniruddha Shevade, Pierre Tessier, Krishna Venkatraman, Mingxia Wu, Gary Xue, Jun Zhai, and Lin Zhu. In addition, we want to acknowledge the support and significant contribution that was provided by Paul Rogers.

Creating this book would not have been possible without the constant support of the members of the Developer Communications team at Actuate Corporation. Many of them and their families sacrificed long personal hours to take on additional tasks so that members of the team of authors could create this material. In particular, we wish to express our appreciation to Tigger Newman, who provided the technical review of this book, and to Terry Ryan, who pulled together the terminology in the glossary that accompanies each of the books. In addition, Mary Adler, Frances Buran, Chris Dufour, Bruce Gardner, Melia

Kenny, Cheryl Koyano, Madalina Lungulescu, Liesbeth Matthieu, Audrey Meinertzhagen, and Lois Olson all contributed to the success of the books.

# I

## *Installing and Deploying BIRT*



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# 1

## Prerequisites for BIRT

BIRT provides a number of separate packages as downloadable archive (.zip) files on the BIRT downloads page. Some of the packages are stand-alone modules, others require an existing Eclipse environment, and still others provide additional functionality to report developers and application developers. This chapter describes the requirements for each of the available packages:

- BIRT Chart Engine
- BIRT Demo Database
- BIRT Report Designer
- BIRT Report Designer Full Eclipse Install for Linux
- BIRT Report Designer Full Eclipse Install for Windows
- BIRT Report Engine
- BIRT Rich Client Platform (RCP) Report Designer
- BIRT Samples
- BIRT SDK
- BIRT Test Suite

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### Requirements for the BIRT report designers

There are two designer applications that you can use to create BIRT reports:

- BIRT RCP Report Designer

BIRT Report Designer is a stand-alone module for report designers who do not have programming experience. BIRT RCP Report Designer is a stand-alone component that only requires a Java JDK. BIRT RCP Report Designer appears on the BIRT download page as RCP Report Designer.

- **BIRT Report Designer**

BIRT Report Designer requires Eclipse, a Java JDK, and several other components. BIRT Report Designer is useful for report designers who may want to modify the underlying Java or JavaScript code that BIRT uses to create a report.

You can install BIRT Report Designer in either of the following two ways:

- Download and install an all-in-one archive file, which contains Eclipse, BIRT Report Designer, Graphics Editor Framework (GEF), and Eclipse Modeling Framework (EMF).

The all-in-one archive file contains all the components necessary to run BIRT Report Designer except the Java SDK and `itext-1.3.jar`. The all-in-one archive file appears on the BIRT download page as BIRT Report Designer Full Eclipse Install.

- Independently download and install all the components that are required to run BIRT Report Designer.

To independently install the BIRT Report Designer component, you must first download and install Eclipse. After installing Eclipse, you must also download and install GEF and EMF. You must install `itext-1.3.jar` only after installing BIRT. The BIRT Report Designer archive file appears on the BIRT download page as Report Designer.

- **BIRT Report Designer and SDK**

BIRT Report Designer and SDK is identical to BIRT Report Designer except that it also includes the Java source code for the plug-ins. The requirements for BIRT Report Designer and SDK are identical to the requirements for BIRT Report Designer.

This section describes the prerequisites for each designer package and lists the recommended versions for each component. Table 1-1 provides more information about supported configurations.

**Table 1-1** Supported configurations

Component	Required version
Eclipse	3.2
GEF	3.2
EMF	2.2
JDK	1.4.2 or 1.5

## About installing required software

Because BIRT is a Java-based platform, installing a required component typically involves only unpacking an archive. Most BIRT components are packed in archives that have an Eclipse directory at the top level. As a result, you follow the same unpacking procedure for most modules. A common installation mistake that new BIRT users make is unpacking archives in the wrong directory. Before you unpack an archive, examine its structure to confirm that you are unpacking it to the correct directory.

The BIRT web site provides the most current information about BIRT installation. To get additional tips, access the BIRT newsgroup, or see an installation demo, visit the following URL:

<http://download.eclipse.org/birt/downloads/>

## BIRT RCP Report Designer software requirements

BIRT RCP Report Designer requires the following software:

- J2SE 1.4.2 or later

If you do not have J2SE 1.4.2 or later already installed, choose the latest release, and install it in an appropriate location on your system. The latest JDK download is available at the following URL:

<http://java.sun.com/products/>

The JDK is available as a self-extracting executable file for Windows operating systems and as an archive file for UNIX and Linux platforms.

- iText

iText is a library that BIRT uses to generate PDF files. Download itext-1.3.jar from the following URL:

<http://prdownloads.sourceforge.net/itext/itext-1.3.jar>

Copy itext-1.3.jar into \$RCP\_BIRT/plugins/com.lowagie.itext\_1.3.0/lib.

## BIRT Report Designer Full Eclipse Install software requirements

BIRT Report Designer Full Eclipse Install Release 2.1 requires the following software:

- Java JDK J2SE 1.4.2 or later

If you do not have JDK 1.4.2 or later already installed, install the latest JDK release in an appropriate location on your system. The latest JDK download is available at the following URL:

<http://java.sun.com/products/>

The JDK is available as a self-extracting executable file for Windows operating systems and as an archive file for UNIX and Linux platforms.

- iText

iText is a library that BIRT uses to generate PDF files. Download `itext-1.3.jar` from the following URL:

```
http://prdownloads.sourceforge.net/itext/itext-1.3.jar
```

You copy iText to a directory that is created upon installing BIRT. You must therefore install iText after you install BIRT. Copy `itext-1.3.jar` into `$ECLIPSE/plugins/com.lowagie.itext_1.3.0/lib`.

## BIRT Report Designer software requirements

BIRT Report Designer requires the following software:

- Java J2SE 1.4.2 JDK or later

If you do not have Java already installed, choose the latest release, and install it in an appropriate location on your system. The latest JDK download is available at the following URL:

```
http://java.sun.com/products/
```

The J2SE JDK is available as a self-extracting executable file for Windows operating systems and as an archive file for UNIX and Linux platforms.

Release 2.1 requires J2SE 1.4.2 JDK or later and does not support earlier versions.

- Eclipse Platform

BIRT Report Designer Release 2.1 is only compatible with Eclipse 3.2. BIRT Report Designer does not support earlier versions of Eclipse.

You can download and install Eclipse SDK 3.2 from the following URL:

```
http://www.eclipse.org/downloads
```

The Eclipse SDK is an archive file that you must extract to your hard drive. The installation of Eclipse is complete once you extract the archive. Eclipse does not have a setup or install program.

The result of the Eclipse archive extraction is a folder named `eclipse`. You must specify to the archive extraction program where on your hard drive you want the `eclipse` folder to reside. You may extract the Eclipse archive to any location you prefer. A typical location for Eclipse is the root directory of the C drive. If you specify the root directory of the C drive, the result of installing Eclipse is the following folder:

```
c:/eclipse
```

- **Graphics Editor Framework**

GEF is an Eclipse plug-in that BIRT Report Designer's user interface requires.

Download GEF 3.2 Runtime from the following URL:

<http://download.eclipse.org/tools/gef/downloads>

GEF is available as a ZIP archive file. Extract GEF to the directory that contains Eclipse.

Eclipse 3.2 requires GEF 3.2 and does not support earlier versions.

- **Eclipse Modeling Framework**

EMF is a collection of Eclipse plug-ins that BIRT charts use. EMF download includes the required Service Data Objects (SDO) component. Download EMF and SDO 2.2 Runtime from the following URL:

<http://download.eclipse.org/tools/emf/scripts/downloads.php>

EMF is available as a ZIP archive file. Extract EMF to the directory that contains Eclipse.

Eclipse 3.2 requires EMF 2.2 and does not support earlier versions.

- **iText**

iText is a library that BIRT uses to generate PDF files. Download itext-1.3.jar from the following URL:

<http://prdownloads.sourceforge.net/itext/itext-1.3.jar>

You copy iText to a directory that is created upon installing BIRT. You must therefore install iText after you install BIRT. Copy itext-1.3.jar into \$ECLIPSE/plugins/com.lowagie.itext\_1.3.0/lib.

Table 1-1 lists the required configurations for developing report designs using BIRT Report Designer 2.1. You cannot use any other versions of any of the listed components.

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## Prerequisites for other BIRT packages

BIRT provides a number of supporting packages for the BIRT Report Designers. This section describes the prerequisites for each of these packages.

### BIRT Chart Engine software requirements

This section describes the software required to use BIRT Chart Engine.

BIRT Chart Engine requires the following software:

- Java J2SE 1.4.2 JDK or later

If you do not have JDK 1.4.2 or later already installed, choose the latest release, and install it in an appropriate location on your system. The latest JDK download is available at the following URL:

<http://java.sun.com/products>

The JDK is available as a self-extracting executable file for Windows operating systems and as an archive file for UNIX and Linux platforms.

- Eclipse Platform

BIRT Report Designer Release 2.1 is compatible with Eclipse 3.2. BIRT Report Designer does not support any earlier version of Eclipse.

You can download and install Eclipse SDK 3.2 from the following URL:

<http://www.eclipse.org/downloads>

- Graphics Editor Framework

GEF is an Eclipse plug-in that BIRT Report Designer's user interface requires.

Download GEF 3.2 Runtime from the following URL:

<http://download.eclipse.org/tools/gef/downloads>

GEF is available as a ZIP archive file. Extract GEF to the directory that contains Eclipse.

- Eclipse Modeling Framework

EMF is a collection of Eclipse plug-ins that BIRT charts use. EMF download includes the required SDO component. Download EMF and SDO 2.2 Runtime from the following URL:

<http://download.eclipse.org/tools/emf/scripts/downloads.php>

EMF is available as a ZIP archive file. Extract EMF to the directory that contains Eclipse.

Eclipse 3.1 requires EMF 2.1 and does not support EMF 2.2 or later.

## **BIRT Demo Database software requirements**

Both BIRT Report Designer and BIRT RCP Report Designer ship with a demo database called Classic Models that uses Apache Derby. You do not need to download any other files to use this database. The database is built in to the designer builds.

BIRT Demo Database requires one of the following database platforms:

- Apache Derby version 5.1 or higher
- MySQL Connector/J version 3.x or MySQL client version 4.x

You can download this sample database from the following URL:

<http://www.eclipse.org/birt/phoenix/db/>

## BIRT Report Engine software requirements

This section describes the software required to use BIRT Report Engine.

BIRT Report Engine requires Java J2SE 1.4.2 JDK or Java J2SE 5.0 JDK.

If you do not have J2SE 5.0 already installed, choose the latest release and install it. The latest J2SE download is available at the following URL:

<http://java.sun.com/j2se/1.5.0/download.jsp>

J2SE 5.0 JDK is available as a self-extracting executable file for Windows operating systems and as an archive file for UNIX and Linux platforms. Extract the contents of this file into an appropriate location on your system.

Note that Sun renamed the Java 1.5 version to 5.0 and thus documentation on Sun's site may at times appear to refer to two different versions. Versions 5.0 and 1.5 are the same version.

## BIRT Samples software requirements

BIRT Samples requires either BIRT Report Designer or BIRT Report Engine. The version of the BIRT Samples files should match the version of the BIRT package you use. Use BIRT Samples 2.1 with BIRT Report Designer 2.1.

You can get BIRT Samples from the following URL:

<http://www.eclipse.org/birt/phoenix/examples/>

## BIRT Test Suite software requirements

This section describes the software required to use BIRT Test Suite.

BIRT Test Suite requires the following software:

- Java J2SE 1.4.2 JDK or Java J2SE 5.0 JDK

If you do not have J2SE 5.0 already installed, choose the latest release and install it. The latest J2SE download is available at the following URL:

<http://java.sun.com/j2se/1.5.0/download.jsp>

J2SE 5.0 JDK is available as a self-extracting executable file for Windows operating systems and as an archive file for UNIX and Linux platforms. Extract the contents of this file into an appropriate location on your system.

Note that Sun renamed the Java 1.5 version to 5.0 and thus documentation on Sun's site may at times appear to refer to two different versions. 5.0 and 1.5 are essentially synonymous.

- Eclipse Platform

BIRT Report Designer Release 2.1 is compatible with Eclipse 3.2. BIRT Report Designer does not support earlier versions of Eclipse.

You can download and install Eclipse SDK 3.2 from the following URL:

<http://www.eclipse.org/downloads/>

- **Graphics Editor Framework**

GEF is an Eclipse plug-in that BIRT Report Designer's user interface requires.

Download GEF 3.2 Runtime from the following URL:

<http://download.eclipse.org/tools/gef/downloads/>

GEF is available as a ZIP archive file. Extract GEF to the directory that contains Eclipse.

- **Eclipse Modeling Framework**

EMF is a collection of Eclipse plug-ins that BIRT charts use. EMF download includes the required SDO component. Download EMF and SDO 2.2 Runtime from the following URL:

<http://download.eclipse.org/tools/emf/scripts/downloads.php>

EMF is available as a ZIP archive file. Extract EMF to the directory that contains Eclipse.

Eclipse 3.2 requires EMF 2.2.

- **JUnit Regression Testing Framework**

BIRT Test Suite requires JUnit 4.1. JUnit is available as a ZIP archive file. Download the archive from the following URL:

<http://www.junit.org>

- **BIRT Report Designer source code**

In your Eclipse Workbench, use CVS to download the BIRT Report Designer source code into your workspace.

---

## About types of BIRT builds

The Eclipse BIRT download site makes available several types of builds for BIRT. The following list describes the types of builds that are available:

- **Release build**

A release build is of production quality and passes the complete test suite for all components and features. Use the release build to develop applications.

- **Milestone build**

A milestone build provides access to newly completed features. The build is stable, but it is not of production quality. Use this type of build to preview new features and develop future reporting applications that depend on those features.

- **Stable build**

A stable build passes a reduced test suite. New features are in an intermediate stage of development in this type of build. Use a stable build to preview new features and provide feedback to the development team.

- **Nightly build**

BIRT is built every night. As an open source project, these builds are available to anyone. These builds are part of an ongoing development process and are unlikely to be useful to report developers in general; however, if a certain feature that you require does not work, you can file a bug report. When the bug has been fixed, and the fix has been included in the build, you can download BIRT and confirm that the fix solves the problem that you reported.

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# 2

## Installing a BIRT Report Designer

BIRT provides two report designers, BIRT Report Designer and BIRT RCP Report Designer. Both designers are reporting systems that integrate with your J2EE-based web application to enable report developers to produce compelling reports in both web and PDF formats. BIRT Report Designer is for report developers who want to use programming or scripting in their report designs. BIRT RCP Report Designer does not support the use of programming or scripting in Java.

Each designer is packaged as an archive (.zip) file and can be downloaded from the Eclipse web site.

The available packages are:

- **BIRT Report Designer**

If you already have installed an Eclipse environment, you can download and install BIRT Report Designer.

- **BIRT RCP Report Designer**

If you have installed a Java environment, you can download and install BIRT RCP Report Designer. This designer is easier to use but does not support programming or scripting in Java.

- **BIRT Report Designer Full Eclipse Install**

If you have an installed Java environment, and you want to be able to program or use JavaScript in your report design, you can download and install BIRT Report Designer Full Eclipse Install. This package contains BIRT Report Designer and all the Eclipse components that you need in one ZIP file.

---

# Installing BIRT Report Designer

BIRT Report Designer integrates into an existing Eclipse platform on your computer by providing the report design perspective. BIRT Report Designer also includes the Software Development Kit (SDK) and the components provided in the BIRT Chart Engine, BIRT Demo Database, BIRT Report Engine, and BIRT Samples packages.

You install BIRT Report Designer by downloading an archive (.zip) file from the Eclipse web site and extracting it in your existing Eclipse environment. The following examples use BIRT Release 2.1.

## Downloading and installing BIRT Report Designer

Complete the following procedure to download and install BIRT Report Designer on a Windows or UNIX system.

### How to install BIRT Report Designer

- 1 Using your browser, navigate to the following URL:

`http://download.eclipse.org/birt/downloads/`

- 2 From Download, choose the following build:

`Release build 2_1_0`

The BIRT Release Build: 2\_1\_0 page appears.

- 3 Choose the Report Designer ZIP file:

`birt-report-framework-2_1_0.zip`

The Eclipse downloads page appears. This page shows all the sites that provide this download file.

- 4 Choose the download site that is closest to your location.

`birt-report-framework-2_1_0.zip` downloads to your system.

- 5 Extract the archive file to the folder that contains your Eclipse directory.

Be certain to extract the archive into the directory that contains the eclipse folder and not into the eclipse folder. For example, if your eclipse folder is located at C:\eclipse, extract the archive into C:\.

- 6 Download and install the auxiliary file that is necessary for PDF creation, as described in the following section.

## Installing the auxiliary file for BIRT Report Designer

BIRT Report Designer also requires iText, an open source Java-PDF library that BIRT uses to generate PDF versions of reports. You must install iText after you install BIRT Report Designer.

**1** Download `itext-1.3.jar` from the following URL:

`http://prdownloads.sourceforge.net/itext/itext-1.3.jar`

**2** Copy `itext-1.3.jar` to the following location in your Eclipse installation:

`/plugins/com.lowagie.itext_1.3.0/lib`

## Testing the BIRT Report Designer installation

To test your BIRT Report Designer installation, start Eclipse, then start BIRT Report Designer. BIRT Report Designer is a perspective within Eclipse.

### How to test the BIRT Report Designer installation

**1** Start Eclipse.

**2** From the Eclipse window menu, choose Open Perspective→Report Design. If Report Design does not appear in the Open Perspective window, choose Other. A list of perspectives appears. Choose Report Design.

Eclipse displays the BIRT Report Designer perspective.

If the test fails, see “[Avoiding cache conflicts after you install a BIRT report designer](#),” later in this chapter.

---

## Installing BIRT Report Designer Full Eclipse Install

If you are new to Eclipse and BIRT, you can download and install this package to start developing and designing BIRT reports immediately. This package includes BIRT Report Designer, an Eclipse environment, and other required components.

In BIRT Release 2.1, the BIRT Report Designer Full Eclipse Install package contains:

- Eclipse Platform 3.2
- Graphics Editor Framework 3.2
- Eclipse Modeling Framework 2.2
- BIRT Report Designer 2.1

You install BIRT Report Designer Full Eclipse Install by downloading and extracting an archive (.zip) file. The following examples use BIRT Release 2.1.

## Downloading and installing BIRT Report Designer Full Eclipse Install

Complete the following procedure to download and install BIRT Report Designer and the other necessary components on a Windows or UNIX system.

## **How to install BIRT Report Designer Full Eclipse Install**

- 1** Using your browser, navigate to the following URL:

<http://download.eclipse.org/birt/downloads/>

- 2** Select the following build:

Release build 2\_1\_0

The BIRT Release Build: 2\_1\_0 page appears.

- 3** Choose the Report Designer Full Eclipse Install ZIP file:

[birt-report-designer-all-in-one-2\\_1\\_0.zip](http://download.eclipse.org/birt/report-designer/all-in-one/2_1_0.zip)

The Eclipse downloads page appears. This page shows all the sites that provide this download file.

- 4** Choose the download site that is closest to your location.

birt-report-designer-all-in-one-2\_1\_0.zip downloads to your system.

- 5** Extract the archive file.

- 6** Download and install the auxiliary file that is necessary for PDF creation, as described in the following section.

## **Installing the auxiliary file for BIRT Report Designer**

BIRT Report Designer also requires iText, an open source Java-PDF library that BIRT uses to generate PDF versions of reports. You must install iText after you install BIRT Report Designer.

- 1** Download `iText-1.3.jar` from the following URL:

<http://prdownloads.sourceforge.net/itext/iText-1.3.jar>

- 2** Copy `iText-1.3.jar` to the following location in your Eclipse installation:

`/plugins/com.lowagie.itext_1.3.0/lib`

To test your installation, see “Testing the BIRT Report Designer installation,” earlier in this chapter.

---

## **Installing BIRT RCP Report Designer**

BIRT RCP Report Designer is a stand-alone report design application that enables report developers to produce compelling reports in both web and PDF formats. This application uses the Eclipse Rich Client Platform (RCP) to provide a report design environment that is less complex than the full Eclipse platform and SDK. If you need the project-based environment that the full Eclipse platform provides, install BIRT Report Designer instead. BIRT RCP Report Designer only runs on Windows.

To integrate reports that you create in BIRT RCP Report Designer into your J2EE-based web application, you also must install BIRT Report Engine. BIRT RCP Report Designer includes the components that are provided in the BIRT Demo Database package.

You install BIRT RCP Report Designer by downloading and extracting an archive (.zip) file. The following examples use Release 2.1.

## Downloading and installing BIRT RCP Report Designer

Complete the following procedure to download and install BIRT RCP Report Designer on a Windows system.

### How to install BIRT RCP Report Designer

- 1 Using your browser, navigate to the following URL:

```
http://download.eclipse.org/birt/downloads/
```

- 2 Select the following build:

```
Release build 2_1_0
```

The BIRT Release Build: 2\_1\_0 page appears.

- 3 Choose the BIRT RCP Report Designer ZIP file:

```
birt-rpc-report-designer-2_1_0.zip
```

The Eclipse downloads page appears. This page shows all the sites that provide this download file.

- 4 Choose the download site that is closest to your location.

birt-rpc-report-designer-2\_1\_0.zip downloads to your system.

- 5 Extract the archive to a suitable directory. You can either create a directory or choose an existing directory. The root directory of the archive is birt-rpc-report-designer-2\_1\_0.

- 6 Download and extract the auxiliary files that are necessary for report viewing and PDF creation, as described in the following section.

## Installing the auxiliary file for BIRT Report Designer

BIRT Report Designer also requires iText, an open source Java-PDF library that BIRT uses to generate PDF versions of reports. You must install iText after you install BIRT Report Designer.

- 1 Download iText-1.3.jar from the following URL:

```
http://prdownloads.sourceforge.net/itext/itext-1.3.jar
```

- 2** Copy `iText-1.3.jar` to the following location in your Eclipse installation:

`/plugins/com.lowagie.itext_1.3.0/lib`

## Testing the BIRT RCP Report Designer installation

To test the installation, start BIRT RCP Report Designer.

### How to test the BIRT RCP Report Designer installation

- 1** Navigate to the `birt-rcp-report-designer-2_1_0` subdirectory.
- 2** To run BIRT RCP Report Designer, double-click `BIRT.exe`. BIRT RCP Report Designer appears.

---

## Troubleshooting installation problems

Installing a BIRT report designer is a straightforward task. If you extract the archive file to the appropriate location and the required supporting files are also available in the expected location, your BIRT report designer will work. Because of this fact, one of the first steps in troubleshooting an installation problem is confirming that you extracted all files to the correct location. In particular, verify that the `/eclipse/plugins` directory contains jar files whose names begin with `org.eclipse.birt`, `org.eclipse.emf`, and `org.eclipse.gef`. Beyond this step, there are a few things that you can do to resolve installation problems. The following sections describe ways of troubleshooting and resolving two common installation errors.

### Avoiding cache conflicts after you install a BIRT report designer

Eclipse caches information about plug-ins for faster start-up. After you install or upgrade BIRT Report Designer, using a cached copy of some pages can lead to errors or missing functionality. BIRT RCP Report Designer can also have this problem. Symptoms of this problem include:

- The Report Design perspective does not appear in Eclipse.
- You receive the message “An error occurred” when you open a report or use the report design perspective.
- JDBC drivers that you installed do not appear in the driver manager.

The solution is to remove the cached information. The recommended practice is to start either Eclipse or BIRT from the command line with the `-clean` option.

To start Eclipse, use the following command:

```
eclipse -clean
```

To start BIRT RCP Report Designer, use the following command:

```
birt -clean
```

## Specifying which Java Virtual Machine to use when you start a BIRT report designer

You can specify which Java Virtual Machine (JVM) to use when you start a BIRT report designer. This specification is important, particularly for users on UNIX, when path and permission problems prevent the report designer from locating an appropriate JVM to use. A quick way to overcome such problems is by specifying explicitly which JVM to use when you start the BIRT report designer.

In both Windows and UNIX systems, you can either start a BIRT report designer from the command line or create a command file or shell script that calls the appropriate executable file with the JVM path. The example in this section uses BIRT Report Designer on a Windows system.

### How to specify which JVM to use when you start a BIRT report designer

On the command line, type a command similar to:

```
eclipse.exe -classpath <$JAVA_HOME>/j2sdk1.4.2_05/bin/java.exe
```

---

## Installing a language pack

All BIRT user interface components and messages are internationalized through the use of properties files. BIRT uses English as the default language, but other languages are supported by installing a language pack that contains the necessary properties files. There are 24 BIRT language packs, four each for the following six BIRT products:

- BIRT Report Designer Full Eclipse Install
- BIRT Report Designer
- BIRT RCP Report Designer
- BIRT Report Engine
- BIRT Chart Engine
- BIRT Framework SDK

Each of the four language packs contains support for a specific set of languages. The names of the language packs are identical for each product, although the archive file names differ. The following list describes the four language packs and the languages that they support:

- NLpack1

The NLpack1 language pack supports German, Spanish, French, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Brazilian Portuguese, traditional Chinese, and simplified Chinese.

- **NLpack2**

The NLpack2 language pack supports Czech, Hungarian, Polish, and Russian.

- **NLpack2a**

The NLpack2a language pack supports Danish, Dutch, Finnish, Greek, Norwegian, Portuguese, Swedish, and Turkish.

- **NLpackBidi**

The NLpackBidi language pack supports Arabic and Hebrew. Hebrew is only for Eclipse runtime, GEF runtime, and EMF runtime.

The following instructions explain how to download and install a language pack.

#### **How to download and install a language pack**

To download and install a language pack, perform the following steps:

- 1 Point your browser to the BIRT download page at:

<http://download.eclipse.org/birt/downloads/>

- 2 In the Download section of the BIRT download page, choose Release Build 2\_1\_0.
- 3 In the Build Documentation section of the BIRT Release Build page, choose Language Packs.
- 4 Download the language pack for the product and language that meets your needs.
- 5 Extract the language pack archive file into the directory above the Eclipse directory.
- 6 Start Eclipse and choose Window->Preferences->Report Design->Preview.
- 7 Select the language of choice from the drop-down list in Choose your locale.
- 8 Restart Eclipse.

If Windows is not running under the locale you need for BIRT, start Eclipse using the -nl <locale> command line option, where <locale> is a standard Java locale code, such as es\_ES for Spanish as spoken in Spain. Sun Microsystems provides a list of locale codes at the following URL:

<http://java.sun.com/j2se/1.5.0/docs/guide/intl/locale.doc.html>

Eclipse remembers the locale you specify on the command line. On subsequent launches of Eclipse, the locale is set to the most recent locale setting. To revert to a previous locale, launch Eclipse using the -nl command line option for the locale to which you want to revert.

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# 3

## Installing Other BIRT Packages

Beyond the BIRT Report Designer packages, BIRT provides a number of other separate packages as downloadable archive (.zip) files on the Eclipse web site. Some of the packages are stand-alone modules, others require an existing Eclipse or BIRT environment, and still others provide additional functionality to report developers and application developers. This chapter describes the steps required to install each of the available packages, shown in the following list:

- BIRT Chart Engine
- BIRT Demo Database
- BIRT Report Engine
- BIRT Samples
- BIRT Test Suite

BIRT supports several languages for displaying user interface components and messages. Support for languages other than English requires installing a language pack. This chapter describes the steps required to install a language pack.

---

### Installing BIRT Chart Engine

BIRT Chart Engine supports adding charting capabilities to a Java application. An application can use BIRT Chart Engine without using the BIRT reporting functionality or BIRT Report Engine. BIRT Chart Engine integrates into an existing Eclipse platform on a Microsoft Windows, UNIX, or Linux platform.

You can also install BIRT Chart Engine onto an existing J2EE application server. To use BIRT Chart Engine, you use its public API, org.eclipse.birt.chart.

BIRT Report Designer includes all the components of BIRT Chart Engine. Thus, if you are using a BIRT Report Designer, you do not need to install BIRT Chart Engine separately.

The birt-charts-2.1.zip download file includes documentation and examples on how to use BIRT Chart Engine. To view this documentation, see the following location after extracting the archive:

```
eclipse/plugins/org.eclipse.birt.doc_2.1/Samples/  
org.eclipse.birt.chart.examples/readme.html
```

## Installing BIRT Chart Engine from the Eclipse BIRT web site

To install BIRT Chart Engine, you extract an archive (.zip) file. Complete the steps in the following section to download and install BIRT Chart Engine on a Microsoft Windows, UNIX, or Linux platform.

### How to install BIRT Chart Engine

- 1 Using your browser, navigate to the following URL:

```
http://download.eclipse.org/birt/downloads/
```

- 2 Select the following build:

```
Release build 2.1
```

The BIRT Release Build: 2.1 page appears.

- 3 Choose the Chart Engine archive (.zip) file:

```
birt-charts-2.1.zip
```

The Eclipse downloads page appears. This page shows all the sites that provide this BIRT Chart Engine download file.

- 4 Choose your closest download site.

birt-charts-2.1.zip downloads to your system.

- 5 Extract the archive file to the folder that contains your Eclipse directory.

## Avoiding cache conflicts after installing

Eclipse caches information about plug-ins for faster start-up. After you install or upgrade BIRT Chart Engine, using a cached copy of some pages can lead to errors or missing functionality.

The solution is to remove the cached information. The recommended practice is to start Eclipse from the command line with the -clean option:

```
eclipse -clean
```

---

# Installing BIRT Demo Database

The BIRT Demo Database package provides the Classic Models database that this book uses for example procedures. The database is provided in the following formats:

- Apache Derby
- Microsoft Access
- MySQL

BIRT Report Designer and BIRT RCP Report Designer include this database in Apache Derby format, as the Classic Models Inc. sample database data source. Install BIRT Demo Database if you want to use the native drivers to access this data source.

## Installing BIRT Demo Database from the Eclipse BIRT web site

To install BIRT Demo Database, you extract an archive (.zip) file. Complete the steps in the following section to download and install BIRT Demo Database on a Microsoft Windows, UNIX, or Linux platform.

### How to install BIRT Demo Database

- 1 Using your browser, navigate to the following URL:

`http://www.eclipse.org/birt/phoenix/db/`

- 2 In the Install instructions, select sample database.
- 3 In the dialog box for the ZIP file download that appears, select Open.  
The name of the ZIP file is `birt-database-2_0_1.zip`.
- 4 Extract the archive file to a location of your choice.

Extracting creates a directory, `ClassicModels`, that contains the BIRT Demo Database in Apache Derby, Microsoft Access, and MySQL formats.

## Testing the BIRT Demo Database installation

To test the BIRT Demo Database, first connect to the database with the native database client tool or a Java application. Next, connect to the database from BIRT Report Designer or BIRT RCP Report Designer.

### How to access BIRT Demo Database

Perform one of the following sets of tasks, based on your preferred database:

- Apache Derby database

Connect to the database located in the `derby` subdirectory of `ClassicModels`.

- Microsoft Access database

Perform one of the following tasks:

- Use Microsoft Access to connect to the database located in the msaccess subdirectory of ClassicModels.
- Use ODBC to access the database.
  - 1 Create an ODBC data source on the database located in the msaccess subdirectory of ClassicModels.
  - 2 Use a JDBC:ODBC bridge driver to access the ODBC data source.

- MySQL

- 1 Navigate to the mysql subdirectory of ClassicModels.
- 2 Create a database to use or edit create\_classicmodels.sql to uncomment the lines that create and select the classicmodels database.
- 3 Use the mysql command line interface to run create\_classicmodels.sql.
- 4 Review load\_classicmodels.sql to determine if the script can be used on your platform without editing. Use the mysql command line interface to run load\_classicmodels.sql.

#### **How to access BIRT Demo Database from a BIRT Report Designer**

Now, connect to the database using BIRT Report Designer or BIRT RCP Report Designer.

- 1 To access the Classic Models database in Apache Derby or MySQL format, first add the driver Java archive (.jar) files to your BIRT Report Designer or BIRT RCP Report Designer installation.
- 2 In any report design, create a data source on the database. In the same report design, create a data set on the data source.

---

## **Installing BIRT Report Engine**

BIRT Report Engine supports adding reporting capabilities to a Java application. BIRT Report Engine integrates into an existing Eclipse platform on a Microsoft Windows, UNIX, or Linux platform. You can also install report engine components onto an existing J2EE application server. To support quick deployment of reporting functionality to an application server, BIRT Report Engine includes a web archive (.war) file.

# Installing BIRT Report Engine from the Eclipse BIRT web site

To install BIRT Report Engine, you extract an archive (.zip) file. Complete the steps in the following section to download and install BIRT Report Engine on a Microsoft Windows, UNIX, or Linux platform. For more information about setting up the BIRT Report Engine, see Chapter 5, “Deploying a BIRT Report to an Application Server.”

## How to install BIRT Report Engine

- 1 Using your browser, navigate to the following URL:

<http://download.eclipse.org/birt/downloads>

- 2 Select the following build:

Release build 2.1

The BIRT Release Build: 2.1 page appears.

- 3 Choose the Report Engine archive (.zip) file:

birt-runtime-2.1.zip

The Eclipse downloads page appears. This page shows all the sites that provide this BIRT Report Engine download file.

- 4 Choose your closest download site.

birt-runtime-2.1.zip downloads to your system.

- 5 Extract the archive file to a suitable directory.

- 6 Create a system variable, BIRT\_HOME.

Set the value of BIRT\_HOME to the BIRT Report Engine installation directory. For example:

C:\birt-runtime-2.1

## Testing the BIRT Report Engine installation

To test the installation, run the BIRT Report Engine command line example.

### How to test the BIRT Report Engine installation

- 1 From the command line, navigate to the directory where you installed BIRT Report Engine.
- 2 Navigate to the Command Line Example subdirectory.
- 3 To run the genReport script, use the following syntax:
  - On a Windows platform

```
genReport [-e <target encoding>] [-f {HTML|FO|PDF}]  
[-F <full path of report parameter file>]
```

```
[ -l <locale> ] [ -o <full path of output file> ]
[ -p <report parameter name=value> ]
<full path of report design file>
```

- On a UNIX or Linux platform

```
genReport.sh [ -e <target encoding> ] [ -f {HTML|FO|PDF} ]
[ -F <full path of report parameter file> ]
[ -l <locale> ] [ -o <full path of output file> ]
[ -p <report parameter name=value> ]
<full path of report design file>
```

Enclose the value for a command line parameter in quotes. A report parameter value specified by the -p command line argument overrides the value in a report parameter file. For example, the following Windows platform command uses the value, Hello, for the parameter, sample, to generate an HTML file from the report design, test.rptdesign:

```
genReport -p "sample=Hello"
"C:\birt-runtime-2_0_1\Web Viewer Example\test.rptdesign"
```

genReport generates the required output file.

- 4 Open the output file.

---

## Installing BIRT Samples

BIRT Samples provides examples of a BIRT report item extension and of charting applications. The report item extension integrates into BIRT Report Designer and BIRT Report Engine.

To install BIRT Samples, you extract an archive (.zip) file. Complete the steps in the following section to download and install BIRT Samples on a Windows, UNIX, or Linux platform.

### How to install BIRT Samples

- 1 Using your browser, navigate to the following URL:

```
http://download.eclipse.org/birt/downloads
```

- 2 Select the following build:

```
Release build 2.1
```

The BIRT Release Build: 2.1 page appears.

- 3 Choose the Samples archive (.zip) file:

```
birt-samples-plugins-2.1.zip
```

The Eclipse downloads page appears. This page shows all the sites that provide this BIRT Samples download file.

- 4 Choose your closest download site.

birt-samples-plugins-2.1.zip downloads to your system. Extract the archive file to the folder that contains your Eclipse directory.

---

## Installing BIRT Test Suite

BIRT Test Suite provides the test suite used by BIRT developers. Install this package if you are a contributor to the BIRT project or if you want to customize the BIRT packages to your own needs.

To install BIRT Test Suite, you extract an archive (.zip) file. Complete the steps in the following section to download and install BIRT Test Suite on a Windows, UNIX, or Linux platform.

### How to install BIRT Test Suite

- 1 Using your browser, navigate to the following URL:

```
http://download.eclipse.org/birt/downloads/
```

- 2 Select the following build:

```
Release build 2.1
```

The BIRT Release Build: 2.1 page appears.

- 3 Choose the Test Suites archive (.zip) file:

```
birt-tests-suite-2.1.zip
```

The Eclipse downloads page appears. This page shows all the sites that provide this BIRT Test Suite download file.

- 4 Choose your closest download site. birt-tests-suite-2.1.zip downloads to your system.
- 5 Extract the archive file to the folder that contains your Eclipse directory.
- 6 Set up the BIRT Test Suite plug-ins so that they have access to the JUnit libraries. For information about using the JUnit tests, see BIRT API Test Reference.doc, which can be found in the following location in the BIRT Test Suite package:

```
eclipse\plugins\org.eclipse.birt.tests.data
```

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# 4

## Updating a BIRT Installation

As BIRT Report Designer is a Java-based application, updating an installation typically requires replacing the relevant files. Eclipse supports the update process for BIRT Report Designer by providing the Update Manager. BIRT RCP Report Designer is a stand-alone product, so you must replace the existing version with a newer version.

This chapter describes important considerations and the steps you should follow to update the following packages:

- BIRT Report Designer
- BIRT RCP Report Designer

---

### Using the Eclipse Update Manager to update BIRT Report Designer installation

Use the Update Manager to find and install newer major releases of BIRT Report Designer. To install a milestone release or other prerelease version, use the manual update instructions.

#### How to update BIRT Report Designer installation using the Update Manager

- 1 In Eclipse, choose Help->Software Updates->Find and Install. Feature Updates appears.
- 2 Select Search for updates of currently installed features, and choose Finish. The Update Manager may display a list of update sites. Choose one to

continue. Search Results appears and displays any updates that are available.

- 3 Select a feature to update, then choose Next. Feature License appears.
- 4 To accept the license and continue installing the update, choose Next. Installation appears.
- 5 Choose Finish to download and install the selected updates.

---

## Updating BIRT RCP Report Designer installation

Unlike BIRT Report Designer, BIRT RCP Report Designer is a stand-alone application. To update this application, you delete the entire application and reinstall a newer version. If you created your workspace in the `birt-rcp-report-designer-<version>` directory structure, you should back up your workspace or the reports that you want to keep before you delete BIRT RCP Report Designer. After you install a newer version of the application, you can copy your workspace folder back to the application's directory structure.

As a best practice, do not keep your workspace in the `birt-rcp-report-designer-<version>` directory structure. Keeping your workspace in a different location enables you to update your installation more easily in the future.

### How to update BIRT RCP Report Designer

- 1 Back up the workspace directory if it is in the `birt-rcp-report-designer-<version>` directory structure.
- 2 Delete the `birt-rcp-report-designer-<version>` directory.
- 3 Download and install BIRT RCP Report Designer as described earlier in this book.
- 4 Restore the workspace directory, if necessary.
- 5 Restart BIRT RCP Report Designer with the `-clean` option:

```
birt -clean
```

# 5

# Deploying a BIRT Report to an Application Server

One way to view a BIRT report on the web is to deploy the BIRT report viewer to an application server, such as Apache Tomcat, IBM WebSphere, JBOSS, or BEA WebLogic.

You deploy the BIRT report viewer by copying files from the BIRT Report Engine, which you must install separately from the BIRT Report Designer. The BIRT Report Engine includes the BIRT report viewer as a web archive (.war) file and as a set of files and folders.

This chapter provides information about deploying the BIRT report viewer using either of these sources.

---

## About application servers

The instructions in this chapter specifically address deploying a BIRT report to Apache Tomcat version 5.5.7. While the information in this chapter is specific to this version of Tomcat, a BIRT report can also be deployed to other versions of Tomcat and to other application servers.

## About deploying to Tomcat

There are only minor differences between the requirements for deploying to Tomcat version 5.5.7 and deploying to earlier versions of Apache Tomcat. Apache Tomcat 5.5.7 runs Java 5 by default, which is also the recommended version to use for BIRT 2.1. If you use an earlier version of Java, you need to install a compatibility package and configure Apache Tomcat to use the Java 1.4

run-time environment. For information about configuring Apache Tomcat to use Java run-time 1.4, see the Apache Tomcat help pages. You can download Apache Tomcat from [jakarta.apache.org/tomcat](http://jakarta.apache.org/tomcat).

## About deploying to other application servers

Most application servers require a WAR file that contains everything that the application requires, including a web.xml file describing the application and various deployment preferences. A WAR file appropriate for Tomcat is included with BIRT. In most cases, the WAR file will not require modification. In some cases, however, developers who have experience with other application servers can modify the web.xml file to reflect the requirements of their environments. For more information about setting the web.xml parameters, see the section on mapping the report viewer folders, later in this chapter.

If you are deploying to JBoss, you might need to copy axis.jar and axis-ant.jar from WEB-INF/lib to the following directory:

```
jboss/server/default/lib
```

This step might not be necessary for some versions of JBoss, but if you are experiencing difficulty with a JBoss deployment, copying these files might be the solution to your problem.

---

## Placing the BIRT report viewer on an application server

You must place the BIRT report viewer in a location where Apache Tomcat can access it. The most common location is in the \$TOMCAT\_INSTALL/webapps directory. By placing the BIRT report viewer in \$TOMCAT\_INSTALL/webapps, Apache Tomcat automatically recognizes and starts the BIRT report viewer the next time you restart Apache Tomcat.

You must also install an auxiliary file, as explained later in this chapter.

## Installing the BIRT report viewer files

The following instructions assume that you have installed the BIRT Report Engine from the BIRT web site, that your web application directory is \$TOMCAT\_INSTALL/webapps, and that your BIRT run-time install directory is \$BIRT\_RUNTIME.

To install the BIRT report viewer from the BIRT Report Engine WAR file, first place the BIRT report viewer WAR file on Apache Tomcat by copying birt.war to \$TOMCAT\_INSTALL/webapps, as illustrated in the following DOS command:

```
copy $BIRT_RUNTIME/birt.war $TOMCAT_INSTALL/webapps
```

Then, restart Apache Tomcat.

## **How to install the BIRT report viewer from the BIRT Report Engine viewer folder**

- 1** Navigate to \$TOMCAT\_INSTALL/webapps.
- 2** Create a subdirectory named birt.
- 3** To place the BIRT Report Engine on Apache Tomcat, copy the web viewer example directory and all its subdirectories to:

```
$TOMCAT_INSTALL/webapps
```

as illustrated in the following DOS command:

```
xcopy /E "$BIRT_RUNTIME/WebViewerExample"  
$TOMCAT_INSTALL/webapps/birt
```

- 4** Restart Apache Tomcat.

## **Installing the auxiliary file**

There is one auxiliary file that you must install on Apache Tomcat. The file is itext\_1.3.jar and you must place it in the following directory:

```
$TOMCAT_INSTALL/birt/WebViewerExample/WEB-INF/platform/  
plugins/com.lowagie.itext/lib
```

You can download itext\_1.3.jar from:

```
http://prdownloads.sourceforge.net/itext/itext-1.3.jar
```

## **Installing your JDBC drivers**

Add the JAR files for your JDBC drivers to the following directory:

```
$TOMCAT_INSTALL/birt/WEB-INF/platform/plugins/  
org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.jdbc/drivers
```

## **Testing the BIRT report viewer installation**

To test the installation of the BIRT report viewer, type the following URL in a web browser address:

```
http://server\_name/birt
```

where *server\_name* is the name of the application server.

There is a JavaServer Page (JSP) called index.jsp in both the WAR file and in the /birt directory. There is also a simple BIRT report design file, test.rptdesign, in both the WAR file and the /birt directory. If the BIRT report viewer is installed correctly, Tomcat uses index.jsp to process the report design file and generate the report described by the design file.

## Using a different context root for the BIRT report viewer

By default, the context root of the URL for a web application is the path to the application directory or the WAR file. The default application directory for the BIRT report viewer is /birt, so the default URL to access a BIRT report from Apache Tomcat is:

```
http://localhost:8080/birt/run?__report=myReport.rptdesign
```

To change the BIRT context root, change the name of the /birt directory or the WAR file in \$TOMCAT\_INSTALL/webapps. After making this change, you must restart Apache Tomcat. Whatever name you choose, specify that name in the URL to access your BIRT report. For example, if you choose reportViewer, the URL to access a BIRT report becomes:

```
http://localhost:8080/reportViewer/  
run?__report=myReport.rptdesign
```

The URL examples shown in this section access the report design with a relative path. You must set the BIRT\_VIEWER\_WORKING\_FOLDER variable to access the report design with relative paths.

## Placing the viewer in a different location

If you choose to place the BIRT report viewer in a location other than \$TOMCAT\_INSTALL/webapps, you must add a context mapping entry to the server.xml file in \$TOMCAT\_INSTALL/conf.

To add a context mapping entry, add the following lines to server.xml just above the </host> tag near the end of the file:

```
<Context path="/birt"  
docBase="BIRT_Path"/>
```

where *BIRT\_Path* is the absolute path to the directory containing the BIRT report viewer.

Save your changes to server.xml and restart Apache Tomcat to make your changes active.

## Mapping the folders that the BIRT report viewer uses

To determine the locations for report designs, images in reports, and log files, the BIRT report viewer uses context parameters defined in the web.xml file. Table 5-1 describes the context parameters for mapping folders. The default values of some of the context parameters described in the table depend on whether the application is deployed as a WAR file or a folder structure. When an application is deployed as a WAR file, the application is referred to as a WAR deployment. When an application is deployed as a folder structure, the application is referred to as a non-WAR deployment.

**Table 5-1** BIRT context parameters

Parameter	Description	Default value
BIRT_VIEWER_IMAGE_DIR	Required for WAR deployment. Optional for non-WAR deployment.  Absolute path to a writable directory for creating images and chart representations for a report.	No default value for WAR deployment <context root>/report/images for non-WAR deployment
BIRT_VIEWER_LOG_DIR	Optional.  Absolute path to a writable directory for BIRT Report Engine log messages.  For WAR deployment, BIRT Report Engine logs messages only when this parameter has a value.	No default value for WAR deployment <context root>/logs for non-WAR deployment
BIRT_VIEWER_WORKING_FOLDER	Optional.  Absolute path to a writable directory for report designs and temporary files.  Specifying report designs by relative path is possible only when this parameter has a value.	No default value for either WAR deployment or non-WAR deployment
BIRT_VIEWER_SCRIPTLIB_DIR	Optional.  Absolute path to a directory containing Java event handler JAR files.	No default value for WAR deployment <context root>/scriptlib for non-WAR deployment
BIRT_VIEWER_LOG_LEVEL	Defines the level of error logging, using the standard Java logging level identifiers. Allowable values are ALL, CONFIG, FINE, FINER, FINEST, INFO, OFF, SEVERE, WARNING. For more information about the logging levels, see the Javadoc for java.util.logging.Level.	OFF for both WAR deployment and non-WAR deployment

#### How to set the location for report designs

You can avoid including the full path to the report design in the URL if you define BIRT\_VIEWER\_WORKING\_FOLDER in the BIRT report viewer application's web.xml file.

**1** Navigate to \$TOMCAT\_INSTALL/webapps.

**2** Open web.xml in a code editor.

To open web.xml in an editor, perform one of the following steps, based on your deployment configuration:

- If you use a WAR file to deploy the BIRT report viewer, extract web-inf/web.xml from birt.war into a temporary location.
- If you use a folder to deploy the BIRT report viewer, navigate to birt/WEB-INF.

**3** Locate the following element:

```
<context-param>
    <param-name>BIRT_VIEWER_WORKING_FOLDER</param-name>
    <param-value />
</context-param>
```

**4** Change the param-value element, so that it includes the absolute path to the folder for the report designs:

```
<context-param>
    <param-name>BIRT_VIEWER_WORKING_FOLDER</param-name>
    <param-value>Report_Folder</param-value>
</context-param>
```

where *Report\_Folder* is the absolute path to the folder for the report designs.

**5** If you prefer not to use the default directory for event handler JAR files, define the desired path by creating or modifying the following context parameter:

```
<context-param>
    <param-name>BIRT_VIEWER_SCRIPTLIB_DIR</param-name>
    <param-value>Event_Handlers</param-value>
</context-param>
```

where *Event\_Handlers* is the absolute path to the folder containing the event handler JAR files.

**6** Save web.xml and close the editor.

**7** If you use a WAR file to deploy the BIRT report viewer, replace web-inf/web.xml in birt.war with the name of the file you just modified.

**8** Copy your report designs into the folder you specified in the param-value element for BIRT\_VIEWER\_WORKING\_FOLDER.

**9** If your report uses Java event handler classes, copy the JAR files containing the event handler classes into <BIRT\_VIEWER\_SCRIPTLIB\_DIR>.

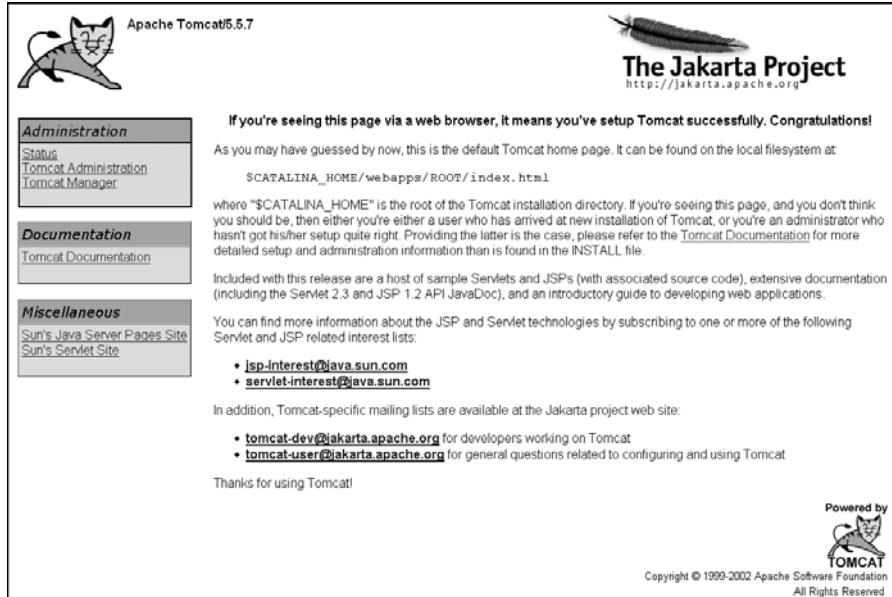
**10** Restart Apache Tomcat.

## Verifying that Apache Tomcat is running BIRT report viewer

To verify that Apache Tomcat is running BIRT report viewer, run the Tomcat manager. To run the Tomcat manager, you need a manager's account. If you have not already set up a Tomcat manager account, you can do so by adding the following two lines to \$TOMCAT\_INSTALL/conf/tomcat-users.xml:

```
<role rolename="manager"/>
<user username="admin" password="tomcat" roles="manager"/>
```

Once you have a manager's account open the Tomcat account manager by opening the Tomcat main page, which for a typical Apache Tomcat installation is <http://localhost:8080>, shown in Figure 5-1.



**Figure 5-1** Apache Tomcat home page

On the Tomcat main page, choose Tomcat Manager. In the manager login window, supply the username and password from the manager account entry in tomcat-users.xml file. The Running status for the Eclipse BIRT report viewer is true, as shown in Figure 5-2.

Tomcat Web Application Manager					The Tomcat Server		
Message:		OK					
Manager							
List Applications		HTML Manager Help		Manager Help	Server Status		
Applications							
Path	Display Name	Running	Sessions	Commands			
/	Welcome to Tomcat	true	0	Start	Stop	Reload	Undeploy
/admin	Tomcat Administration Application	true	0	Start	Stop	Reload	Undeploy
/balancer	Tomcat Simple Load Balancer Example App	true	0	Start	Stop	Reload	Undeploy
/birt-viewer	Eclipse BIRT Report Viewer	true	0	Start	Stop	Reload	Undeploy

**Figure 5-2** Running status for the Eclipse BIRT report viewer

## Placing fonts on the application server

BIRT Report Engine requires certain TrueType fonts in order to display a PDF report. BIRT searches for fonts in the common font directories for Windows and Linux. The list of directories that BIRT searches is quite long but includes:

- /windows/fonts for drives A through G
- /WINNT/fonts for drives A through G
- /usr/share/fonts/default/TrueType
- /usr/share/fonts/truetype

If your PDF reports appear to be missing content, you can place the appropriate fonts in any of the directories in the preceding list. You also can specify your own font search path by creating the environment variable `BIRT_FONT_PATH`.

## Viewing a report using a browser

Once you deploy the BIRT report viewer to your J2EE container, you can access your BIRT reports using a web browser. To view a BIRT report using a browser, you navigate to a URL having one of the following two formats:

```
http://localhost:8080/birt/run?parameter_list
http://localhost:8080/birt/frameset?parameter_list
```

where `parameter_list` is a list of URL parameters.

For more information about the URL parameters that you can use, see the section about URL parameters, later in this chapter.

## **Understanding the run and frameset servlets**

When you use the run servlet, it displays the report as a stand-alone web page or a PDF file. If the report requires parameters, you must specify them in the URL.

When you use the frameset servlet, the browser displays a page with a toolbar with four buttons to do the following tasks:

- Print the report.
- Display a table of contents.
- Display a parameters dialog.
- Display a dialog for exporting data.

## **Using the URL parameters for the run and frameset servlets**

The parameter list for the run and frameset servlets must contain the `__report` parameter. The other parameters are optional.

Table 5-2 lists the URL parameters for accessing BIRT reports.

**Table 5-2** URL parameters for accessing BIRT reports

Parameter	Values	Required?	Default value
<code>__report</code>	Path to report design file	The URL must contain either a <code>__report</code> parameter or a <code>__document</code> parameter.	No default
<code>__document</code>	Path to document file	The URL must contain either a <code>__report</code> parameter or a <code>__document</code> parameter.	No default
<code>__format</code>	html or pdf	Optional	html
<code>__locale</code>	Locale code	Optional	JVM locale
<code>__isnull</code>	Any user-defined report parameter values	Optional	Not applicable
<code>__svg</code>	true or false	No	false
Other report parameters	User-defined	As specified in the report design	As specified in the report design

## **\_\_report parameter**

The \_\_report parameter specifies the name and location of the report design file for the report you want to display. If the URL contains a \_\_report parameter, a new report document file is generated from the report design file specified by this parameter. The URL must contain either a \_\_report parameter or a \_\_document parameter, but not both.

The path can be either absolute or relative. If you specify an absolute path, the servlet uses that absolute path. If the path is relative, the location depends on whether the working folder parameter, BIRT\_VIEWER\_WORKING\_FOLDER, is defined in the web.xml file. If the working folder parameter is defined in web.xml, the base for the relative path is the path that the working folder parameter specifies. If your application is deployed as a folder structure instead of a WAR file and the working folder parameter is not defined in web.xml, then the base for the relative path defaults to \$TOMCAT\_INSTALL/webapps/birt. If your application is deployed using a WAR file, BIRT\_VIEWER\_WORKING\_FOLDER must specify a value.

The following three examples of a \_\_report parameter illustrate the possibilities:

- The path to the report is an absolute path and the parameter is:

```
__report=C:\myReport.rptdesign
```

The report path is:

```
C:\myReport.rptdesign
```

The path in this example is absolute, so the value of BIRT\_VIEWER\_WORKING\_FOLDER is not relevant.

- The path to the report is relative, BIRT\_VIEWER\_WORKING\_FOLDER is not defined in web.xml, and the parameter is:

```
__report=Report\myReport.rptdesign
```

The path to this report is:

```
$TOMCAT_INSTALL\webapps\birt\Report\myReport.rptdesign
```

- The path to the report is relative, BIRT\_VIEWER\_WORKING\_FOLDER is defined as C:\Reports, and the parameter is:

```
__report=myReport.rptdesign
```

The path to this report is:

```
C:\Reports\myReport.rptdesign
```

## **\_\_document parameter**

The \_\_document parameter specifies the name and location of the report document file for the report you want to display. If the \_\_document parameter is present, the report viewer displays the report encapsulated in the specified

file. The URL must contain either a `__report` parameter or a `__document` parameter, but not both. The rules for specifying the name and location of the report document file are the same as the rules for specifying a report design file, as explained in the previous section.

### **`__format` parameter**

Use the `__format` parameter to specify whether the report should display as an HTML page or as a PDF document.

### **`__locale` parameter**

Use the `__locale` parameter to specify a Java locale, such as `en` for English or `ch-zh` for Chinese. The choice of locale affects the language in which certain report items appear in the report. The report items that have internationalization capability are those whose ROM elements contain a resource property.

### **`__isnull` parameter**

Use the `__isnull` parameter to specify that one of the other optional parameters is null. The following rules govern the setting of parameter values:

- If you include `__isnull=parameterName` in the URL and this parameter does not appear elsewhere in the URL, then `parameterName` takes the value null, which, in this context, means unknown.
- If you include `__isnull=parameterName` in the URL but this parameter is also set to a value in the URL, then `parameterName` takes the value of a blank string.
- If you do not include `__isnull=parameterName` in the URL and this parameter is set to a value in the URL, then `parameterName` takes the value assigned in the URL.
- If you do not include `__isnull=parameterName` in the URL and this parameter does not appear elsewhere in the URL, then `parameterName` is assigned its default value.

### **`__svg` parameter**

Use the `__svg` parameter to enable Scalable Vector Graphics (SVG) support in the report engine when the browser does not contain SVG support. SVG support is only relevant for charts and the `__svg` parameter is only relevant for the run servlet, not the frameset servlet. A parameter value of `true` enables SVG support.

## **Report parameters**

Report parameters are parameters that the report developer creates when designing the report. BIRT Report Designer includes report parameters in the report design file.

# II

## *Understanding the BIRT Framework*



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# 6

# Understanding the BIRT Architecture

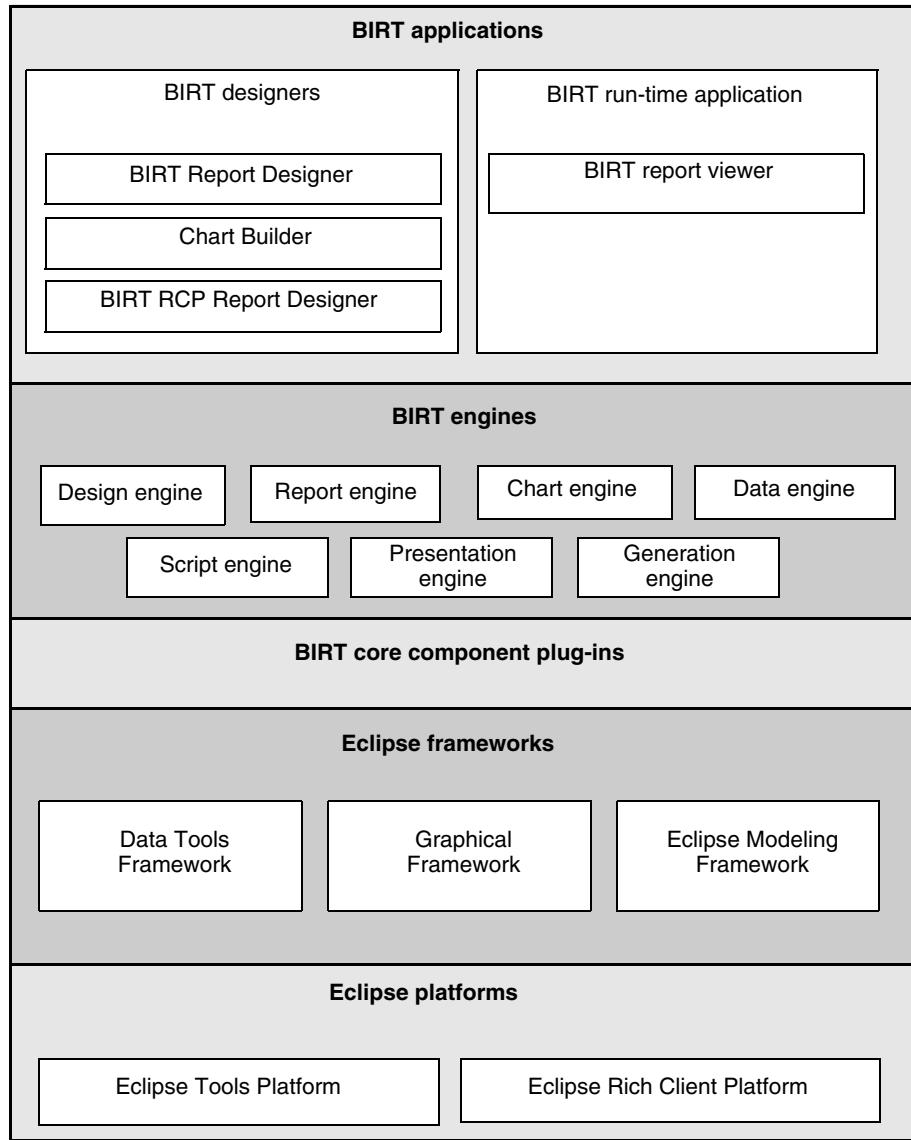
BIRT consists of many components that relate to one another in various ways. This chapter provides an overview of the BIRT architecture, the BIRT components, the Eclipse components upon which BIRT relies, and the relationships that tie them all together.

## Understanding the BIRT integration

BIRT is an Eclipse project, which means that it is tightly integrated with Eclipse frameworks and platforms. Like all Eclipse projects, BIRT is implemented as a set of Eclipse plug-ins. The BIRT plug-ins provide the functionality for all BIRT components, including BIRT applications, the engines that drive the applications, and supporting application programming interfaces (APIs). The BIRT plug-ins also provide the interface mechanism for communicating with several Eclipse frameworks and platforms.

The relationships between BIRT and the Eclipse components are best viewed as a stack, where each tier in the stack depends upon, uses, and integrates with the tier below it. Figure 6-1 illustrates this stack of dependent tiers.

Figure 6-2 illustrates the various BIRT components and how they relate to one another. In this diagram, a component in a solid box is a standard BIRT component. A component in a dashed box is a custom component that a Java developer can provide. Some custom components are extensions of BIRT and other custom components are applications that use the BIRT APIs. A component in a dotted box is a standard BIRT component that the containing component uses. For example, because BIRT Report Designer uses the design engine, the design engine appears in a dotted box within the box for BIRT Report Designer.

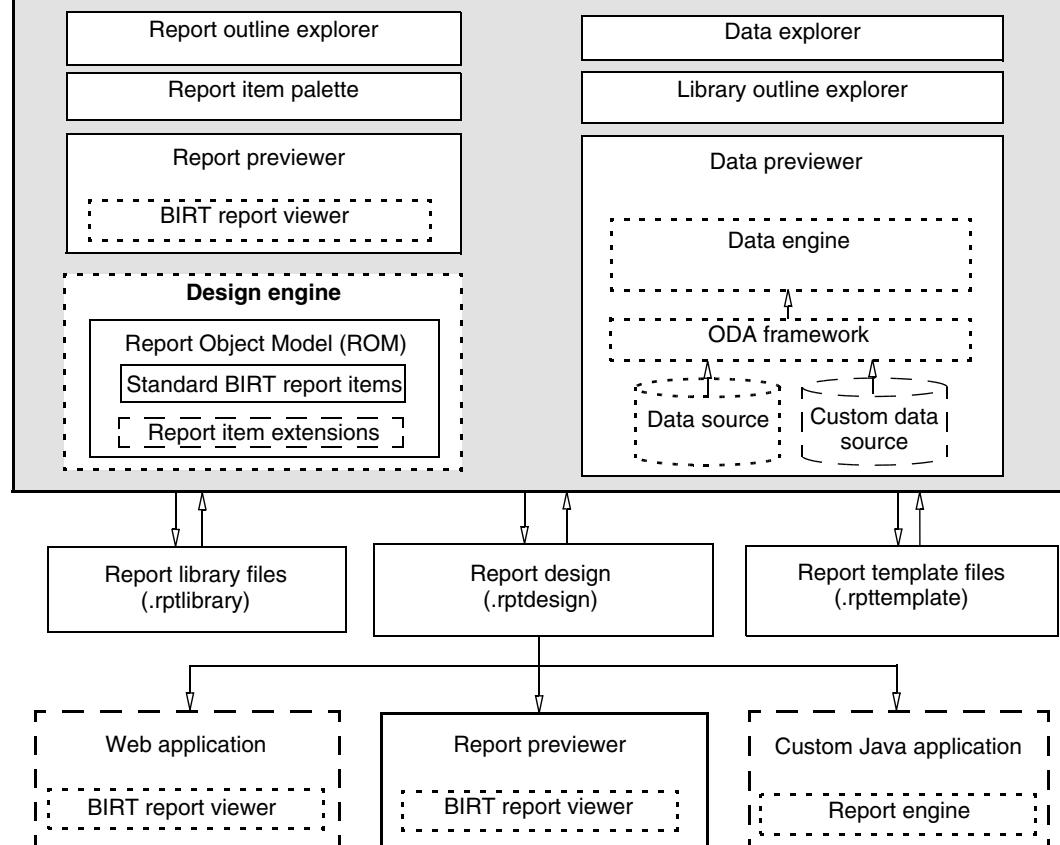


**Figure 6-1** BIRT components as plug-ins to the Eclipse platform

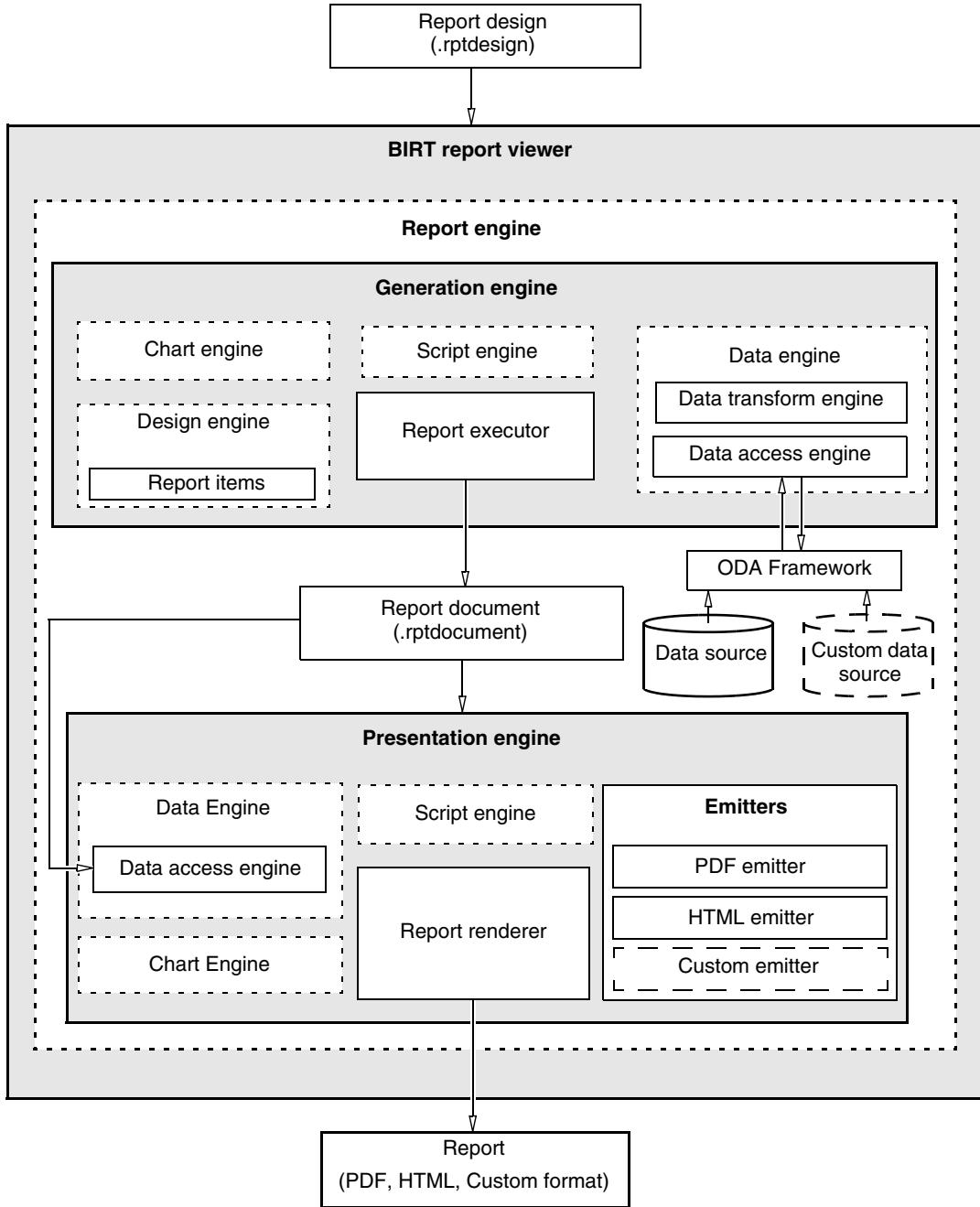
## BIRT Report Designer

Tools to create and edit report components and rules, including:

- Bookmarks
- Charts
- Data sources
- Data filters
- Data groups
- Data mapping rules
- Data sets
- Expressions
- Highlighting rules
- Hyperlinks
- Library components
- Master pages
- Properties
- Report layout
- Report parameters
- Report XML
- Scripts
- Styles



**Figure 6-2** Relationships of standard BIRT components and custom components (*continued*)



**Figure 6-2** Relationships of standard BIRT components and custom components

---

## About the BIRT applications

There are three BIRT applications: BIRT Report Designer, BIRT RCP Report Designer, and the BIRT report viewer. BIRT Report Designer and BIRT RCP Report Designer are very similar. BIRT Report Designer runs as an Eclipse plug-in and lets you build reports within the Eclipse workbench. BIRT RCP Report Designer has a simplified report design interface based on Eclipse RCP.

### About BIRT Report Designer and BIRT RCP Report Designer

BIRT Report Designer is a graphical report design tool. BIRT Report Designer uses the report design engine to generate a report design file based on the ROM. ROM supports the standard set of BIRT report items and custom report items.

BIRT RCP Report Designer has a simplified report design interface based on Eclipse RCP. The primary functional differences between the BIRT RCP Report Designer and BIRT Report Designer are:

- BIRT RCP Report Designer can only have one design open at a time.
- BIRT RCP Report Designer has no integrated debugger.
- BIRT RCP Report Designer does not support Java event handlers.

Other than these differences, the functionality of the two report designers is identical and all further mentions of BIRT Report Designer in this chapter apply equally to BIRT RCP Report Designer.

BIRT Report Designer also supports the reuse of a report design by saving it as a template. You can also save individual report components in a component library, which is accessible to other report designs.

### About the BIRT report viewer

The BIRT report viewer is a web application servlet that prepares and delivers a BIRT report. The BIRT report viewer uses the generation engine and the report design to create a report document. The report viewer then uses the report document and the presentation engine to generate the desired report.

The report previewer that is a part of the BIRT Report Designer uses the BIRT report viewer to preview a report. A web application can also use the BIRT report viewer, after you deploy the BIRT report viewer to an application server.

You can deploy the BIRT report viewer to the J2EE container of your choice, such as Apache Tomcat, IBM WebSphere, or BEA WebLogic.

---

## About the BIRT engines

BIRT contains several engines. An engine is a set of Java APIs that provide functionality in a specific domain. For example, the data engine contains the APIs for managing data and the chart engine contains APIs to generate a chart.

### About the report design engine

The report design engine contains the APIs for validating and generating a report design file. The report design engine is used by BIRT Report Designer and by any custom Java application that generates a BIRT report design. The generation engine also uses the report design engine when building the report document. The design engine contains APIs to validate the elements and structure of the design file against the ROM specification.

### About the report engine

The report engine consists of two parts, the generation engine and the presentation engine. The BIRT report viewer and custom Java applications use the report engine to process a report design and generate a report in the format specified in the design.

### About the generation engine

The generation engine consists of APIs for reading and interpreting a report design. The generation engine uses the data engine to retrieve and transform data from the data sources identified in the report design. The output of the generation engine is a report document, which is an intermediate document in the production of a report.

### About the presentation engine

The presentation engine processes the report document created by the generation engine and produces the report in the format specified in the design.

Like the generation engine, the presentation engine uses the data engine. During the presentation stage, however, the data engine retrieves data from the report document rather than from a data source.

The presentation engine uses whichever report emitter it requires to generate a report in the format specified in the design. BIRT has two standard emitters, HTML and PDF. BIRT also supports custom emitters for formats other than HTML or PDF.

Chart report items and custom report items extend the presentation engine to provide display capability for those items.

## About the chart engine

The chart engine contains APIs for generating charts and associating them with data from a data source. The use of the chart engine is not restricted to a BIRT application. Any Java application can use the chart engine APIs to create and display a chart. The BIRT report viewer interprets the chart design information in the report design and uses the chart engine to generate the chart.

## About the data engine

The data engine contains the APIs to retrieve and transform data. When used by the generation engine, the data engine retrieves data directly from the data source. When used by the presentation engine, the data engine retrieves data from the report document.

## About data engine components

The data engine consists of two primary components, the data access component and the data transform component. The data access component communicates with the ODA framework to retrieve data. The data transform component of the data engine performs such operations as sorting, grouping, aggregating, and filtering the data returned from the data access component.

## About the ODA framework

The ODA framework manages ODA and native drivers, loads drivers, opens connections, and manages data requests. The ODA framework uses the Eclipse Data Tools Platform project to manage connections.

The ODA framework contains extension points through which you can add a custom ODA driver. The data engine extension provides the connection method and the driver for the data source. A custom ODA driver is necessary if you have a data source that BIRT does not support. When you create a custom ODA driver you may need to extend not only the data engine but also BIRT Report Designer. A BIRT Report Designer extension is necessary if the data source requires a GUI component to specify the data set.

---

## About the types of BIRT report items

A report item is a visual component of a report, such as a label or a list or a chart. There are three categories of report items in BIRT: standard report items, custom report items, and the chart report item.

## About standard report items

A report item is a visual component of a report. A report item can be as simple as a label or as complex as a 3D chart. Every report item has an icon on BIRT Report Designer Palette.

## About custom report items

You can create new report items and you can extend an existing report item. An example of a simple extension to a report item is adding a property, such as color. An example of a new report item extension is the rotated text report item, which is a reference implementation of a report item extension.

Creating a new report item and extending an existing report item both involve extending BIRT through the Eclipse plug-in mechanism. Some custom items require an extension to a single component, while other custom items require extensions to multiple components. Depending on the report item, one or more of the following components may require an extension to support the new item:

- BIRT Report Designer
- The report design engine
- The report engine

## About chart report items

A chart report item is a standard BIRT component, but it is implemented as a BIRT extension. The user interface for creating a chart report item is a chart builder that steps the report developer through the process of designing the chart and associating it with the appropriate database columns.

---

## About the ROM

ROM is the model upon which BIRT is based. ROM is a specification for the structure, syntax, and semantics of the report design. The ROM specification appears in a series of documents on the BIRT web site at:

<http://www.eclipse.org/birt/ref>

The formal expression of ROM is through an XML schema and a semantic definition file.

---

## About the types of BIRT files

BIRT Report Designer uses four types of files: report design files, report document files, report library files, and report template files. The following sections provide a brief overview of each of these file types.

## About report design files

A report design file is an XML file that contains the report design, the complete description of a BIRT report. The report design describes every aspect of a report, including its structure, format, data sources, data sets, and JavaScript event handler code. BIRT Report Designer creates the report design file and BIRT report engine processes it. The file extension of a report design file is .rptdesign.

## About report document files

A report document file is a binary file that encapsulates the report design, incorporates the data, and contains additional information, such as data rows, pagination information, and table of contents information. The file extension of a report document file is .rptdocument.

## About report library files

A report library file is an XML file that contains reusable and shareable BIRT report components. A report developer uses the library outline explorer in BIRT Report Designer to manage access to and additions to the library.

A BIRT report library can contain such items as:

- Embedded images
- Styles
- Visual report items
- Code
- Data sources
- Data sets

The file extension of a report library file is .rptlibrary.

## About report template files

A report template is an XML file that contains a reusable design. A report developer can use the template as a basis for developing a new report. A report developer uses a report template to maintain a consistent style across a set of report designs and for streamlining the report design process. A report template can specify many different elements of a report, including:

- One or more data sources
- One or more data sets
- Part or all of the layout of a report design, including grids, tables, lists, and other report items

- Grouping, filtering, and data binding definitions
- Cheat sheets
- Styles
- Library components
- Master page

A template is a flexible tool for report development. For example, one template can specify almost every aspect of a report design, while another can specify just a table format. A report template can be personalized after the report developer uses it to create the report design. Report templates are useful for maintaining a consistent style across a set of report designs and for streamlining the report design process.

The file extension of a report template file is .rpttemplate.

---

## About custom Java applications

Java developers can use the BIRT APIs to create a custom report designer or a custom report viewer.

### About custom report designers

A custom report designer is a Java application that a Java developer creates to generate a well-formed report design file based on specific requirements. A custom report designer does not necessarily include a user interface. A typical example of a custom report designer is a Java application that dynamically determines the content, structure, or data source for a report, based on business logic. A custom report designer uses the same design engine API as BIRT Report Designer.

### About custom Java report generators

A custom Java report generator performs the same function as the BIRT report generator, except that it is typically integrated into either a web application or a stand-alone Java application. Like the BIRT report viewer web application, a custom Java report generator uses the API of the report engine to read a report design file and generate a report. A custom Java report generator can use business logic to manage security issues, control content, and determine the output format.

---

## About extensions to BIRT

Through its public APIs and the BIRT extension framework, BIRT enables a Java developer to expand the capabilities of BIRT. A list of possible custom extensions includes:

- A custom report item

A custom report item is a report item extension. This report item can be an extension, an existing BIRT report item, or a new report item.

- A custom ODA data source driver

A custom ODA data source driver is a custom ODA extension that connects to a data source type other than those that BIRT directly supports.

- A custom report emitter

A custom report emitter generates a report in a format other than HTML or PDF.

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# Understanding the Report Object Model

This chapter provides an overview of the BIRT ROM and the primary elements that comprise the model. ROM defines the rules for constructing a valid report design file in much the same way that HTML defines the rules for constructing a valid web page. ROM, therefore, is the model for the BIRT report design file in the same way that HTML is the model for the web page. For information about every component of ROM, see the online help entry at Help→Help Contents→BIRT Developer Guide→Reference→Report Object Model (ROM) Definitions Reference.

---

## About the ROM specification

The ROM specification defines a set of XML elements for describing both the visual and non-visual components of a report. Visual elements include items that appear in a report, such as a table, list, or label. Non-visual elements include such things as report parameters, data sources, and data sets.

The XML file that BIRT Report Designer generates to describe a report consists entirely of ROM elements. The ROM specification defines the elements, their properties, and an element's relationship to other elements. ROM elements describe:

- The report page layout
- The placement, size, style, and structure of report items
- The data source and query with which to populate a report

## ROM properties

ROM elements can have properties and every property has a type. Property types are similar to variable types in programming or data types in database terminology. Like variables and data types, ROM property types can be simple or complex. Simple types include string, number, dimension, color, and so forth. Complex types include structure and list. A complex type contains more than one component. For example, a text type contains both the text and a resource key used for internationalizing the text.

The components of a ROM property are:

- **Property values**

Most elements have simple properties that are defined by a name-value pair. There are several property types, described later in this section.

- **User-defined property definitions**

The userProperties array provides a way for users to define custom properties. Each item in the array is a UserProperty object.

- **Executable expressions**

The methods array is an associative array of method names. The method name is the key into the array. The return value is a string that contains the method text.

The property types defined in ROM include:

- **property**

This property type is the simplest and most common property type. A property definition of this type has the following syntax:

```
<property name="propName">value</property>
```

- **property-list**

This property type defines a set of properties, such as custom colors. A property definition of the property-list type has the following syntax:

```
<property-list name="propName">
    [ <structure> ... </structure> ] *
</property-list>
```

- **xml-property**

This property type defines custom XML. A property definition of the xml-property type has the following syntax:

```
<xml-property name="propName">value</xml-property>
```

- expression

The value for this property type is an expression. A property definition of the expression type has the following syntax:

```
<expression name="propName">value</expression>
```

- ex-property

This property type is useful for defining properties that do not have well-formed property names. A property definition of the ex-property type has the following syntax:

```
<ex-property>
  <name>propName</name>
  <value>value</value>
</ex-property>
```

- structure

This property is a collection of two or more properties. A property definition of the structure type has the following syntax:

```
<structure name="propName">
  <property name="member1">value1</property>
  <property name="member2">value2</property>
</structure>
```

## ROM slots

A ROM slot is a collection of identically typed elements. For example, a report element has a slot of style elements that comprise all the styles available to the report.

## ROM methods

A ROM element can have one or more methods, called event handlers. BIRT fires many different events during the course of executing a report. When BIRT fires an event, the appropriate event handler is executed to handle the event. By default, event handlers are empty methods that do nothing. By supplying code for an event handler, a report developer can customize and extend the functionality of BIRT. Supplying code for an event handler is called scripting. An event handler can be scripted in either JavaScript or Java.

Report items have four events: `onPrepare`, `onCreate`, `onPageBreak`, and `onRender`. Each of these events fires during different phases of report creation. The `onPrepare` event fires in the preparation phase. The `onCreate` event fires during the generation phase. The `onRender` and `onPageBreak` events fire during the presentation phase.

Report items are not the only ROM elements to have event handler methods. BIRT online help contains a complete reference for all the ROM elements and their properties and methods.

## ROM styles

The ROM style system is based on cascading style sheets (CSS), where a style set in a container cascades to its contents. The Report element contains all other elements, so the style property of the Report element defines the default style for the entire report. An element within the report can override the default style. A report developer can either choose a style from a defined set of styles or create a new style. Typical style attributes include color, text size, alignment, background image, and so forth. For more information about the styles, see the ROM reference in the BIRT online help.

---

## About the ROM schema

The ROM specification is encapsulated in a schema written in the language of XML Schema. XML Schema provides a standard way of defining the structure, content, and semantics of an XML file. XML Schema is similar to Document Type Definition (DTD).

The ROM schema, therefore, contains the formal expression of the content, structure, and semantics of the ROM report design. The ROM schema is located at:

```
http://www.eclipse.org/birt/2005/design
```

A statement similar to the following statement appears at the top of every report design file:

```
<report xmlns="http://www.eclipse.org/birt/2005/design"  
version="3.2.2" id="1">
```

This statement identifies the schema upon which BIRT bases the report design. If the design contains elements extraneous to or in violation of the rules set forth in the schema, it is not a valid design.

Opening a report design file with a schema-aware tool such as XMLSpy provides a means of verifying the report design against the schema. Using a schema-aware tool also can help a developer of a custom report designer to verify the output of the custom report designer.

The ROM schema defines syntax that allows extensions to BIRT without making changes to the actual schema. For example, an extended item uses the following tag:

```
<extended-item name="extension">
```

The ROM schema defines properties using the following syntax:

```
<property name="propertyName">value</property>
```

The ROM schema describes a syntax for representing properties. The ROM schema does not define any actual properties. ROM element properties are defined in another file, rom.def.

---

# About the rom.def file

The rom.def file contains metadata defining the specific ROM elements, their properties, their slots, and their methods. You can find rom.def in:

```
$INSTALL_DIR\eclipse\plugins  
    \org.eclipse.birt.report.model_2.1.0.jar
```

The rom.def file is an internal file that the design engine uses to present a property sheet for a ROM element. The property sheet for an element contains the element's properties and their types, the element's methods, and valid choice selections for each of the element's properties.

The rom.def file specifies the following kinds of metadata:

- Choice

A choice definition specifies all the allowable values that an attribute can have. Most choice definitions relate to style attributes. The following example from rom.def defines all the allowable font families available to a fontFamily style specification.

```
<ChoiceType name="fontFamily">  
    <Choice displayNameID="Choices.fontFamily.serif"  
        name="serif" />  
    <Choice displayNameID="Choices.fontFamily.sans-serif"  
        name="sans-serif" />  
    <Choice displayNameID="Choices.fontFamily.cursive"  
        name="cursive" />  
    <Choice displayNameID="Choices.fontFamily.fantasy"  
        name="fantasy" />  
    <Choice displayNameID="Choices.fontFamily.monospace"  
        name="monospace" />  
</ChoiceType>
```

- Class

A class definition defines a Java class that a report designer application can access using the BIRT model API. There are class descriptions for data types, such as String, Date, and Array. There are also class descriptions for the functional classes such as Total, Finance, and DateTimeSpan. Finally, there are class definitions for the report object definitions, such as Report, DataSet, DataSource, ReportDefn, and ColumnDefn. A class definition consists of definitions of the class attributes, methods, and localization identifiers. The following example from rom.def defines the Report class.

```
<Class displayNameID="Class.Report" name="Report"  
    toolTipID="Class.Report.toolTip">  
    <Member dataType="ReportDefn"  
        displayNameID="Class.Report.design" name="design"  
        toolTipID="Class.Report.design.toolTip" />  
    <Member dataType="Object[]" />
```

```

        displayNameID="Class.Report.params" name="params"
        toolTipID="Class.Report.params.toolTip" />
    <Member dataType="Object[]"
        displayNameID="Class.Report.config" name="config"
        toolTipID="Class.Report.config.toolTip" />
    </Class>

```

The preceding class definition does not have methods. The following example illustrates a class method definition.

```

<Method displayNameID="Class.Total.sum" isStatic="true"
    name="sum" returnType="number"
    toolTipID="Class.Total.sum.toolTip">
    <Argument name="expr" tagID="Class.Total.sum.expr"
        type="number" />
    <Argument name="filter" tagID="Class.Total.sum.filter"
        type="String" />
    <Argument name="group" tagID="Class.Total.sum.group"
        type="String" />
</Method>

```

## ■ Element

An element definition consists of the element's name, display name, methods, and properties, as well as the element from which it inherits. The rom.def file contains an element definition for every ROM element. The following example from the rom.def file illustrates an element definition.

```

<Element canExtend="true"
    displayNameID="Element.OdaDataSource"
    extends="DataSource"
    isAbstract="false" isNameRequired="true"
    javaClass="org.eclipse.birt.report.model.elements
        .OdaDataSource" name="OdaDataSource" since="1.0"
    xmlName="oda-data-source">
    <Property
        displayNameID="Element.OdaDataSource.extensionID"
        isIntrinsic="true" name="extensionID" since="1.0"
        type="string" />
    <Property detailType="ExtendedProperty"
        displayName=
            "Element.OdaDataSource.privateDriverProperties"
        isList="true" name="privateDriverProperties"
        since="1.0"
        type="structure" />
    <PropertyVisibility name="extensionID"
        visibility="hide" />
    <PropertyVisibility name="privateDriverProperties"
        visibility="hide" />
</Element>

```

The preceding element definition does not contain any methods. The following example illustrates an element method definition.

```
<Method context="factory"
    displayNameID="Element.ScriptDataSource.open"
    name="open" since="1.0"
    toolTipID="Element.ScriptDataSource.open.toolTip">
    <Argument name="reportContext"
        tagID="Element.ScriptDataSet.open.reportContext"
        type="org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api.script
            .IReportContext" />
    <Argument name="object"
        tagID="Element.ScriptDataSet.open.object"
        type="Object" />
</Method>
```

- Structure

A structure is a complex data type that usually consists of two or more members. A few structures that are candidates for future expansion have only a single member. The following example from the rom.def file illustrates the definition of a structure.

```
<Structure displayNameID="Structure.DateTimeFormatValue"
    name="DateTimeFormatValue" since="1.0">
    <Member detailType="dateTimeFormat"
        displayNameID="Structure.DateTimeFormatValue.category"
        isIntrinsic="true" name="category" since="1.0"
        type="choice" />
    <Member
        displayNameID="Structure.DateTimeFormatValue.pattern"
        isIntrinsic="true" name="pattern" since="1.0"
        type="string" />
</Structure>
```

- Style

A style definition contains the least information of any type of metadata described in rom.def. A style definition defines the name of the style, its display name, and a reference value. The following example illustrates a style definition.

```
<Style displayNameID="Style.Report" name="report"
    reference="Overall default" />
```

- Validator

A validator definition specifies a Java class with which to do validation. Two of the validator classes are for validating values and all the rest are semantic

validators. The following example from rom.def shows how to specify a validator.

```
<SemanticValidator  
    class="org.eclipse.birt.report.model.api.validators  
        .DataSetResultSetValidator"  
    modules="design, library"  
    name="DataSetResultSetValidator" />
```

---

## About the primary ROM elements

The primary ROM elements consist of abstract elements from which other elements derive and concrete elements that provide the overall report definition. The following elements are the primary components that form the basis for understanding ROM:

- DesignElement

The DesignElement element is an internal, abstract element used to implement basic features of ROM elements. DesignElement represents anything that has properties.

- Listing

The Listing element is the abstract base element for lists and tables. Both elements support a data set, filtering, sorting, methods, and so forth.

- MasterPage

The MasterPage element is an abstract base element that defines the basic properties of a page.

- ReportDesign

The ReportDesign element contains information about a report design, defining properties that describe the design as a whole. Report design properties do not inherit because a design cannot extend another design.

- ReportElement

The ReportElement element is an abstract report element that represents anything that can be named and customized. Most of the major components in ROM derive from ReportElement, including the elements visible in the user interface, such as data sets, styles, master pages, report items, and so forth.

- ReportItem

The ReportItem element is the base element for the visual elements. A report item includes a style. The style provides visual characteristics for anything that prints in a report: a section or report item.

---

## About the report item elements

There are many types of visual report components. Every type of visual report component has a corresponding ROM element that derives from the ReportItem element. Visual report components are called report items.

### About the report items

There are top-level and low-level report items. The top-level items are items that can contain other items. Examples of top-level items include:

- List

A list contains a set of arbitrary content based upon data retrieved from a data set. A list is appropriate when some report items require a sophisticated layout and then repeat that layout for each row in a query.

- Table

A table contains a tabular layout of data retrieved from a data set.

- Text

Text contains a block of text with centered headings, paragraphs, and so forth.

- Grid

A grid contains a set of report items arranged into a grid with a fixed set of columns and a variable number of rows. Each cell in the grid can contain a single item or a container of items.

Lower level layout items have properties that describe them in various ways, but they are not structural and do not contain other items. For example, the Image element is not a container of other elements.

### Understanding the report item element properties

The elements that derive from ReportItem are called the report item elements. Every report item has an entry in the palette, the visual BIRT Report Designer component that the report developer uses to build a report layout.

Each visual component has its own set of properties in addition to the properties it inherits from ReportItem. The types of inherited report item properties include:

- Method

Defines executable code.

- Property

Includes such things as names and dimensions.

- Slot

Contains Type elements that define its contents, as shown in the following element definition.

```
<Slot name="reportItems"
      displayNameID="Element.FreeForm.slot.reportItems"
      multipleCardinality="true">
    <Type name="Label" />
    <Type name="Data" />
    <Type name="Text" />
</Slot>
```

- StyleProperty

Defines style-related characteristics, such as color and font size.

---

## About the data elements

There are several elements in the ROM specification that apply to data rather than visual report items. These data elements describe data sources, data sets, and rows of data. The following elements are data elements:

- DataSource

The DataSource element represents a connection to an external data system, such as an RDBMS, text file, or XML file.

- ScriptedDataSource

The ScriptedDataSource element represents a connection to an external data system that is not an ODA data source. The developer must provide scripts for opening and closing a scripted data source. ScriptedDataSource inherits from DataSource.

- DataSet

The DataSet element represents a tabular result set retrieved from a data source. A DataSet element defines a query, filters, parameters, and result set columns.

- JointDataSet

The JointDataSet element represents a data set that results from a join of several data sets.

- **ScriptedDataSet**

The ScriptedDataSet element represents a data set that is associated with a scripted data source. The developer must provide scripts for opening, closing, and fetching a row from a scripted data source. ScriptedDataSet inherits from DataSet.

- **Row**

The Row element represents an integral set of column values that are a part of a result set.

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# III

## *Scripting in a Report Design*



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# 8

# Using Scripting in a Report Design

BIRT provides a powerful scripting capability with which a report developer can provide custom code to control various aspects of report generation.

---

## Overview of BIRT scripting

When developing a BIRT report using the Eclipse workbench, you can write custom event handlers in either Java or JavaScript. When developing a BIRT report using the Eclipse RCP, you can write only JavaScript event handlers. Whether you use Java or JavaScript, the set of event handlers that you can write is the same.

### Choosing between Java and JavaScript

Both Java and JavaScript have advantages and disadvantages when writing an event handler. For a developer who is familiar with only one of the two languages, the advantage of using the familiar language is obvious but for all others, the decision depends on the report requirements.

The advantages of using JavaScript to write an event handler include:

- Ease of adding a simple script for a particular event handler

Adding a JavaScript event handler to a report is less complicated than adding a Java event handler. When writing a JavaScript event handler, there is no need to create a Java environment in Eclipse or to learn the Eclipse Java development process. You are not required to specify a package, implement an interface, or know the parameters of the event handler you write.

To add a JavaScript event handler, you type the code for the event handler on the Script tab after selecting the name of the event handler from a drop-down list.

- Simpler language constructs, looser typing, and less strict language rules
- JavaScript is less demanding to code than Java due to simpler language constructs, looser typing, and less strict language rules.

The advantages of using Java to write an event handler include:

- Availability of the Eclipse Java development environment

The Eclipse Java development environment is very powerful, and includes such features as autocompletion, context sensitive help, keyboard shortcuts, parameter hints, and much more.

- Ease of finding and viewing event handlers

All the Java event handlers for a report exist in readily viewable Java files. By contrast, the JavaScript event handlers are embedded in the design and you can view only one handler at a time.

- Access to an integrated debugger

The integrated debugger only supports Java event handlers, not JavaScript event handlers.

## Using both Java and JavaScript to write event handlers

You are not limited to writing all event handlers in one language. You can write some in Java and others in JavaScript. If you have both a Java and a JavaScript event handler for the same event, BIRT uses the JavaScript handler.

---

## Understanding the event handler execution sequence

This section explains the order of execution of the BIRT event handlers.

### About event firing sequence dependency

The event firing sequence for ReportItem and ReportDesign events depends on whether the report is run in the BIRT Report Designer previewer or elsewhere, such as in the Web Viewer. When a report runs outside the previewer, the generation phase always completes before the presentation phase begins. When a report runs in the previewer, the generation and presentation phases are not distinctly separated. The `onCreate` event is a generation-time event and the `onRender` is a presentation-time event.

## About the onCreate and onRender firing sequence dependencies

When a report runs in the BIRT Report Designer previewer, all ReportItem onRender events fire immediately after their corresponding onCreate events. When a report runs outside the previewer, all onCreate events fire as a part of the generation process, while the onRender events fire as a part of the presentation process.

## About the ReportDesign firing sequence dependencies

When a report runs in the previewer, the ReportDesign initialize event fires only once, and is always the first event fired. When a report runs outside the previewer, the initialize event is fired twice, once at the beginning of the generation phase and once at the beginning of the presentation phase.

The ReportDesign beforeRender and afterRender events also fire at different times, depending on whether the report runs in the previewer. When a report runs in the previewer, beforeRender fires once near the start of the report, just after beforeFactory fires. The ReportDesign afterRender event fires once, near the completion of the report, just before the afterFactory event fires.

When the report runs outside the previewer, the ReportDesign beforeRender event fires once, immediately after the firing of the initialize event in the presentation phase. When the report runs outside the previewer, the ReportDesign afterRender event is the last event fired.

## About the pageBreak event

Table and Text objects have event handlers for handling page break events. The pageBreak event is fired in the presentation phase whenever a page break occurs.

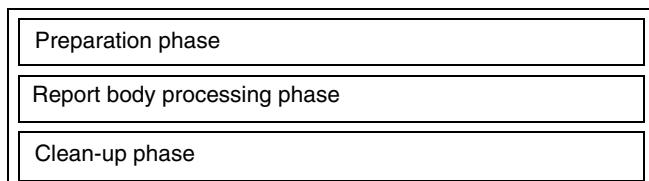
## Analysis of the execution sequence phases

The following diagrams present a more detailed view of the event handler execution sequence. The diagrams reflect the processing sequence when a report is run inside the previewer. When the presentation phase is separate from the generation phase, as it is when a report is run outside the previewer, an additional rendering sequence occurs. The rendering sequence is identical to the generation sequence with the following exceptions:

- There are no onPrepare events.
- There are no onCreate events.
- There are no data source or data set events because data is retrieved from the report document rather than the database.
- There are no beforeFactory and afterFactory events.

## Overview of the report execution process

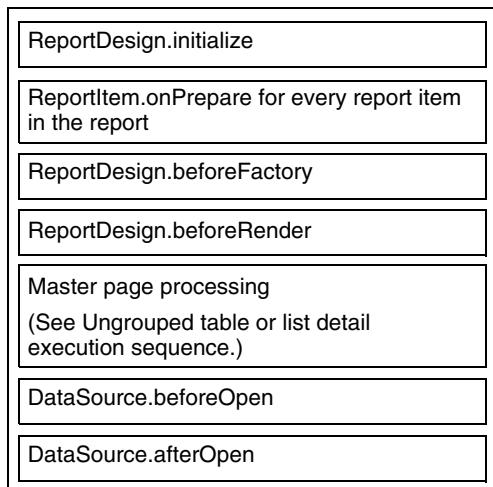
Figure 8-1 shows an overview of the report execution process. Each box in the diagram refers to another diagram that appears later in the chapter.



**Figure 8-1**     Method execution phases

### Preparation phase

The preparation phase includes initialization and master page creation, followed by opening the data source. The preparation phase is identical for all reports. Figure 8-2 illustrates the method execution sequence for the preparation phase.



**Figure 8-2**     Preparation phase

In Figure 8-2, the master page processing sequence depends on the structure of the report. A master page typically consists of one or more header and footer grids with rows, their cells, and the cell contents. The execution sequence for a master page parallels that for creating an ungrouped table, except that the master page contains no detail rows.

### Report body processing phase

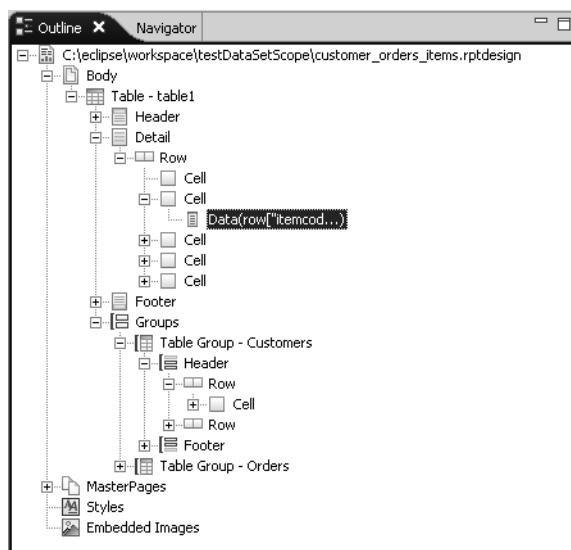
BIRT processes a report body by processing all the report items that are not contained in other report items. BIRT processes the items, going from left to right and proceeding a row at a time toward the bottom right. A report item that

is not contained in another report item is called a top-level report item. Every report has at least one top-level report item, usually a grid, a list, or a table. If a report has more than one top-level report item, BIRT processes the top-level items in order, from left to right and top to bottom.

For each top-level item, BIRT processes all the second-level items before proceeding to the next top-level item. A second-level report item is a report item that is contained within a top-level item. For example, a table contained in a grid is a second-level report item.

There can be any number of levels of report items. To see the level of a particular report item, examine the structure of the report design in Outline, as shown in Figure 8-3.

BIRT processes all items at all levels in an iterative fashion, following the same process at each level as it does for the top-level items.



**Figure 8-3** The Outline window, showing the level of a report item

Figure 8-4 illustrates the general report body processing phase.

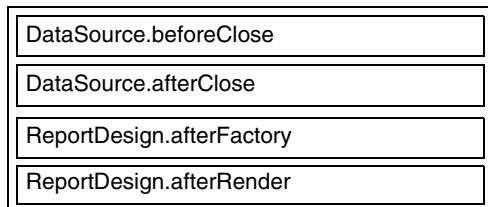
For every top-level report item, proceeding from left to right for each row, starting with the top row and proceeding to the bottom row:

Process the report item  
(See the diagrams for the individual report item types.)

**Figure 8-4** Report body processing phase

## Clean-up processing phase

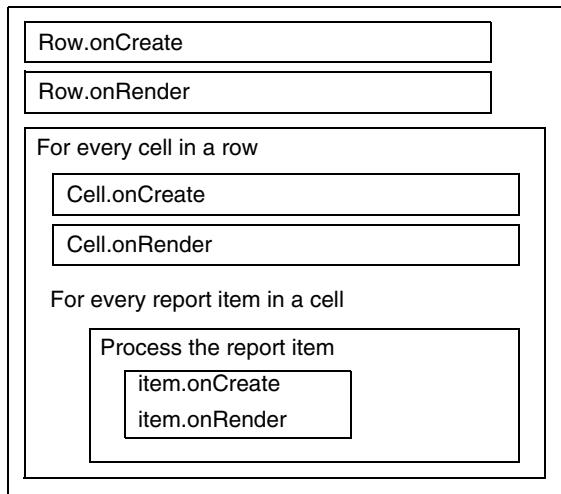
The clean-up phase consists of two methods that execute upon closing the data source, followed by a final method that executes after the generation phase. Figure 8-5 illustrates the method execution sequence for the clean-up phase.



**Figure 8-5** Clean-up phase

## Row execution sequence

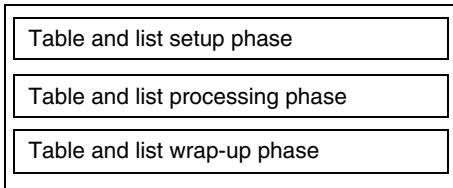
There are three kinds of rows: header, detail, and footer. Tables, lists, and groups have rows. BIRT processes all rows identically. Figure 8-6 illustrates the method execution sequence for a row.



**Figure 8-6** Row execution sequence

## Table and list method execution sequence

A list is the same as a table, except it only has a single cell in every row. BIRT processes tables and lists identically except that for a list, BIRT does not iterate through multiple cells. BIRT processes tables in three phases, the setup phase, the detail processing phase, and the wrap-up processing phase, as shown in Figure 8-7.



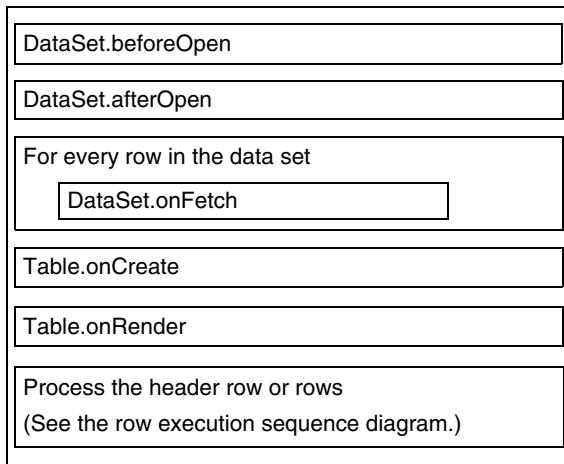
**Figure 8-7** Table and list execution sequence

The following sections describe each of the three table and list execution sequence sections.

### Table and list setup phase

The pre-table processing phase is the same for all tables, both grouped and ungrouped.

Figure 8-8 illustrates the method execution sequence for the pre-table processing phase.



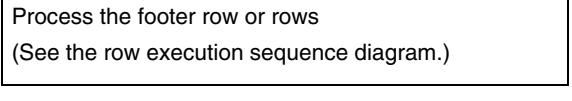
**Figure 8-8** Table and list setup execution sequence

### Table and list processing phase

The sequence for the table and list processing phase depends on whether the table or list is grouped. The diagram for an ungrouped table or list is shown in “Ungrouped table or list detail execution sequence,” later in this chapter. The diagram for a grouped table or list is shown in “Grouped table or list execution sequence,” later in this chapter.

### Table and list wrap-up phase

The post-table processing phase is the same for all tables, both grouped and ungrouped. Figure 8-9 illustrates the method execution sequence for the post-table processing phase.



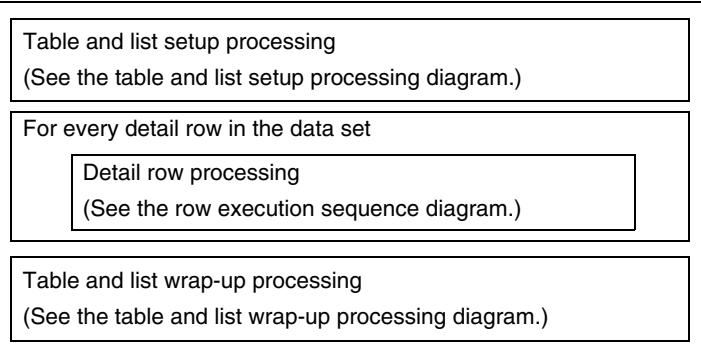
```
graph TD; A[Process the footer row or rows<br>(See the row execution sequence diagram.)]
```

**Figure 8-9** Table and list wrap-up execution sequence

### Ungrouped table or list detail execution sequence

A table or list with no grouping has a different sequence than one with grouping.

Figure 8-10 illustrates the execution sequence for a table or list without grouping.



```
graph TD; A[Table and list setup processing<br>(See the table and list setup processing diagram.)]; B[For every detail row in the data set<br>C[Detail row processing<br>(See the row execution sequence diagram.)]]; D[Table and list wrap-up processing<br>(See the table and list wrap-up processing diagram.)]
```

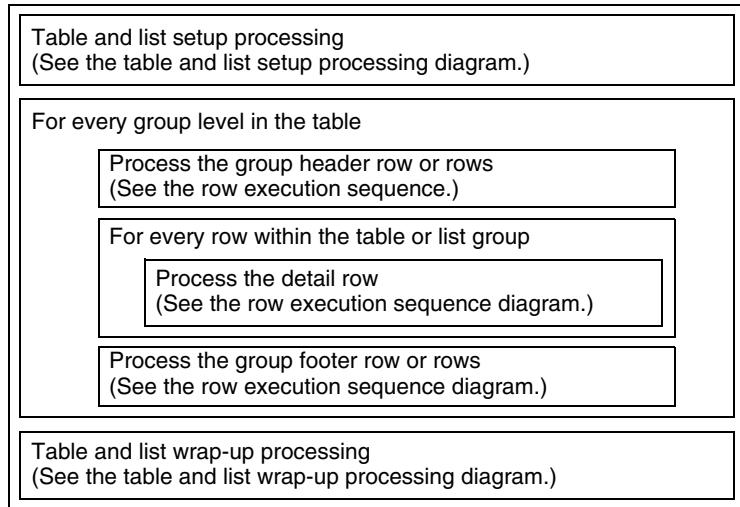
**Figure 8-10** Ungrouped table or list detail execution sequence

### Grouped table or list execution sequence

One of the differences between the processing sequence for a table or list with grouping and a table or list without grouping is that for a table with grouping, BIRT creates one ListingGroup item per group.

The ListingGroup element has three methods, onCreate, onRow, and onFinish, all of which are called one or more times when processing a grouped table or list. A ListingGroup is very similar to a table because it has one or more header rows, one or more detail rows, and one or more footer rows. BIRT processes grouping rows in the same way that it processes a table row.

Figure 8-11 illustrates the method execution sequence for a table that has groups.



**Figure 8-11** Grouped table execution sequence

If you need to verify the execution sequence of event handlers for a specific report, you can add logging code to your event handlers. For information about adding logging code, see the section on determining method execution sequence in the chapter on using JavaScript.

## About a report item event handler

You can write event handlers for all report item elements, such as Label and List. Table 8-1 describes the report item event handler methods.

**Table 8-1** Report item event handler methods

Method	Description
onPrepare()	The onPrepare event fires at the beginning of the generation phase, before data binding or expression evaluation occurs. This event is useful for changing the design prior to data binding or expression evaluation.
onCreate()	The onCreate event fires at the time the element is created in the generation phase, after it is bound to data. This event is useful for operations that depend on the data content of the element.
onRender()	The onRender event fires in the presentation phase. This event is useful for operations that depend on the type or format of the output document.

---

## About data source and data set event handlers

There are two kinds of data source elements and two kinds of data set elements. The data source elements are `DataSource` and `ScriptedDataSource`. The data set elements are `DataSet` and `ScriptedDataSet`. `ScriptedDataSource` and `ScriptedDataSet` elements are for non-ODA data sources. The events that BIRT fires for the ODA data sources are different from the events that it fires for non-ODA data sources.

### ODA data source events

You use the ODA `DataSource` events, `afterClose`, `afterOpen`, `beforeClose`, and `beforeOpen`, to perform operations that are not directly related to managing the data source. There is no requirement to implement the ODA data source event handler methods.

### Scripted data source events

You use the `ScriptedDataSource` events, `open` and `close`, to perform the actions of opening and closing the data source. You must implement the `ScriptedDataSource` event handlers.

### ODA data set events

As with the ODA data source events, you are not required to provide event handlers for the ODA data set events. The ODA data set events include `afterClose`, `afterOpen`, `beforeClose`, `beforeOpen`, and `onFetch`.

### Scripted data set events

You must handle the open, close, and fetch events of a `ScriptedDataSet` element. You use these events to open the data set, close the data set, and to fetch a data set row. In addition to the three `ScriptedDataSet` events for which you must provide handlers, there is one optional event, the `describe` event. You use the `describe` event handler to define dynamically generated columns.

---

## About ReportDesign event handlers

There are several events associated with the `ReportDesign` element. There are five `ReportDesign` element events that fire during the report generation process. These five events are not associated with a specific report item, data source, or data set. The `ReportDesign` events are `initialize`, `beforeFactory`, `afterFactory`, `beforeRender`, and `afterRender`.

The initialize event fires before any other event and the initialize event handler is therefore the most logical place to include initialization code.

The beforeFactory event fires before the generation phase. The afterFactory events fire after the generation phase. The beforeRender event fires before the presentation phase.

The afterRender events fire after the presentation phase. There are no specific guidelines for what kind of code to include in these event handlers. They are available for whatever purpose you have for them.

---

## Writing event handlers for charts

While a chart is a report item, it is a much more complex report item than any other. The set of events for a chart is much greater than for any other report item. As with all report items, chart scripting is supported in both Java and JavaScript.

### Chart events

All chart Java event handlers receive a chart script context object, IChartScriptContext. The chart script context object has methods to get the chart instance, the locale, and the external context. Some chart event handler methods have arguments of the type Chart, Series, Block, MarkerRange, ISeriesRenderer, GeneratedChartState, DataSet, and IDDataSetProcessor.

The chart has a different set of events for which you can write event handlers than the other report items. Table 8-2 lists the chart event handler methods and describes when they are called.

**Table 8-2**      Chart event handler methods

Method	Called
afterDataSetFilled(Series series, DataSet dataSet, IChartScriptContext icsc)	After populating the series data set
afterDrawAxisLabel(Axis axis, Label label, IChartScriptContext icsc)	After rendering each label on a given axis
afterDrawAxisTitle(Axis axis, Label label, IChartScriptContext icsc)	After rendering the title of an axis
afterDrawBlock(Block block, IChartScriptContext icsc)	After drawing each block
afterDrawDataPoint(DataPointHints dph, Fill fill, IChartScriptContext icsc)	After drawing each data point graphical representation or marker
afterDrawDataPointLabel(DataPointHints dph, Label label, IChartScriptContext icsc)	After rendering the label for each data point

*(continues)*

**Table 8-2** Chart event handler methods (*continued*)

Method	Called
afterDrawFittingCurve(CurveFitting cf, IChartScriptContext icsc)	After rendering curve fitting
afterDrawLegendEntry(Label label, IChartScriptContext icsc)	After drawing each entry in the legend
afterDrawMarkerLine(Axis axis, MarkerLine mLine, IChartScriptContext icsc)	After drawing each marker line in an axis
afterDrawMarkerRange(Axis axis, MarkerRange mRange, IChartScriptContext icsc)	After drawing each marker range in an axis
afterDrawSeries(Series series, ISeriesRenderer isr, IChartScriptContext icsc)	After rendering the series
afterDrawSeriesTitle(Series series, Label label, IChartScriptContext icsc)	After rendering the title of a series
afterGeneration(GeneratedChartState gcs, IChartScriptContext icsc)	After generation of a chart model to GeneratedChartState
afterRendering(GeneratedChartState gcs, IChartScriptContext icsc)	After the chart is rendered
beforeDataSetFilled(Series series, IDataSetProcessor idsp, IChartScriptContext icsc)	Before populating the series data set using the DataSetProcessor
beforeDrawAxisLabel(Axis axis, Label label, IChartScriptContext icsc)	Before rendering each label on a given axis
beforeDrawAxisTitle(Axis axis, Label label, IChartScriptContext icsc)	Before rendering the title of an axis
beforeDrawBlock(Block block, IChartScriptContext icsc)	Before drawing each block
beforeDrawDataPoint(DataPointHints dph, Fill fill, IChartScriptContext icsc)	Before drawing each datapoint graphical representation or marker
beforeDrawDataPointLabel(DataPointHints dph, Label label, IChartScriptContext icsc)	Before rendering the label for each datapoint
beforeDrawFittingCurve(CurveFitting cf, IChartScriptContext icsc)	Before rendering curve fitting
beforeDrawLegendEntry(Label label, IChartScriptContext icsc)	Before drawing each entry in the legend
beforeDrawMarkerLine(Axis axis, MarkerLine mLine, IChartScriptContext icsc)	Before drawing each marker line in an axis
beforeDrawMarkerRange(Axis axis, MarkerRange mRange, IChartScriptContext icsc)	Before drawing each marker range in an axis

**Table 8-2** Chart event handler methods (*continued*)

Method	Called
beforeDrawSeries(Series series, ISeriesRenderer isr, IChartScriptContext icsc)	Before rendering the series
beforeDrawSeriesTitle(Series series, Label label, IChartScriptContext icsc)	Before rendering the title of a series
beforeGeneration(Chart cm, IChartScriptContext icsc)	Before generation of a chart model to GeneratedChartState
beforeRendering(GeneratedChartState gcs, IChartScriptContext icsc)	Before the chart is rendered

## Chart script context

All chart event handler methods for both Java and JavaScript receive a chart script context argument in the form of a ChartScriptContext object. The chart script context object provides access to the chart instance object, the Locale and ULocale objects, a logging object, and an external context object. You can also use the ChartScriptContext object to set the external context, the chart instance, and the ULocale.

Table 8-3 lists the methods of the chart script context object and their functions.

**Table 8-3** Chart script context event handler methods

Method	Function
getChartInstance()	Returns the chart instance object.
getExternalContext()	Returns the IExternalContext object that provides access to a scriptable external object. External scriptable objects are defined in the user application.
getLocale()	Returns the Locale object for the locale currently in use.
getLogger()	Returns the Logger object, which can be used for logging messages and errors.
getULocale()	Returns the ULocale object for the locale currently in use.
setChartInstance(Chart)	Sets the chart instance.
setExternalContext(IExternalContext)	Sets the external context.
setLogger(Logger)	Sets the logger.
setULocale(ULocale)	Sets the ULocale.

## Chart instance object

As explained in the previous section, you get a chart instance object from the chart script context object. The chart instance object contains methods that provide chart modification functionality. Use the chart instance object to get properties, change properties, and test properties.

### Chart instance getter methods

The chart instance getter methods allow you to get various properties of a chart.

Table 8-4 lists the chart instance getter methods and the property values they return.

**Table 8-4**      Chart instance getter methods

Method	Gets
getBlock()	The value of the Block containment reference
getDescription()	The value of the Description containment reference
getDimension()	The value of the Dimension attribute
getExtendedProperties()	The value of the Extended Properties containment reference list
getGridColumnCount()	The value of the Grid Column Count attribute
getInteractivity()	The value of the Interactivity containment reference
getLegend()	The Legend block
getPlot()	The Plot block
getSampleData()	The value of the Sample Data containment reference
getScript()	The value of the Script attribute
getSeriesForLegend()	An array of series whose captions or markers are rendered in the Legend
getSeriesThickness()	The value of the Series Thickness attribute
getStyles()	The value of the Styles containment reference list
getSubType()	The value of the Sub Type attribute
getTitle()	The Title block for the chart
getType()	The value of the Type attribute
getUnits()	The value of the Units attribute
getVersion()	The value of the Version attribute

## Chart instance setter methods

The chart instance setter methods allow you to set various properties of a chart. Table 8-5 lists the chart instance setter methods and the values they set.

**Table 8-5**      Chart instance setter methods

Method	Sets
setBlock(Block value)	The value of the Block containment reference
setDescription(Text value)	The value of the Description containment reference
setDimension(Chart Dimension value)	The value of the Dimension attribute
setGridColumnCount(int value)	The value of the GridColumnCount attribute
setInteractivity(Interactivity value)	The value of the Interactivity containment reference
setSampleData( )	The value of the Sample Data containment reference
setScript( )	The value of the Script attribute
setSeriesThickness( )	The value of the Series Thickness attribute
setSubType( )	The value of the Sub Type attribute
setType( )	The value of the Type attribute
setUnits( )	The value of the Units attribute
setVersion( )	The value of the Version attribute

## Writing a Java chart event handler

Writing a Java chart event handler is not different from writing a Java event handler for any other kind of report item. For more information about writing Java event handlers, see Chapter 10, “Using Java to Write an Event Handler.”

## Writing a JavaScript chart event handler

The process of writing a JavaScript chart event handler differs from the process of writing an event handler for other report items. The primary difference is that the Script tab does not contain a selectable list of chart events. For chart events, you must include every event handler script for the chart in one place.

The Script tab of the BIRT Report Designer for a chart contains a set of function stubs to assist you in writing a chart event handler. The set of stubs is a subset of the chart events, consisting only of the before events, such as `beforeDataSetFilled()`. Figure 8-12 shows the Script tab as it appears before any event handlers have been typed.

```
BarChartWithinTableGroup.rptdesign X
Reset Method | Chart

/**
 * Called before populating the series dataset using the DataSetProcessor.
 *
 * @param series
 *          Series
 * @param dataSetProcessor
 *          DataSetProcessor
 * @param context
 *          IChartScriptContext
 */
//function beforeDataSetFilled( series, dataSetProcessor, context ){}

/**
 * Called before generation of chart model to GeneratedChartState.
 *
 * @param chart
 *          Chart Model
 * @param context
 *          IChartScriptContext
 */

```

**Figure 8-12**     Script tab

The before events are the most common events to script. If you need to write an after event handler, such as afterDataSetFilled(), you can find the signature of the event handler earlier in this chapter or by viewing the interface IChartEventHandler in the Chart Engine API Reference in the BIRT online help.

To write handler code for one of the before chart events, uncomment the appropriate function statement in the Script tab and type the code between the parentheses, as shown in Figure 8-13.

```
BarChartWithinTableGroup.rptdesign X
Reset Method | Chart

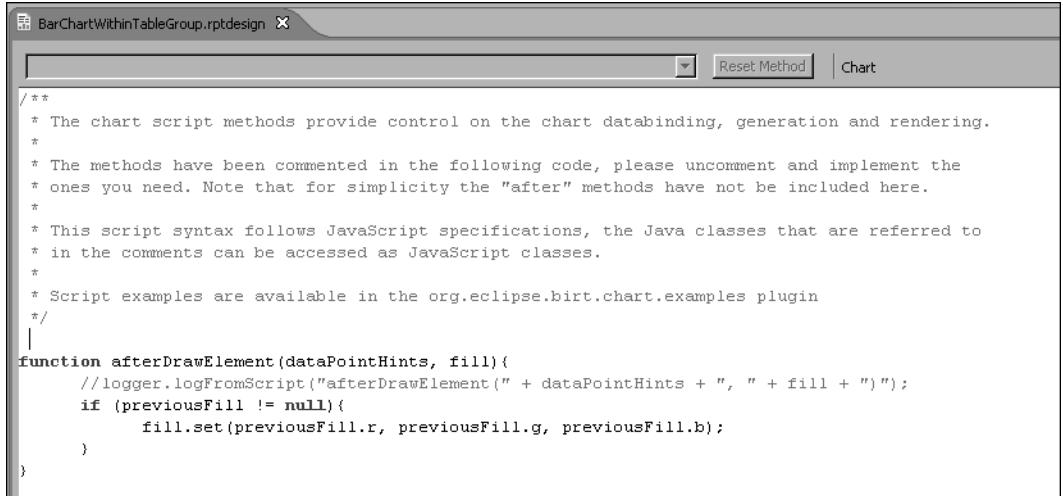
/**
 * Called before populating the series dataset using the DataSetProcessor.
 *
 * @param series
 *          Series
 * @param dataSetProcessor
 *          DataSetProcessor
 * @param context
 *          IChartScriptContext
 */
//function beforeDataSetFilled( series, dataSetProcessor, context ){
function beforeDataSetFilled( series, dataSetProcessor, context ){
    logger.logFromScript("Logging before data set filled");
}


```

**Figure 8-13**     Chart event handler code with a standard function declaration

If you want to write an event handler that does not have a stub in the Script tab, you must type the function declaration yourself. When typing a new function declaration, follow the format of the function declarations in the stubs.

Figure 8-14 shows the entry of an afterDrawElement( ) script.



```
BarChartWithinTableGroup.rptdesign X
Reset Method | Chart

/*
 * The chart script methods provide control on the chart databinding, generation and rendering.
 *
 * The methods have been commented in the following code, please uncomment and implement the
 * ones you need. Note that for simplicity the "after" methods have not be included here.
 *
 * This script syntax follows JavaScript specifications, the Java classes that are referred to
 * in the comments can be accessed as JavaScript classes.
 *
 * Script examples are available in the org.eclipse.birt.chart.examples plugin
 */
function afterDrawElement(dataPointHints, fill){
    //logger.logFromScript("afterDrawElement(" + dataPointHints + ", " + fill + ")");
    if (previousFill != null){
        fill.set(previousFill.r, previousFill.g, previousFill.b);
    }
}
```

**Figure 8-14**    Chart event handler code with a custom function declaration

---

## Getting a dynamic image from a Microsoft Access database

Microsoft Access stores an image as an array of image bytes preceded by 78 bytes of header information. BIRT does not use the header information. To get a dynamic image from an Access database, you must copy the image data from the database field into a Java array of type byte. You perform this copy operation in the dynamic image expression.

The following script is an example of how to copy the image data from the Access image field into a byte array that BIRT can use:

```
var picBytes = row["Picture"];
var offset = 78;
var lengthOfImage = picBytes.length - offset;
var imgBytes =
    java.lang.reflect.Array.newInstance(java.lang.Byte.TYPE,
    lengthOfImage);
java.lang.System.arraycopy(picBytes, offset, imgBytes, 0,
    lengthOfImage);
imgBytes;
```

*This page intentionally left blank*

# 9

## Using JavaScript to Write an Event Handler

BIRT scripting is based on the Mozilla Rhino implementation of JavaScript, also called ECMAScript. Rhino implements ECMAScript version 1.5 as described in the ECMA standard ECMA-262 version 3. The complete specification for Rhino is located at:

[http://www.ecma-international.org/publications/standards/  
Ecma-262.htm](http://www.ecma-international.org/publications/standards/Ecma-262.htm).

---

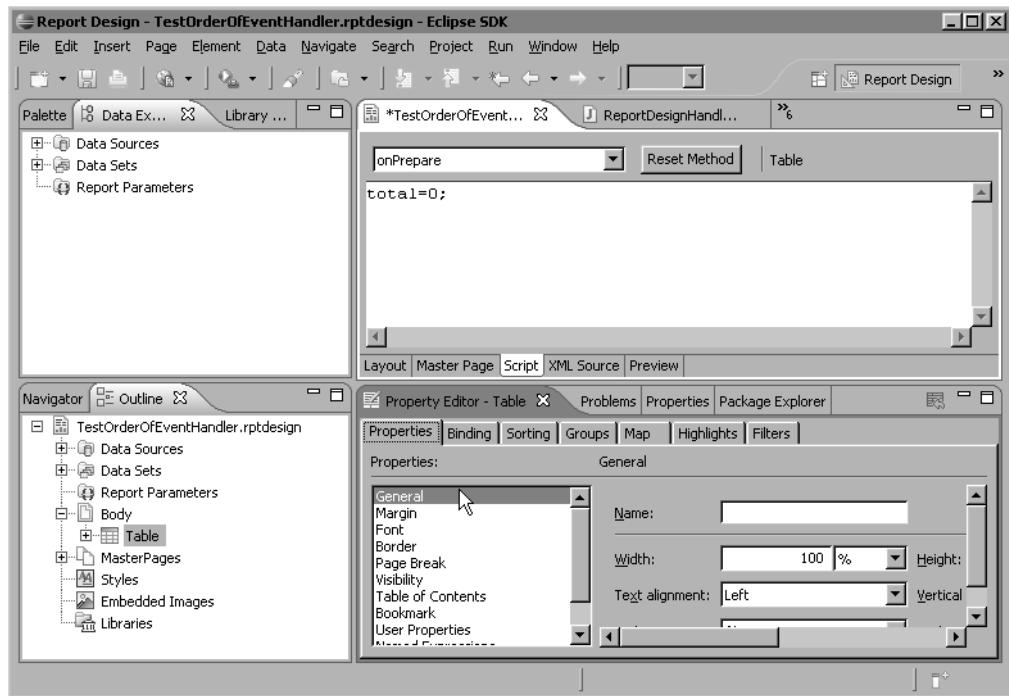
### Using BIRT Report Designer to enter a JavaScript event handler

You can use BIRT Report Designer to enter a JavaScript event handler and associate it with a specific event for a specific element.

#### How to use BIRT Report Designer to enter a JavaScript event handler

- 1 In Outline, select the report element, data source, or data set for which you want to write an event handler.
- 2 Choose the Script tab.
- 3 Choose an event handler from the drop-down list of methods.
- 4 Enter the event handler code in the script editor.

Figure 9-1 demonstrates entering a line of code in the `onPrepare()` method of a Table element.



**Figure 9-1** Code entry for the onPrepare( ) method

## Creating and using a global variable

JavaScript has global variables and local variables. A local variable can only be accessed in the scope of the method in which it is created. You use the var identifier to create a local variable in JavaScript, as shown in the following line of code:

```
var localCounter = 0;
```

To create a global variable, you omit the var identifier, as shown in the following line of code:

```
globalCounter = 0;
```

When you create a global variable in JavaScript, that variable is visible to all other JavaScript code that executes in the same process. For example, you can use a global variable to count the detail rows in a table by first creating a global variable in the onCreate( ) method of the table, as shown in the following line of code:

```
rowCount=0;
```

Since rowCount is global, the onCreate( ) method of the detail row can access and increment it, as shown in the following line of code:

```
rowCount++;
```

## Understanding execution phases and processes

As explained in the scripting overview chapter, there are three BIRT execution phases: the preparation phase, the generation phase, and the presentation phase. However, there can be either one or two execution processes. When a report is run in the BIRT Report Designer previewer, there is only one execution process. There are two execution processes when the report is run in the interactive viewer or when the report is deployed to an application server. The first process, called the factory process, contains the preparation phase and the generation phase. The second execution process, called the render process, contains only the presentation phase. The render process can occur at a much later time than the factory process and possibly on a different machine.

Because variables are only visible in the process in which they were created, it is important to know which event handlers run in which process. It is also important to be aware that code that works when the report is run in the previewer might not work at run time if there is a render process dependency on a variable created in the factory process.

The event handlers that run in the factory process, in the order executed, include:

- ReportDesign.initialize()
- onPrepare() methods for every report item
- ReportDesign.beforeFactory()
- DataSource.beforeOpen()
- DataSource.afterOpen()
- DataSet.beforeOpen()
- DataSet.afterOpen()
- DataSet.onFetch()
- onCreate() methods for every report item
- DataSet.beforeClose()
- DataSet.afterClose()
- DataSource.beforeClose()
- DataSource.afterClose()
- ReportDesign.afterFactory()

The event handlers that run in the render process, in the order executed, include:

- ReportDesign.initialize()
- ReportDesign.beforeRender()
- onRender() methods for every report item
- ReportDesign.beforeFactory()
- ReportDesign.afterRender()

It is worth noting that ReportDesign.initialize() runs in both processes.

---

## Using the reportContext object

Almost every event handler has access to an object called the reportContext object. The four exceptions are the open() and close() event handlers for ScriptedDataSource and ScriptedDataSet. Table 9-1 lists commonly used reportContext object methods.

**Table 9-1** reportContext object methods

Method	Task
deleteGlobalVariable()	Deletes a global variable created using setGlobalVariable()
deletePersistentGlobalVariable()	Deletes a persistent global variable created using setPersistentGlobalVariable()
getAppContext()	Returns the application context
getConfigVariableValue()	Returns the value of a config variable
getGlobalVariable()	Returns a global variable created using setGlobalVariable()
getHttpServletRequest()	Returns the HTTP servlet request object
getLocale()	Returns the current locale
getMessage()	Returns a localized message from the localization resource file
getOutputFormat()	Returns the format in which the report is emitted, either html or pdf
getParameterValue()	Returns a parameter value
getPersistentGlobalVariable()	Returns a persistent global variable created using setPersistentGlobalVariable()
setGlobalVariable()	Creates a global variable that can be accessed with getGlobalVariable()

**Table 9-1** reportContext object methods (*continued*)

Method	Task
setParameterValue( )	Sets the value of a named parameter
setPersistentGlobalVariable( )	Creates a persistent global variable that can be accessed using getPersistentGlobalVariable( )

## Passing a variable between processes

Although a global JavaScript variable cannot be passed between processes, there is a way to pass a variable from the factory process to the render process. The setPersistentGlobalVariable( ) method of the report context object creates a variable that can be accessed using the getPersistentGlobalVariable( ) method. The only restriction on the variable is that it must be a serializable Java object.

## Getting information from an HTTP request object

The HTTP servlet request object contains various methods to retrieve information about the request to run the report. One useful method of the HTTP request object gets the query string that follows the path in the request URL. The query string contains all the parameters of the request. By parsing the query string, your code can extract the parameters in the request URL to conditionally determine the report output. This feature can be used to pass in a user ID, for example, or to set or override a report parameter.

The following code gets the query string:

```
importPackage( Packages.java.util );  
httpServletReq = reportContext.getHttpServletRequest( );  
formatStr=httpServletReq.getQueryString( );
```

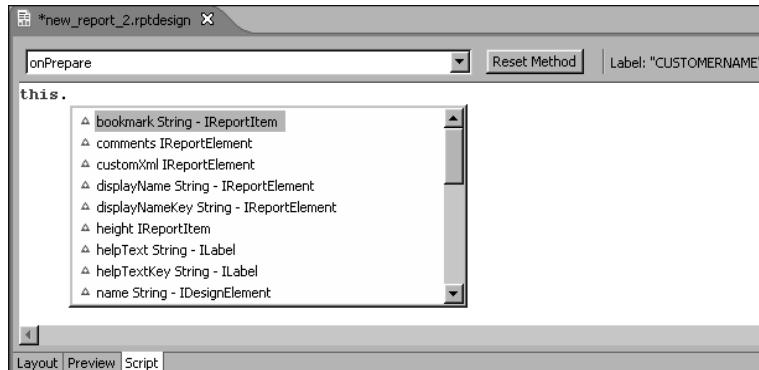
---

## Using the this object

Every JavaScript event handler is associated with a particular ROM element, such as a report item, a data source, a data set, or the report itself. Most report elements have properties that an event handler can access and, in some cases, change. Many report elements also have functions that you can call. A JavaScript event handler can access these properties and functions through a special object called the this object.

## Using the this object's methods

The this object represents the element for which the event handler handles events. To use the this object, type the word, this, followed by a period in the script window for the event handler you are writing. At the time you type the period, a window pops up containing a scrollable list of all the properties and functions of the element, as shown in Figure 9-2.



**Figure 9-2** Using the this object to display a list of functions and properties

If the pop-up window disappears at any time, delete the period and re-enter it. Scroll down using the arrow keys or the scroll bar controls and press Enter or double-click when the property or function you want is highlighted.

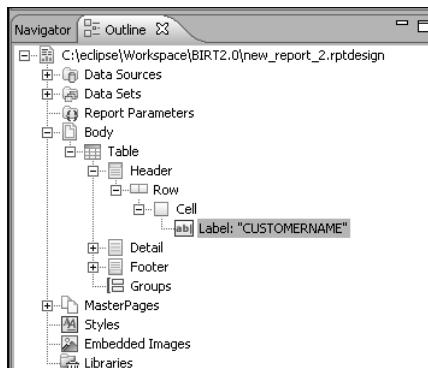
Using the pop-up window to select a method or property can also be used for other objects. A procedure later in this chapter steps you through setting the background color of a label to yellow.

## Using the this object to set the property of a report item

The following procedure assumes that you have a BIRT report that contains a label. The procedure sets the label's background color to yellow. The general process explained in this procedure is not specific to the label report item, however. You modify all report item event handlers in the same general way.

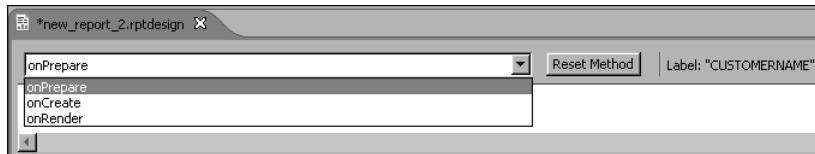
### How to set a property of a report item using JavaScript

- 1 Select the label whose color you want to change by navigating the Outline view and selecting the appropriate report item, as shown in Figure 9-3.



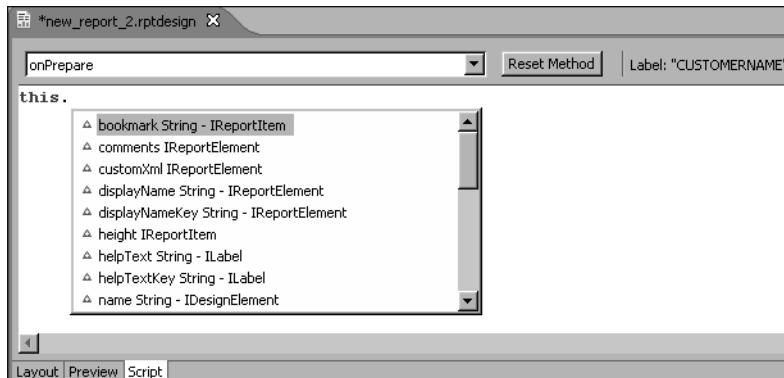
**Figure 9-3** Selecting a report item to modify

- 2** Select onPrepare from the drop-down list in the Script window, as shown in Figure 9-4.



**Figure 9-4** Selecting onPrepare()

- 3** Enter the word this, followed by a period in the onPrepare script window, as shown in Figure 9-5.



**Figure 9-5** Using the this object

- 4** Select the getStyle( ) method from the scrollable list of properties and functions.

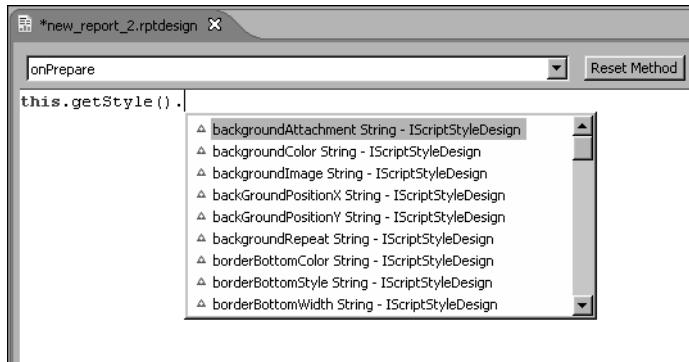
The onPrepare script window appears as shown in Figure 9-6.



**Figure 9-6** The onPrepare script window

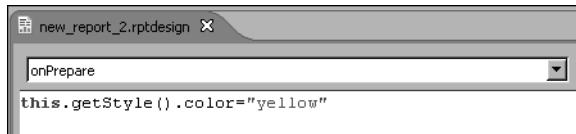
- 5** Move the cursor to the end of the line in the onPrepare script window and type a period.

The scrollable list of properties and functions of the Style element appears, as shown in Figure 9-7.



**Figure 9-7** Properties and functions of the Style element

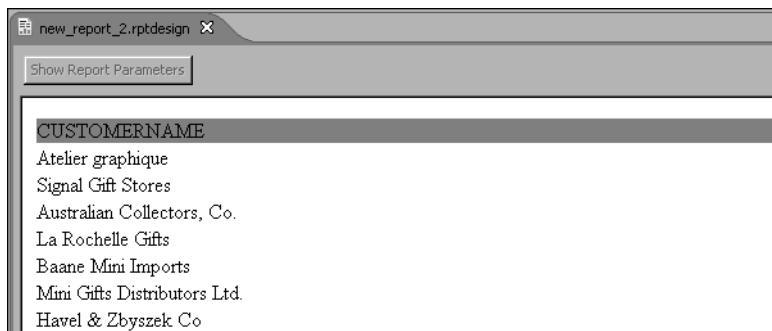
- 6 Select backgroundColor from the list of Style properties and functions.
- 7 Complete the line of JavaScript in the onPrepare script window by appending ="yellow", as shown in Figure 9-8.



**Figure 9-8** Changing the color of an element

- 8 Choose the Preview tab to see the effect of the onPrepare event handler script.

The label appears in the report with a yellow background, as shown in Figure 9-9.



**Figure 9-9** Preview of the color change

---

## Using the row object

The row object provides access to the columns of the current row from within the `DataSet.onFetch( )` method. You can retrieve the value of any column, using the column name in a statement similar to the following examples:

```
col1Value = row["custNum"];  
col1Value = row.custNum;
```

You can only index the column position with the column name if the name is a valid JavaScript name with no spaces or special characters. Alternatively, you can use the column alias if the alias is a valid JavaScript name.

You can also get a column value by numerically indexing the column position, as shown in the following statement:

```
col1Value = row[1];
```

When you index the column position numerically, the number inside the brackets is the position of the column, beginning with 1. You can retrieve the row number with `row[0]`.

Although you use array syntax to access the row object in JavaScript, this object is not a JavaScript array. For this reason, you cannot use JavaScript array properties, such as `length`, with the row object.

---

## Getting column information

The `DataSet` object has a method called `getColumnMetaData( )`, which returns an `IColumnMetaData` object. The `IColumnMetaData` class has methods that provide information about the columns in a data set, as shown in Table 9-2.

**Table 9-2** Methods of the `IColumnMetaData` class

Method	Returns
<code>getColumnAlias( )</code>	The alias of the specified column.
<code>getColumnCount( )</code>	The number of columns in a row of the result set.
<code>getColumnLabel( )</code>	The column label.
<code>getColumnName( )</code>	The column name at the specified index.

*(continues)*

**Table 9-2** Methods of the IColumnMetaData class (*continued*)

Method	Returns
getColumnNativeTypeName( )	One of the following data types: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ BOOLEAN</li><li>■ DATETIME</li><li>■ DECIMAL</li><li>■ FLOAT</li><li>■ INTEGER</li><li>■ STRING</li></ul> The data type is null if the column is a computed field or if the type is not known.
getColumnType( )	The data type of the column at the specified index.
getColumnTypeName()	The data type name of the column at the specified index.
isComputedColumn( )	True or false, depending on whether the column is a computed field or not.

You get the IColumnMetaData object from the dataSet object, as shown in the following statement:

```
columnMetaData = this.getColumnMetaData( );
```

You can use the count of columns to iterate through all the columns in the data set, as shown in the following example:

```
colCount = columnMetaData.getColumnCount( );
for ( i = 0; i < colCount; i++ )
{
    pw.println( "Column val for col position " + i + " = " +
                row[i] );
    pw.println( "Column name for col position " + i + " = " +
                columnDefinitions[i].name );
}
```

---

## Getting and altering the query string

You get the text of the query in any DataSet event handler as shown in the following example:

```
query = this.queryText;
```

You can modify a query in the DataSet beforeOpen( ) event handler by setting the value of the queryText string. To change the query, set the queryText string to a valid SQL query, as shown in the following example:

```
queryText = "select * from CLASSICMODELS.CUSTOMERS WHERE  
CLASSICMODELS.CUSTOMERS.CUSTOMERNUMBER BETWEEN 470 AND 490";
```

One advantage of dynamically altering the query is that you can use business logic to determine the proper query. This approach can be more flexible than using parameters.

---

## Getting a parameter value

A script can get the value of a report parameter by passing the name of the parameter to the getParameterValue( ) method of the reportContext object. The following statement gets the value of the UserID parameter:

```
userID = reportContext.getParameterValue( "UserID" );
```

---

## Changing the connection properties of a data source

You can change the run-time connection properties of a data source by accessing the extensionProperties array of the DataSource object. The ODA extension defines the list of connection properties that can be set at run time. Table 9-3 describes the JDBC data source properties that affect the connection at run time.

**Table 9-3** JDBC data source run-time connection properties

Property	Description
odaUser	The login user name
odaPassword	The login password
odaURL	The URL that identifies the data source
odaDriverClass	The driver class for accessing the data source

To change these properties, add code similar to the following statements in the DataSource.beforeOpen method:

```
extensionProperties.odaUser = "JoeUser";  
extensionProperties.odaPassword = "openSesame";  
extensionProperties.odaURL = "jdbc:my_data_source:xxx";  
extensionProperties.odaDriverClass =  
"com.companyb.jdbc.Driver";
```

# Determining method execution sequence

You can determine the sequence of method execution by writing code that generates a file containing a line for every method that you want to track.

To create an output file containing a sequence of method execution, include initialization code in the ReportDesign.initialize method and finalization code in the ReportDesign.afterFactory method. In each method that you want to track, add code to write a line of text to the output file. It is easier to write the code in JavaScript than Java, but it is possible to write analogous code in Java.

The following sections show you how to use JavaScript to determine method execution sequence.

## Providing the ReportDesign.initialize code

The following code in the ReportDesign.initialize method creates a file on your hard drive and adds one line to the file.

```
importPackage( Packages.java.io );
fos = new java.io.FileOutputStream( "c:\\logFile.txt" );
printWriter = new java.io.PrintWriter( fos );
printWriter.println( "ReportDesign.initialize" );
```

The preceding code does the following tasks:

- Imports the Java package, java.io
- Creates a file output stream for the file you want to create
- Creates a PrintWriter object that every method can use to track method execution sequence

### How to provide code for the ReportDesign.initialize method

You provide code for the ReportDesign.initialize method by performing the following steps:

- 1 Choose the Script tab.
- 2 Choose the Outline view.
- 3 In Outline, select the top line, as shown in Figure 9-10.

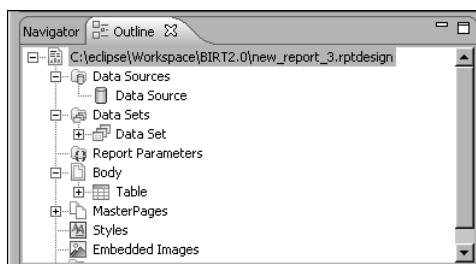
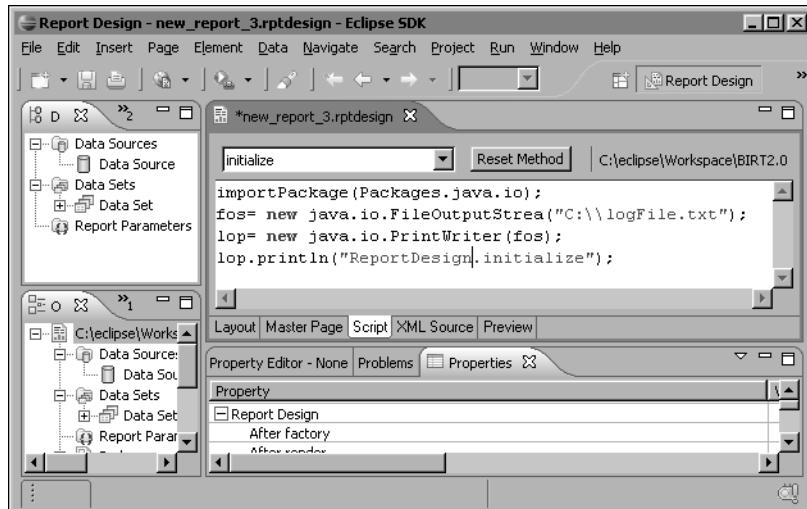


Figure 9-10 Selecting the report design

**4** In Script, select the Initialize( ) method.

**5** Type the code into the script editor.

The BIRT report designer appears, as shown in Figure 9-11.



**Figure 9-11** Providing ReportDesign.initialize code

## Providing the code for the methods you want to track

For every method that you want to track, provide a single statement generating a line of output to your log file, as shown in the following statement:

```
printWriter.println( "Table.onRow" );
```

To provide code for a report item method you want to track, first select the appropriate object from Outline and select the appropriate method from the method selection list. Then use the same steps for entering code into a method, as described in the preceding section.

To provide code for a data set or the data source method, select the appropriate data source or data set from Data Explorer before selecting the method you want to track.

## Providing the ReportDesign.afterFactory code

The following statement in the ReportDesign.afterFactory method closes the file.

```
printWriter.close( );
```

Using this method flushes all the buffers and ensures that all method output appears in the file.

To provide the ReportDesign.afterFactory code, select the top line of the outline and select the afterFactory method on the code page.

---

## Tutorial 1: Writing an event handler in JavaScript

This tutorial provides instructions for writing a set of event handlers. The tutorial assumes that you have a basic report design based on the Classic Models, Inc. sample database. The only requirement of the starting report design is that it contains a table of customers with a column for the customer name. In this tutorial you count the customers whose names contain the string "Mini" and display the result in a pop-up window.

In this tutorial, you perform the following tasks:

- Open the report design.
- Create and initialize a counter in the Table.onCreate( ) method.
- Conditionally increment the counter in the Row.onCreate( ) method.
- Display the result, using the ReportDesign.afterFactory( ) method.

### Task 1: Open the report design

Open a report design that uses the Classic Car sample database and displays a table of customer names.

- 1 If necessary, open Navigator by choosing Window→Show View→Navigator.
- 2 Double-click the appropriate report design. The file opens in the layout editor, as shown in Figure 9-12.

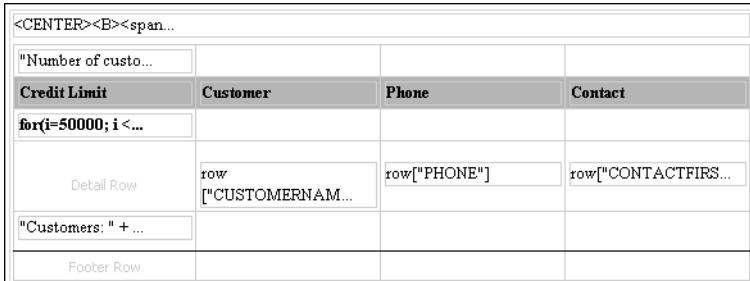


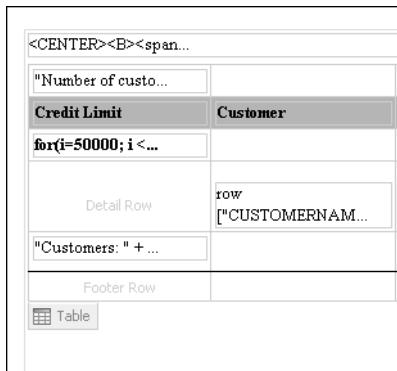
Figure 9-12 Report design in the layout editor

### Task 2: Create and initialize a counter in the Table.onCreate( ) method

In order to count the number of customers whose names contain the string "Mini," you must first set a persistent global variable to zero. The Table.onCreate( ) method is the most appropriate place to do this task because

Table.onCreate( ) executes before any rows are retrieved. You conditionally increment this counter in the Row.onCreate( ) method.

- 1 In Layout, select the table by placing the cursor near the bottom-left corner of the table. The table icon appears, as shown in Figure 9-13.



**Figure 9-13** Table icon in the layout editor

- 2 Choose the Script tab. The script window appears, as shown in Figure 9-14.



**Figure 9-14** Script window

- 3 Type the following line of code in the script window for the onCreate( ) method:

```
reportContext.setPersistentGlobalVariable("cmKey",  
    new java.lang.Integer("0"));
```

- 4 To run the report and verify that the code did not create any errors, choose Preview.
- 5 Scroll to the bottom of the report, where JavaScript error messages appear. If there are no errors, the report appears, as shown in Figure 9-15.

If you see an error message, you may have typed a statement incorrectly. If so, go back to the script window, select the method you just modified, correct the error, and choose Preview again.

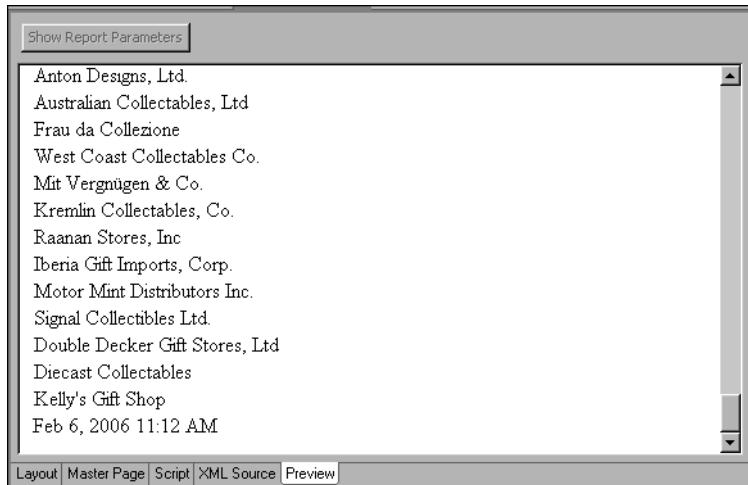


Figure 9-15 Report preview

### Task 3: Conditionally increment the counter in the Row.onCreate( ) method

To count the number of customers with the string “Mini” in their names, you must examine each customer’s name and add one to the counter for every occurrence. A logical place to do this task is in the Row.onCreate( ) method, which is executed upon every retrieval of a row of data from the data source.

- 1 In Layout, select the row and then choose Script.
- 2 Pull down the list of methods at the top of the script window and select onCreate, as shown in Figure 9-16.

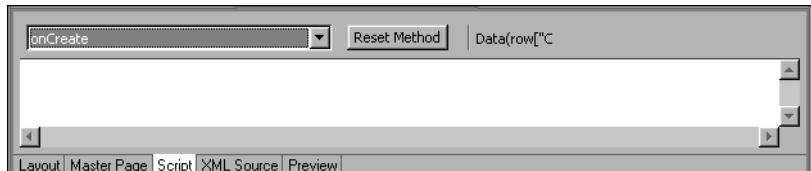


Figure 9-16 onCreate( ) in the Script window

- 3 Enter the following line of JavaScript code in the script window:

```
row_data = this.getRowData();
```

Notice that when you enter the period after this, a pop-up appears containing all the available methods and properties, including getRowData. This line of code gets an instance of IRowData. You use the method, getExpressionValue( ), on IRowData to get the contents of a column of the row.

- 4** Type the following line of JavaScript below the line you just entered:

```
CustName=row_data.getExpressionValue( "row[CUSTOMERNAME]" );
```

This line of code returns the contents of the table column that comes from the CUSTOMERNAME column in the data set.

- 5** Type the following lines of code to conditionally increment the persistent global variable you created in Task 2: “Create and initialize a counter in the Table.onCreate() method.”

```
if( CustName.indexOf( "Mini" ) != -1 ){
    cnt = reportContext.getPersistentGlobalVariable("cmKey");
    reportContext.setPersistentGlobalVariable("cmKey",
        new java.lang.Integer(cnt.intValue() + 1) );
}
```

You can use the JavaScript palette to insert each of the following elements in the preceding line:

- `indexOf()`

Select Native (JavaScript) Objects→String Functions→`indexOf()`

- `!=` and `+=`

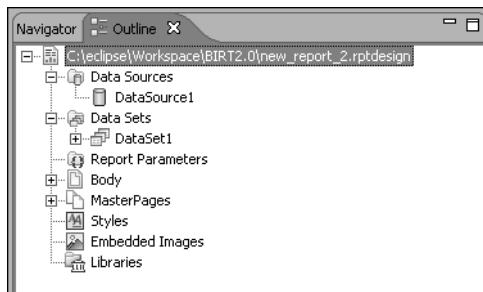
Select Operators→Comparison→`!=` and Operators→Assignment→`+=`

- 6** Choose Preview to run the report again to verify that the code you entered did not create any errors.

## Task 4: Display the result, using the ReportDesign.afterFactory( ) method

To display the count of customers with the string “Mini” in their names, you insert code in a method that runs after the processing of all the rows in the table. One logical place for this code is in the ReportDesign.afterFactory( ) method.

- 1** In Outline, select the report design, as shown in Figure 9-17.



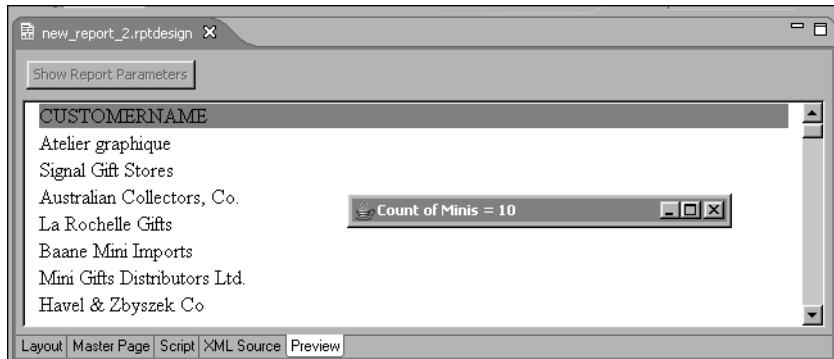
**Figure 9-17** Selecting the report design in Outline

- 2** Select the `afterFactory( )` method from the script window drop-down list.

- 3** Type the following code into the afterFactory( ) method:

```
importPackage( Packages.java.lang );
countOfMinis = reportContext.getPersistentGlobalVariable(
    "cmKey").intValue();
frame = new JFrame( "Count of Minis = " + countOfMinis );
frame.setBounds( 310, 220, 300, 20 );
frame.show( );
```

- 4** Select Preview to see the results. If there were no errors in the code, you see a report similar to the one in Figure 9-18.



**Figure 9-18** Result of changing the afterFactory( ) method

If you do not see the Count of Minis window, look for it behind the Eclipse window. If the Count of Minis window does not appear, the most likely reason is a scripting error caused by an error in one of your code entries. If you suspect that a scripting error has occurred, scroll to the bottom of the report, where all scripting error messages appear. In most situations, there is a brief error message next to a plus sign ( + ). The plus sign indicates that there is a more detailed error message that you can view. To expand the brief error message, choose the plus sign. Scroll down to see the more detailed error message.

---

## Calling Java from JavaScript

Rhino provides excellent integration with Java classes, allowing BIRT scripts to work seamlessly with business logic written in Java. Wrapping Java in JavaScript allows the developer to write powerful scripts quickly by leveraging both internal and external libraries of existing Java code. You can use static methods, non-static methods, and static constants of a Java class.

### Understanding the Packages object

The Packages object is the JavaScript gateway to the Java classes. It is a top-level Rhino object that contains properties for every top-level Java package, such as java and com. Packages also contains a property for every package that it finds

in its classpath. You use Packages to access a Java class for which Packages has a property by preceding the class name with Packages, as shown in the following statement:

```
var nc = new Packages(javax.swing.JFrame( "MyFrame" ) ;
```

You can also use Packages to reference a Java class that is not a part of a package, as shown in the following statement:

```
var nc = new Packages.NumberConversion( );
```

For BIRT to find your custom Java class or package, you must place it in the BIRT classpath, as discussed later in this chapter.

## Understanding the importPackage method

You can avoid writing a fully qualified reference to a Java class by using the top-level Rhino method importPackage(). The importPackage() method functions like a Java import statement. Use the importPackage() method to specify one or more Java packages that contain the Java classes that you need to access, as shown in the following example:

```
importPackage( Packages.java.io, Packages(javax.swing) );
```

You must prepend Packages to the name of each package. After the first time BIRT executes a method containing the importPackage() method, the specified packages are available to all succeeding scripts. For this reason, you should include the importPackage() method in the ReportDesign.initialize method, which is always the first method that BIRT executes.

Java imports java.lang.\* implicitly. Rhino, on the other hand, does not import java.lang.\* implicitly because JavaScript has several top-level objects with the same names as some classes defined in the java.lang package. These classes include Boolean, Math, Number, Object, and String. Importing java.lang causes a name collision with the JavaScript objects of the same name. For this reason, you should avoid using importPackage() to import java.lang.

## Using a Java class

To use a Java class in a BIRT script, you set a JavaScript object equal to the Java object. You then call the Java class methods on the JavaScript object. The following example creates a Java Swing frame and sets the JavaScript object named frame to the Java JFrame object. Then the code calls the setBounds() and show() methods directly on the JavaScript object.

```
importPackage( Packages(javax.swing) );
frame = new JFrame( "My Frame" );
frame.setBounds( 300, 300, 300, 20 );
frame.show( );
```

The effect of this code example is to display a Java window on your desktop containing the title, My Frame.

## Placing your Java classes where BIRT can find them

For the BIRT report viewer to find your Java classes, the classes must be in a folder under:

```
$ECLIPSE_INSTALL\plugins\org.eclipse.birt.report  
    .viewer_*\birt\WEB-INF\classes
```

You can put a JAR file and individual classes at this location. If your Java class is a part of a package, you must create a hierarchy of folders under the classes folder that represents the package hierarchy. For example, if your Java class is in the com.acme.businessLogic package, your class must be in:

```
$ECLIPSE_INSTALL\plugins\org.eclipse.birt.report  
    .viewer_*\birt\WEB-INF\classes\com\acme\businessLogic
```

When you deploy your report to an application server, you must also deploy your Java classes.

## Issues with using Java in JavaScript code

There are many nuances of writing Java code, such as how to handle overloaded methods, how to use interfaces, and so forth. Refer to the Rhino page on scripting Java at <http://www.mozilla.org/rhino/ScriptingJava.html> for more information about these topics.

# 10

## Using Java to Write an Event Handler

Creating a Java event handler is slightly more complex than creating a JavaScript event handler because you cannot simply enter Java code directly in the BIRT report designer. To create a Java event handler class, you must compile the source for the Java class and make certain that the class is visible to BIRT. Creating a Java event handler for BIRT is simplified, however, by the fact that Eclipse is a robust Java development environment and supports integrating a Java project with a BIRT project.

This chapter discusses the following topics:

- Writing the event handler class
- Making the event handler class visible to BIRT
- Associating the event handler class with a report item
- Understanding the classes and interfaces associated with Java event handlers

---

### Writing a Java event handler class

When you provide one or more Java event handlers for a scriptable BIRT element, you must create one class that contains all the Java event handlers for that element. Creating a class that contains event handler methods for more than one element is not advisable.

BIRT provides a set of Java interfaces and Java adapter classes to simplify the process of writing a Java event handler class. There is one interface and one adapter class for every scriptable BIRT element. An element's event handler

interface defines all the event handler methods for that element. A handler class must implement every method defined in the interface, even if some of the methods are empty.

## Locating the JAR files that an event handler requires

There are two JAR files that contain all the classes and interfaces that an event handler requires. One of the JAR files is a part of BIRT Report Designer and SDK and the other one is a part of BIRT Report Engine.

The JAR file that you use for developing a Java event handler is `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine_Version.jar`, which is located in the Eclipse plugins directory for BIRT Report Designer and SDK.

The JAR file that you use when you deploy your report is `scriptapi.jar`, which is located in the `\WebViewerExample\WEB-INF\lib` directory of BIRT Report Engine. All JAR files in the `\WebViewerExample\WEB-INF\lib` directory are in a deployed report's classpath, so there is no need to do anything special to make `scriptapi.jar` accessible at run time.

## Extending an adapter class

An element's adapter class implements the element's interface and provides empty stubs for every method. To use the adapter class, extend the adapter class and override the methods for which you are providing handler code. Eclipse recommends extending an adapter class rather than implementing an interface directly.

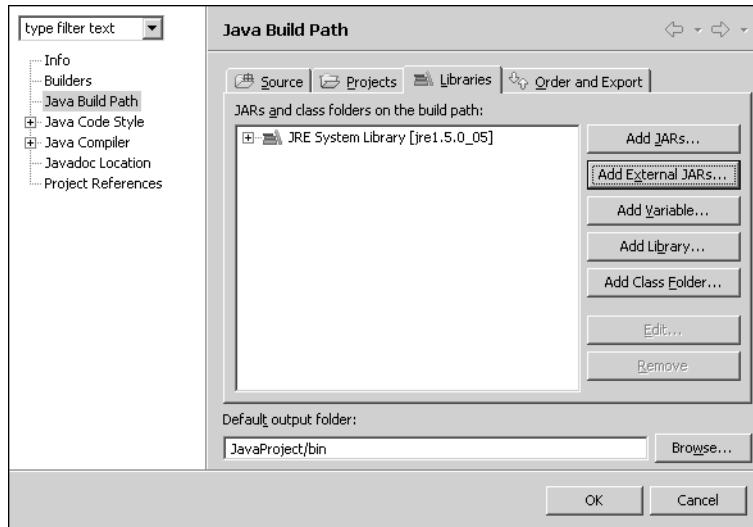
BIRT naming conventions for the event handler interfaces and adapter classes are discussed later in this chapter.

### How to create an event handler class and add it to the Java project

This section describes the process for using the Eclipse Java development environment to create an event handler class for a scriptable BIRT element.

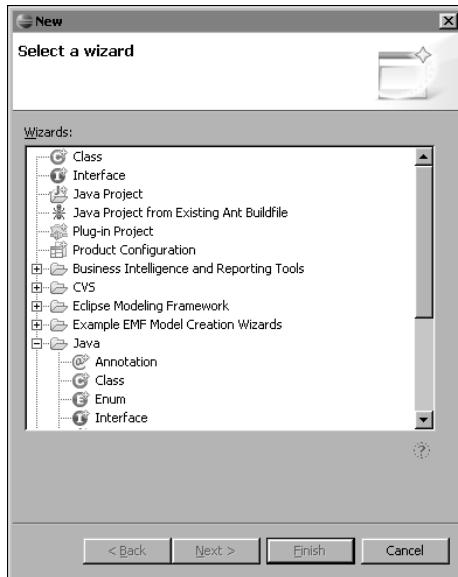
**1** Add `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine_Version.jar` to your Java project, as outlined in the following steps:

- 1** Select your Java project and choose `File→Properties→Java Build Path→Libraries`. Java Build Path appears, as shown in Figure 10-1.



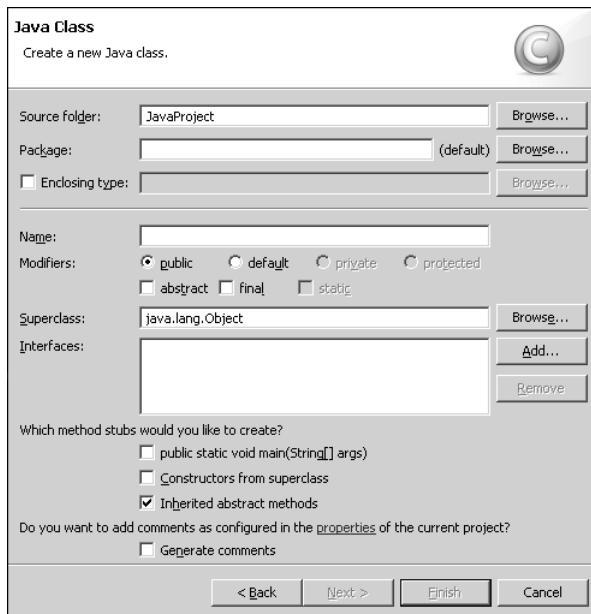
**Figure 10-1** Adding a JAR file to the compiler's classpath

- 2 Choose Add External JARs. JAR Selection appears.
  - 3 Navigate to Eclipse /plugins directory. In a default Eclipse installation, this directory is in the following location:  
`C:\eclipse\plugins`
  - 4 Select `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine_Version.jar`. Choose Add. Java Build Path appears.
  - 5 Choose OK.
- 2 Select your Java project and choose File->New->Other. Select a wizard appears.
  - 3 Expand Java and select Class, as shown in Figure 10-2.



**Figure 10-2** The Select a wizard dialog

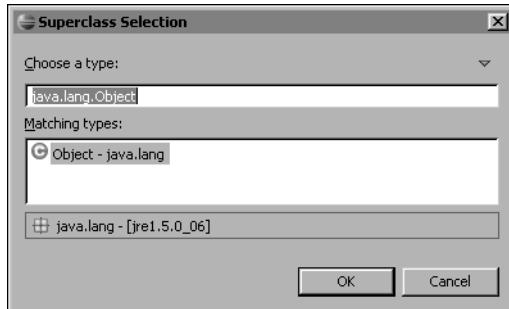
Choose Next. Java Class appears, as shown in Figure 10-3.



**Figure 10-3** Java Class

- 4 Navigate to the folder where you want the Java source file to reside by choosing the Browse button beside Source Folder.

- 5** If your new Java class is a part of a package, type the fully qualified package name in Package.
- 6** In Name, type a name for your class.
- 7** In Modifiers, choose Public.
- 8** Choose the Browse button beside Superclass. Superclass Selection appears, as shown in Figure 10-4.



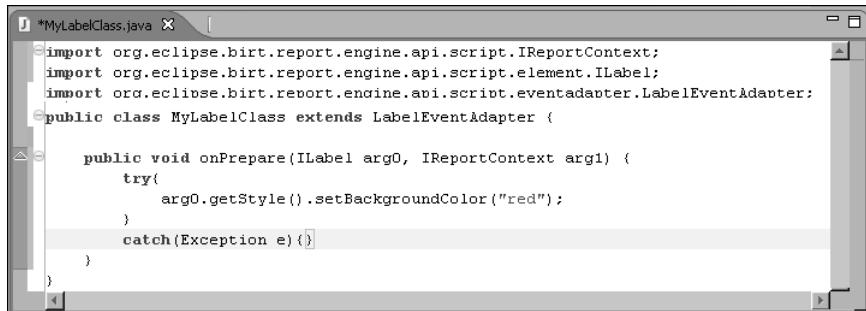
**Figure 10-4** Superclass Selection

- 9** In Choose a type, type the name of the adapter class for the ROM element. For example, enter LabelEventAdapter for the Label element. Choose OK. New Java Class reappears.
- 10** Select Generate comments. Choose Finish. A Java editor view appears, similar to the one shown in Figure 10-5.

```
MyLabelClass.java X
import org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api.script.eventadapter.LabelEventAdapter;
/*
 */
/*
 * @author dfrench
 */
public class MyLabelClass extends LabelEventAdapter {
```

**Figure 10-5** The Java editor

- 11** Add the event handler method for your new event handler class. Figure 10-6 shows the addition of an `onPrepare()` method that sets the background color of the label to red.



```
*MyLabelClass.java x |  
import org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api.script.IReportContext;  
import org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api.script.element.ILabel;  
import org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api.script.eventadapter.LabelEventAdapter;  
public class MyLabelClass extends LabelEventAdapter {  
  
    public void onPrepare(ILabel arg0, IReportContext arg1) {  
        try{  
            arg0.getStyle().setBackgroundColor("red");  
        }  
        catch(Exception e){}  
    }  
}
```

Figure 10-6 The onPrepare( ) method in the Java editor

---

## Making the Java class visible to BIRT

One way to make a Java event handler class visible to the BIRT report designer is to create a Java development project for compiling the class in the same workspace as your BIRT report project. The other option is to place the class in a directory or JAR file that is specified in the BIRT classpath. When you deploy the report to an application server, however, you must copy the Java class to the appropriate location on the server. For more information about deploying Java classes to an application server, see the chapter about deploying BIRT to an application server.

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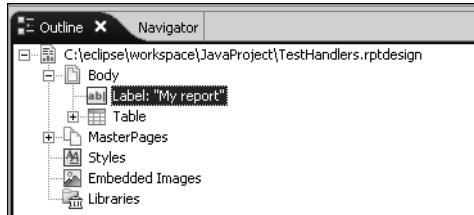
## Associating the Java event handler class with a report element

After you create the Java event handler class and code the appropriate handler methods, you must associate the class with the appropriate report element.

### How to associate a Java class with a report element

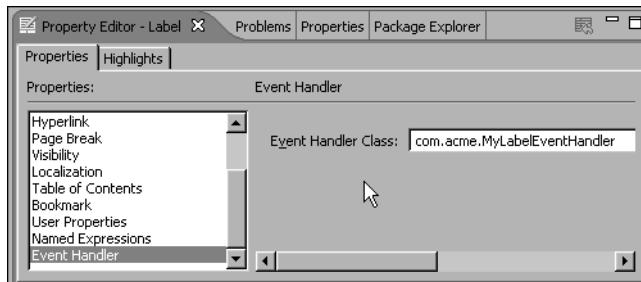
The example in this procedure makes the following assumptions:

- The report design includes a scriptable report item, such as a label.
  - A Java class containing event handler methods for the scriptable report item is visible to BIRT.
- 1 In Outline, select the report element for which an event handler class is visible to BIRT, as shown in Figure 10-7.



**Figure 10-7** Selecting a report element

- 2** In Property Editor for the selected report element, select Event Handler and enter the fully qualified name of your event handler class, as shown in Figure 10-8.



**Figure 10-8** The event handler class name

---

## BIRT Java interface and class naming conventions

When working with BIRT Java event handlers, you encounter event handler interfaces, adapter classes, element instance interfaces, and element design interfaces. All BIRT event handler classes and interfaces are named using consistent naming conventions.

### Naming convention for event handler interfaces

All BIRT ROM element interface names begin with the letter I, which is followed by the name of the ROM element and then EventHandler. For example, the interface for the Label element is ILabelEventHandler.

### Naming convention for event handler adapter classes

All BIRT ROM element adapter class names begin with the name of the element, followed by EventAdapter. For example, the name of the adapter class for a Label element is LabelEventAdapter.

## **Naming convention for ROM element instance interfaces**

All BIRT ROM element instance interface names begin with the letter I, followed by the name of the element and then Instance. For example, the ROM element instance interface for a Label element is `ILabelInstance`.

## **Naming convention for ROM element design interfaces**

All BIRT ROM element instance design interface names begin with the letter I, followed by the name of the element. For example, the design interface for a Label element is `ILabel`.

---

# **Writing a Java event handler**

Most scriptable elements have more than one event for which you can write a handler. If you write an event handler for any event of an element, the event handler class must include methods for all the events for that element. You can leave empty those methods that do not require handler code but the empty methods must appear in the class.

You can give an event handler class any name you choose. You associate the class with a report element in BIRT Report Designer in the Properties view, as explained earlier in this chapter. Your Java event handler class can either extend an adapter class or implement an event handler interface. Adapter classes and handler interfaces are explained in the next sections.

## **Using event handler adapter classes**

BIRT provides event handler adapter classes for every scriptable report element. An event handler adapter class contains empty methods for every event handler method for the element. If your class extends an adapter class, you need to override only the methods for the events for which you want to provide handler code.

One advantage of using an adapter class instead of implementing an interface is that your class will compile even if methods are added to the interface in a future release. If the signature of an event handler method changes in a future release, however, you must change your implementation of that method to reflect the signature change. The class will compile even if you do not change the method with the changed signature, but the method with the wrong signature will never be called.

## **Using event handler interfaces**

BIRT provides event handler interfaces for every scriptable report element. If your event handler class extends an adapter class, the adapter class implements the correct interface. If your class does not extend an adapter class, then your

class must implement the appropriate interface for the report element you are scripting.

There are some advantages of specifying an interface instead of extending an adapter class. Eclipse generates stubs for every method the interface specifies. The stubs show the method arguments, so you can see the argument types of the methods you must implement. If your class extends an adapter class, there are no generated stubs for you to examine. You also have more freedom in the design of your class structure if you avoid using an adapter class. For example, you might want two or more event handler classes to extend a single base class. Because Java does not support multiple inheritance, the event handler class cannot extend both the adapter class and the base class. However, if the event handler class implements an interface instead of extending an adapter class, there is nothing to prevent the event handler class from extending the base class.

The disadvantage of using an interface over an adapter class is that if additional methods are added to an interface in a future release, a class that implements the interface fails to compile.

## About the Java event handlers for report items

You can write an event handler for any or all the events that BIRT fires for a report item. Table 10-1 describes the events BIRT fires for each report item.

**Table 10-1** Report item event handler methods

Method	Description
onPrepare( )	The onPrepare( ) method for every report element contains the following two arguments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ The element design interface</li><li>■ The report context interface</li></ul>
onCreate( )	The arguments to the onCreate( ) method depend on the particular element. Every onCreate( ) method contains at least the following two arguments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ The element instance interface</li><li>■ The report context interface</li></ul>
onPageBreak( )	The onPageBreak( ) method for every report element contains the following two arguments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ The element instance interface</li><li>■ The report context interface</li></ul>
onRender( )	The onRender( ) method for every report element contains the following two arguments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ The element instance interface</li><li>■ The report context interface</li></ul>

## Using Java event handlers for the `DataSource` element

The `DataSource` event handler interface has four methods that you can implement to respond to events. A Java class to handle these events must implement the `IDataSourceEventHandler` interface or extend the `DataSourceAdapter` class.

All the event methods receive an `IReportContext` object. All the methods except the `afterClose()` method also receive an `IDataSetInstance` object. The `onFetch()` method also receives an `IDataSetRow` object. These interfaces are discussed later in this chapter. Table 10-2 lists the four methods that you can implement for a `DataSource` element.

**Table 10-2**    `DataSource` event handler methods

Method	Description
<code>beforeOpen( IDatasourceInstance dataSource, IReportContext reportContext )</code>	The <code>beforeOpen</code> event fires immediately before opening the data source. This handler is often used to change the connection properties, such as user name and password.
<code>afterOpen( IDatasourceInstance dataSource, IReportContext reportContext )</code>	The <code>afterOpen</code> event fires immediately after opening the data source.
<code>beforeClose( IDatasourceInstance dataSource, IReportContext reportContext )</code>	The <code>beforeClose</code> event fires immediately before closing the data source.
<code>afterClose( IReportContext reportContext )</code>	The <code>afterClose</code> event fires immediately after closing the data source.

## Using Java event handlers for the `DataSet` element

BIRT fires five events for the `DataSet` element. A Java class to handle these events must implement the `IDataSetEventHandler` interface or extend the `DataSetAdapter` class. All `DataSet` event handler methods receive an `IReportContext` object. Additionally, all `DataSet` event handler methods except the `afterClose()` method receive an `IDataSetInstance` object. The `onFetch()` method receives a third object, an `IDataSetRow` object. These interfaces are described later in this chapter. Table 10-3 lists the five methods that you can implement for a `DataSet` element.

**Table 10-3** DataSet event handler methods

Method	Description
beforeOpen( IDatasetInstance dataSet, IReportContext reportContext )	The beforeOpen event fires immediately before opening the data set. This event handler is often used to change the query text for a data set.
afterOpen( IDatasetInstance dataSet, IReportContext reportContext )	The afterOpen event fires immediately after opening the data set.
onFetch( IDatasetInstance dataSet, IDatasetRow row, IReportContext reportContext )	The onFetch event fires upon fetching each row from the data source.
beforeClose( IDatasetInstance dataSet, IReportContext reportContext )	The beforeClose event fires immediately before closing the data set.
afterClose( IReportContext reportContext )	The afterClose event fires immediately after closing the data set.

## Using Java event handlers for the ScriptedDataSource element

The ScriptedDataSource interface extends the IDataSourceEventHandler interface, which has four methods. The ScriptedDataSource interface adds two new methods to the four of the IDataSourceEventHandler interface. A Java class that provides the ScriptedDataSource event handlers must implement IScriptedDataSourceEventHandler interface or extend the ScriptedDataSourceAdapter class. A Java class that provides the ScriptedDataSource event handlers must implement the two methods of the IScriptedDataSourceEventHandler interface plus the four methods of the IDataSourceEventHandler interface, which it extends.

Both of the two event handler methods of IScriptedDataSourceEventHandler receive an IDataSourceInstance object. Table 10-4 lists the two additional methods that you must implement for a ScriptedDataSource element.

**Table 10-4** ScriptedDataSource event handler methods

Method	Description
open( IDataSourceInstance dataSource )	Use this method to open the data source.
close( IDataSourceInstance dataSource )	Use this method to close the data source and perform cleanup tasks.

## Using Java event handlers for the ScriptedDataSet element

The ScriptedDataSet interface extends the IDataSetEventHandler interface, which has four methods. The ScriptedDataSet interface adds four new methods to the four of the IDataSourceEventHandler interface. Of the four new methods, three must be fully implemented and the fourth may be empty. A Java class that provides the ScriptedDataSet event handlers must implement IScriptedDataSetEventHandler interface or extend the ScriptedDataSetAdapter class. A Java class that provides the ScriptedDataSet event handlers must implement the four methods of the IScriptedDataSetEventHandler interface plus the four methods of the IDataSourceEventHandler interface, which it extends.

Table 10-5 lists the four additional methods that you must implement for a ScriptedDataSet element.

**Table 10-5**      ScriptedDataSet event handler methods

Method	Description
open( IDatasetInstance dataSet )	Called when the data set is opened. Use this method to initialize variables and to prepare for fetching rows.
fetch( IDatasetInstance dataSet, IUpdatableDataSetRow dataSetRow )	Called at row processing time. Use this method to fetch data with which to populate the row object. This method must return true if the fetch is successful and false if it is not.
close( IDatasetInstance dataSet )	Called upon completion of processing a data set. Use this method to perform cleanup operations.
describe( IDatasetInstance dataSet, IScriptedDataSetMetaData metaData metaData )	Use this method to define the column names and types of the data set.

## Using Java event handlers for the ReportDesign

BIRT fires several events that the ReportDesign element handles. A Java class to handle these events must implement the IReportEventHandler interface or extend the ReportEventAdapter class. All of the event handler methods receive an IReportContext object. The beforeFactory() method also receives an

IReportDesign object. Table 10-6 lists the methods that you can implement for a ReportDesign element in the order in which they fire.

**Table 10-6** ReportDesign event handler methods

Method	Description
initialize( IReportContext reportContext )	The initialize event is fired twice, once before the generation phase begins and once before the render phase begins.
beforeFactory( IReportDesign report, IReportContext reportContext )	The beforeFactory event is fired before the generation phase begins.
afterFactory( IReportContext reportContext )	The afterFactory event is fired after the generation phase ends.
beforeRender( IReportContext reportContext )	The beforeRender event is fired before the presentation phase begins.
afterRender( IReportContext reportContext )	The afterRender event is fired after the presentation phase ends.

---

## Understanding the BIRT interfaces

A developer of Java event handlers needs to be familiar with several Java interfaces. Most of the handler method parameters and return values are Java interfaces rather than classes.

The most important Java interfaces for developing Java event handlers are:

- The element design interfaces
- The IReportElement interface
- The element instance interfaces
- The report context interfaces
- The IColumnMetaData interface
- The IDDataSetInstance interface
- The IDatasourceInstance interface
- The IDDataSetRow interface
- The IRowData interface

## About the element design interfaces

Every element has a unique element design interface. The element design is a Java interface that specifies methods for accessing and setting specific features of the element's design. Every element design interface inherits methods from IReportElement.

## About the methods for each report element

Besides the methods defined in IReportElement, each report element has methods that are only relevant for that report element. For example, ICell, the design interface for a Cell object, includes the following methods in addition to those defined in IReportElement:

- getColumn()
- getColumnSpan()
- getDrop()
- getHeight()
- getRowSpan()
- getWidth()
- setColumn( int column )
- setColumnSpan( int span )
- setDrop( java.lang.String drop )
- setRowSpan( int span )

In contrast, the methods for ITextItem, the design interface for a TextItem element, includes these additional methods:

- getContent()
- getContentKey()
- getContentType()
- getDisplayContent()
- setContent( java.lang.String value )
- setContentKey( java.lang.String resourceKey )
- setContentType( java.lang.String contentType )

For a complete list of all the design interfaces, see the BIRT Javadoc. To access the Javadoc, choose BIRT Developer Guide→Reference in the online help.

## About the IReportElement interface

The IReportElement interface is the base interface for all the report element interfaces. IReportElement has the following methods:

- `getComments( )`
- `getCustomXml( )`
- `getDisplayName( )`
- `getDisplayNameKey( )`
- `getName( )`
- `getNamedExpression( java.lang.String name )`
- `getParent( )`
- `getQualifiedName( )`
- `getStyle( )`
- `getUserProperty( java.lang.String name )`
- `setComments( java.lang.String theComments )`
- `setCustomXml( java.lang.String customXml )`
- `setDisplayName( java.lang.String displayName )`
- `setDisplayNameKey( java.lang.String displayNameKey )`
- `setName( java.lang.String name )`
- `setNamedExpression( java.lang.String name, java.lang.String exp )`
- `setUserProperty( java.lang.String name, java.lang.Object value )`

For more information about the methods defined in the `IReportElement` interface, including the arguments and return values of all its methods, see the BIRT Javadoc in the BIRT online help.

## About the element instance interfaces

The element instance interfaces are available at run time, but not at design time. They contain the run-time instance of the element. The element instance interface is passed to both `onCreate( )`, the generation phase event handler, and to `onRender( )`, the presentation phase event handler.

Through instance interfaces, you have access to a different set of properties than you do at design time. There is no superinterface from which all element instance interfaces inherit. Like the element design interface, the set of methods in the instance interfaces varies from element to element.

For example, `ICellInstance`, the Cell instance interface, contains the following methods:

- `getColSpan( )`
- `getColumn( )`
- `getRowSpan( )`

- `setColSpan( int colSpan )`
- `setRowSpan( int rowSpan )`

By comparison, `IRowInstance`, the `Row` instance interface, contains these methods:

- `getBookmarkValue()`
- `getHeight()`
- `getStyle()`
- `setBookmark()`
- `setHeight()`

For a complete list of all instance interfaces, see the BIRT Javadoc in the BIRT online help.

## Using the `IReportContext` interface

An object of type `IReportContext` is passed to all event handlers except those for `ScriptedDataSource` and `ScriptedDataSet` objects. The `IReportContext` interface includes the methods shown in Table 10-7.

**Table 10-7**    `IReportContext` interface methods

Method	Task
<code>deleteGlobalVariable( java.lang.String name )</code>	Removes a global variable created using the <code>setGlobalVariable()</code> method.
<code>deletePersistentGlobalVariable( java.lang.String name )</code>	Removes a persistent global variable created using the <code>setPersistentGlobalVariable()</code> method.
<code>getAppContext()</code>	Retrieves the application context object as a <code>java.util.Map</code> object. The report application can use the application context object to pass any information that is application-specific. One example of information passed through an application context object is the <code>HttpServletRequest</code> object.
<code>getGlobalVariable( java.lang.String name )</code>	Returns the object saved with the <code>setGlobalVariable()</code> method. The string argument is the key with which the object was saved.
<code>getHttpServletRequest()</code>	Returns the <code>HttpServletRequest</code> object associated with the URL requesting the report. The <code>HttpServletRequest</code> object provides access to the request URL and any parameters that are appended to the request.

**Table 10-7** IReportContext interface methods (*continued*)

Method	Task
getLocale()	Returns the locale associated with the report execution or rendering task. This locale might be different from the local machine's system or user locale.
getMessage( java.lang.String key )	Returns a message from the default properties file.
getMessage( java.lang.String key, java.util.Locale locale, java.lang.Object[] params )	Returns a message from the properties file for a specified locale, using a parameters array.
getMessage( java.lang.String key, java.lang.Object[] params )	Returns a message from the default properties file, using a parameters array.
getOutputFormat()	Returns a string containing either html or pdf, depending on which format was specified in the __format parameter of the request URL.
getParameterValue( java.lang.String name )	Returns the value of the parameter named in the name argument. The value returned is a java.lang.Object.
getPersistentGlobalVariable( java.lang.String name )	Returns the serializable object saved with the setPersistentGlobalVariable( ) method. The string argument is the key with which the serializable object was saved.
setGlobalVariable( java.lang.String name, java.lang.Object obj )	Saves an object that can be retrieved in the same execution phase as it is saved. The setGlobalVariable( ) method takes a string argument and an Object argument. You use the string argument as a key with which to later retrieve the saved object.
setParameterValue( java.lang.String name, java.lang.Object value )	Sets the value of a named parameter with the value contained in the value parameter.
setPersistentGlobalVariable( java.lang.String name, java.io.Serializable obj )	Saves an object that can be retrieved in a different execution phase than it is saved. The setPersistentGlobalVariable( ) method takes a string argument and a serializable object argument. You use the string argument as a key with which to later retrieve the serializable object. The object is serializable because it must be persisted between phases to support executing the two phases at different times and possibly on different machines. The serializable object is saved in the report document.

## Using the IColumnMetaData interface

The IColumnMetaData interface provides information about the columns of the data set. Table 10-8 lists the methods in the IColumnMetaData interface class.

**Table 10-8** IColumnMetaData interface methods

Method	Returns
getColumnAlias( int index )	The alias assigned to the column at the position indicated by the index argument
getColumnCount( )	The count of columns in the data set
getColumnLabel( int index )	The label assigned to the column at the position indicated by the index argument
getColumnName( int index )	A string containing the name of the column at the position indicated by the index argument
getColumnNativeTypeName( int index )	The name of the type of data in the column at the position indicated by the index argument
getColumnType( int index )	The data type of the column at the position indicated by the index argument
getColumnTypeName( int index )	The name of the type of data in the column at the position indicated by the index argument
isComputedColumn( int index )	True or false, depending on whether the column at the position indicated by the index argument is a computed field

## Using the IDatasetInstance interface

The IDatasetInstance interface provides access to many aspects of the data set and associated elements. An IDatasetInstance object is passed to every DataSet event handler method.

Table 10-9 describes the methods in the interface IDatasetInstance.

**Table 10-9** IDatasetInstance interface methods

Method	Returns
getAllExtensionProperties( )	The data set extension properties in the form of a java.util.Map object. The map object maps data extension names to their values.
getColumnMetaData( )	An IColumnMetaData object that provides the data set's metadata.
getDataSource( )	A DataSource object with which the data set is associated.

**Table 10-9**    **IDataSetInstance interface methods (continued)**

Method	Returns
getExtensionID()	The unique ID that identifies the type of the data set, assigned by the extension that implements this data set.
getExtensionProperty( java.lang.String name )	The value of a data set extension property.
getName()	The name of this data set.
getQueryText()	The query text of the data set.
setExtensionProperty( java.lang.String name, java.lang.String value )	The value of an extension property.
setQueryText( java.lang.String queryText )	The query text of the data set.

## Using the **IDataSetRow** interface

An object of the **IDataSetRow** type is passed to the **DataSet.onfetch( )** event handler method. Table 10-10 lists the methods in the **IDataSetRow** interface. Note that there are two **getColumnValue( )** methods. The two methods differ only in the argument that specifies the column containing the value. They both return a **java.lang.Object** object, which you must cast to the appropriate type for the column.

**Table 10-10**    **IDataSetRow interface methods**

Method	Returns
getColumnValue( int index )	The column data by index. This index is 1-based.
getColumnValue( java.lang.String name )	The column data by column name.
getDataSet()	An <b>IDataSetInstance</b> object representing the data set that contains this row.

## Using the **IRowData** interface

An object of the **IRowData** type is returned from the **getRowData( )** method of **IReportElementInstance**, which every report element instance interface extends.

**IRowData** provides access to the bound values that appear in the table. The **IRowData** interface has two **getExpressionValue( )** methods. Both methods return the display value for a specific column in the table. The two methods

differ in the argument you pass to specify the column that you require. Table 10-11 lists the methods in the IRowData interface.

**Table 10-11** IRowData interface methods

Method	Returns
getColumnNameCount( )	Return the count of the bounding expressions.
getColumnName( int index)	Return the name of the bounding expression by id.
getColumnValue(int index)	Return the value of the bounding expression by id. This index is 1-based.
getColumnValue(String name)	Return the value of the bounding expression by name.

# 11

## Using a Scripted Data Source

BIRT supports accessing a data source using JavaScript code. A data source that you access using JavaScript is called a scripted data source. With a scripted data source, you can access objects other than a SQL, XML, or text file data source. Because the JavaScript code for accessing and managing a scripted data source can wrap Java objects, a scripted data source can be an EJB, an XML stream, a Hibernate object, or any other Java object that retrieves data.

A scripted data source must return data in tabular format so that BIRT can perform sorting, aggregation, and grouping.

---

### Creating a scripted data source and scripted data set

Creating a scripted data source and creating a non-scripted data source are similar. The differences between creating a scripted data source and a non-scripted data source are:

- The report developer must select Scripted Data Source from the list of data source types when creating a scripted data source.
- The report developer can provide code for two event handler methods, `open()` and `close()`, that are only available for a scripted data source.

Every scripted data source must have at least one scripted data set. The differences between creating a scripted data set and a non-scripted data set are:

- The report developer must associate the scripted data set with a scripted data source.

- The report developer must provide code for the scripted data set `fetch()` event handler method.
- The report developer uses a different dialog for identifying the columns of a scripted data set than for a non-scripted data set.

When you use BIRT Report Designer to create a scripted data source, you must perform the following tasks:

- Create a scripted data source.

Right-click on Data Sources in the data explorer and select Scripted Data Source in the list of data source types.

- Create a scripted data set.

Right-click on Data Sets in the data explorer and select a scripted data source from the list of available data sources.

- Define output columns.

Define the names and types of output columns, using the scripted data set editor.

- Supply code for the data source `open()` and `close()` methods.

There are two scripted data source event handler methods, `open()` and `close()`. It is not mandatory that you implement either method, but most applications require the use of the `open()` method.

Use the `open()` method to initialize a data source. Typically, you create a Java object for accessing the data source in the `open()` method.

Use the `close()` method to clean up any loose ends, including setting object references to null to ensure that the objects are deleted during garbage collection.

- Supply code for the data set methods.

There are three scripted data set event handler methods, `open()`, `fetch()`, and `close()`. It is mandatory that you implement only the `fetch()` method.

Use the `open()` method to initialize variables and to prepare the data source for fetching data.

Use the `fetch()` method to get a row of data from the data source and to populate the columns of the row object. The `fetch()` method must return either true or false. A true value tells BIRT that there is another row to process. A false return value signifies that there are no more rows to process.

Use the `close()` method to perform cleanup operations.

- Place the columns on the report layout.

Place a data set column on a report layout the same way you place a column for a non-scripted data set.

The following tutorial guides you through the procedure required to perform each task in this process.

---

## Tutorial 2: Creating and scripting a scripted data source

This tutorial provides instructions for creating and scripting a simulated scripted data source. Although this tutorial does not use an actual data source, you learn the process for scripting a real data source.

In this tutorial, you perform the following tasks:

- Create a new report.
- Create a scripted data source.
- Create a scripted data set.
- Supply code for the open( ) and close( ) methods of the data source.
- Supply code for the data set open( ) method.
- Define output columns.
- Place the columns on the report layout.
- Supply code for the data set fetch( ) method.

### Task 1: Create a new report

In this task you create a new report in BIRT Report Designer and name it ScriptedDataSrc.rptdesign.

- 1 Choose File→New→Report.
- 2 In File Name in New Report, type:  
`ScriptedDataSrc.rptdesign`
- 3 In Enter or Select the Parent Folder, accept the default folder. Choose Next.
- 4 In Report Templates, select My First Report. Choose Finish. The BIRT report design screen appears. If a Cheat Sheet tab appears, close it.

### Task 2: Create a scripted data source

In this task you create the new data source.

- 1 In Data Explorer, right-click Data Sources and choose New Data Source. Select a Data Source type appears.
- 2 In New Data Source, select Scripted Data Source.

- 3** In Data Source Name, type:

ScriptedDataSource

- 4** Choose Finish.

Data Explorer and the code window for ScriptedDataSource appear, as shown in Figure 11-1.

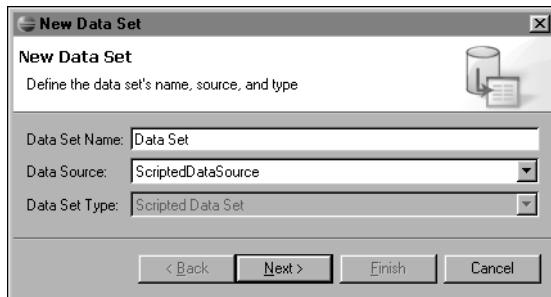


**Figure 11-1** Data Explorer and ScriptedDataSource code window

### Task 3: Create a scripted data set

In this task, you create the new data set.

- 1** In Data Explorer, right-click Data Sets. Choose New Data Set. New Data Set appears, as shown in Figure 11-2.



**Figure 11-2** New data set for a scripted data source

- 2** In Data Set Name, type:

ScriptedDataSet

- 3** Choose Finish.

- 4** In Data Explorer, select ScriptedDataSet. The script window for the data set appears, as shown in Figure 11-3.



**Figure 11-3** Code window for ScriptedDataSet

## Task 4: Supply code for the open( ) and close( ) methods of the data source

In the open( ) method, you open the data source. In the close( ) method, you do cleanup tasks. In this tutorial, there is no actual data source but typically you need to place some code in these methods. The open( ) method is the default selected method upon creating a data set.

- 1 If necessary, select open from the pull-down list of methods.
- 2 Type the following code into the code window for the open( ) method:

```
dummyObject = new Object();
```

The preceding code is a placeholder for the purpose of this simplified example. In a typical application, you use this method to initialize a Java object that provides access to the data for the report.

- 3 Select close from the pull-down list of methods.
- 4 Type the following code into the code window:

```
dummyObject = null;
```

## Task 5: Supply code for the open( ) method of the data set

When you create the data set, the open( ) method is selected by default. Use the open( ) method of the data set to do initialization, such as defining a counter and setting it to zero.

- 1 Select open from the pull-down list of methods.
- 2 Type the following code into the code window:

```
recordCount = 0;
```

## Task 6: Define output columns

To create the output columns for a scripted data set, you must edit the data set. The columns you create in the data set editor are the columns that the data set fetch( ) method generates.

- 1 In Data Explorer, double-click ScriptedDataSet. Edit Data Set—ScriptedDataSet appears, as shown in Figure 11-4.

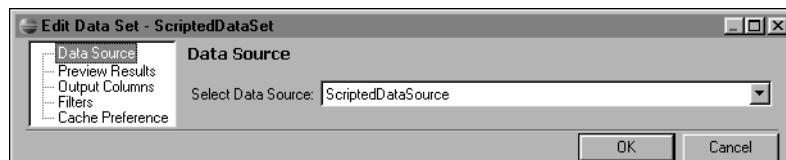


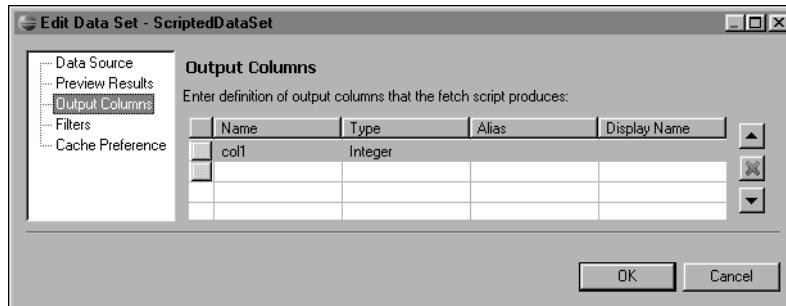
Figure 11-4     Edit Data Set for a scripted data source

**2** Select Output Columns. Output Columns appears.

**3** In the Name column of the first row, type:

col1

**4** Select the Type column of the first row. Select Integer from the drop-down list. Output Columns contains the definition of one output column, as shown in Figure 11-5.



**Figure 11-5** Column name and type in Output Columns

**5** In the Name column of the second row, type:

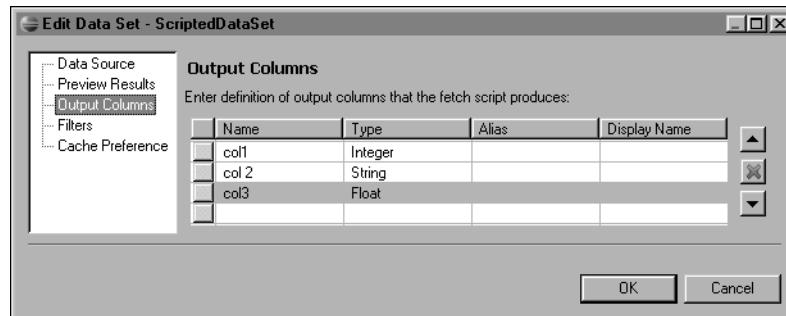
col2

**6** In the Type column of the second row, select String.

**7** In the Name column of the third row, type:

col3

In the Type column of the third row, select Float. Output Columns contains the definition of three output columns, as shown in Figure 11-6. Choose OK.

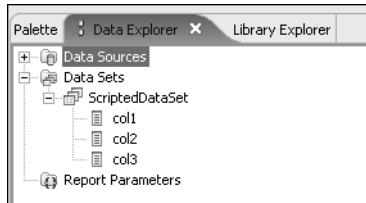


**Figure 11-6** Column definitions

## Task 7: Place the columns on the report layout

You place columns for a scripted data set in the same way as for a non-scripted data set.

- 1 On ScriptedDataSrc.rptdesign, select Layout.
- 2 Drag Table from Palette onto the layout.
- 3 Accept the default table size of three columns and one detail row.
- 4 In Data Explorer, expand ScriptedDataSet. The three columns you created appear in Data Explorer, as shown in Figure 11-7.



**Figure 11-7** New columns in ScriptedDataSet

- 5 Add the columns to the report detail row:
  - 1 Drag col1 from Data Explorer to the first column of the report detail row.
  - 2 Drag col2 from Data Explorer to the second column of the report detail row.
  - 3 Drag col3 from Data Explorer to the third column of the report detail row.

Figure 11-8 shows the three columns of the data set in the layout editor.

col1	col2	col3
row["col1"]	row["col2"]	row["col3"]
Footer Row		

**Figure 11-8** New columns in the report design

- 6 Choose Preview.

The preview of the report appears, as shown in Figure 11-9.

ScriptedDataSrc.rptdesign		
Show Report Parameters		
col1	col2	col3
Jan 2, 2006 11:34 AM		

**Figure 11-9** Report preview, showing the new columns

## Task 8: Supply code for the data set fetch( ) method

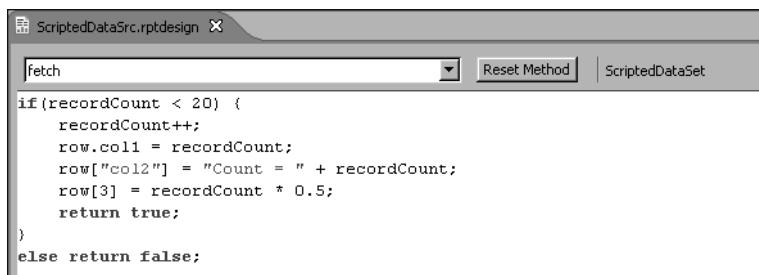
Use the fetch( ) method to process row data. The fetch( ) method must return either true or false. Fetch( ) returns true to indicate that there is a row to process. Fetch( ) returns false to indicate that there are no more rows to process. The fetch( ) method also calculates the values of computed fields.

The report only has column headings at this point. To include data, you must add code to the fetch( ) method.

- 1 Choose the Layout tab.
- 2 Right-click ScriptedDataSet in Data Explorer. Choose Edit Script.
- 3 Select fetch in the drop-down list of methods.
- 4 Select fetch from the pull-down list of methods in the data set code window.
- 5 Type the following code into the code window. This code limits the number of rows that appear in the report to 19.

```
if(recordCount < 20) {  
    recordCount++;  
    row.col1 = recordCount;  
    row["col2"] = "Count = " + recordCount;  
    row[3] = recordCount * 0.5;  
    return true;  
}  
else return false;
```

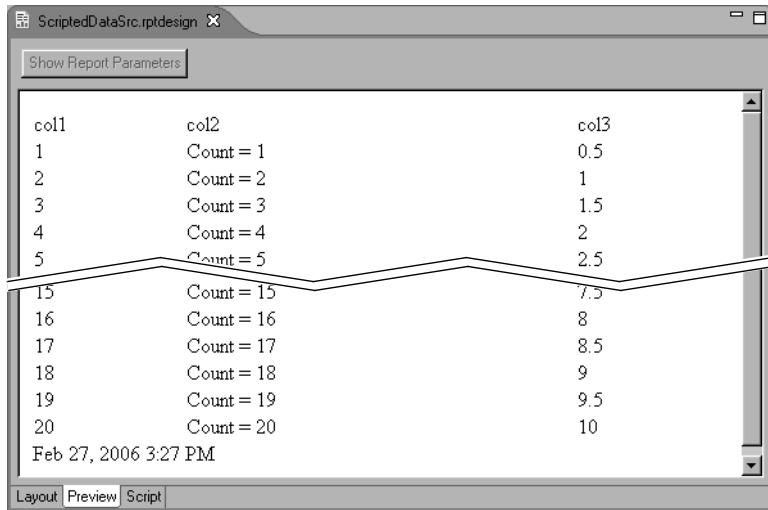
The three formats in the preceding script illustrate the different ways you can specify a column of a row. The code appears as shown in Figure 11-10.



**Figure 11-10** Code that generates column output

- 6 Choose Preview.

The report now contains 20 rows and 3 columns of data, as shown in Figure 11-11.



**Figure 11-11** Report preview

## Using a Java object to access a data source

A common use of a scripted data set is to access a Java object that accesses or generates the data for a report. This section shows how to access a Java class from within the JavaScript code for a scripted data set.

### Performing initialization in the data set open( ) method

Use the data set open( ) method to perform initialization tasks. A typical initialization task is to get an instance of the Java object that provides the data for the report.

When referring to a Java object, first import its package into the JavaScript environment. For example, the following code imports the package com.yourCompany.yourApplication:

```
importPackage(Packages.com.yourCompany.yourApplication);
```

This statement is like the import statement in Java and allows you to omit the package name when referencing a class. This statement is normally the first line of code in the open() method. You typically follow the importPackage statement with code to create an instance of the Java object, as shown in the following example:

```
var myList = myListFactory.getList();
```

A typical way of getting rows of data from a Java object is to use an iterator object. The open( ) method is the proper place to create an iterator object. For example, the following statement gets an iterator from myList:

```
var iterator = myList.getIterator();
```

## Getting a new row of data in the data set `fetch( )` method

Once you have a way to get rows of data from your Java object, use the `fetch( )` method to call the Java method that returns the rows. The `fetch( )` method determines if there are any more rows of data and returns false if there are none, as shown in the following code:

```
if(iterator.hasNext() == false){  
    return false;  
}
```

At this point, the `fetch( )` method can populate a row with data that it gets from the iterator, as shown in the following code:

```
var node = iterator.next();  
row[1] = node.getFirstCol();  
row[2] = node.getSecondCol();  
row[3] = node.getThirdCol();
```

Then, you must return true to signal BIRT there is a valid row of data to process:

```
return true;
```

## Cleaning up in the data set `close( )` method

You can perform any cleanup in the `close( )` method. This method is a good place to set to null any objects that you created. For example, the following code sets three object references to null:

```
myList = null;  
iterator = null;  
node = null;
```

## Deciding where to locate your Java class

If a scripted data source uses a custom Java class, that class must reside in a location where BIRT can find it. BIRT can find the Java class if its location meets any of the following requirements:

- The Java class is in the classpath of the Java Runtime Environment (JRE) under which Eclipse runs.

Consider using this option if your Java class is in this location for other reasons.

- The Java class is in <ECLIPSE\_INSTALL>\plugins\org.eclipse.birt.report.viewer\birt\WEB-INF\lib.  
Consider using this option if your Java class is built and tested and ready to deploy.
- The Java class is a part of an Eclipse Java project that is in the same workspace as the BIRT report project.  
Consider using this option if you are developing your Java class simultaneously with developing your BIRT report.

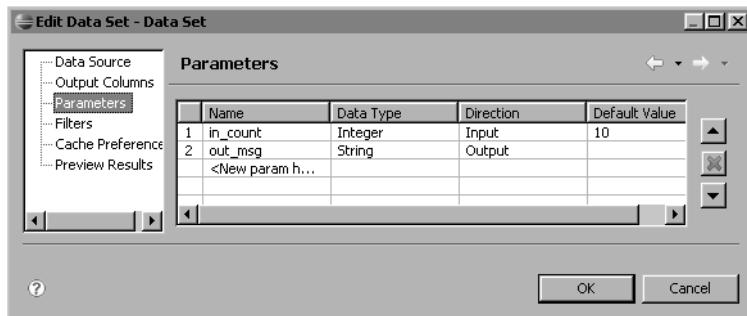
## Deploying your Java class

Before you deploy your BIRT report to an application server, you must place your Java class in a JAR file. You must then deploy that JAR file to the proper location on the application server so that the BIRT report viewer can find it at run time. For more information about where to deploy Java classes on an application server, see the chapter about deploying BIRT to an application server.

## Using input and output parameters with a scripted data set

The scripted data set JavaScript event handler methods have two arrays you can use to access parameters, `inputParams` and `outputParams`. The `inputParams` array contains one string for every parameter whose direction is defined as input. The `outputParams` array contains one string for every parameter whose direction is defined as output.

For example, assume that you have a scripted data set with an input and an output parameter, as shown in Figure 11-12:



**Figure 11-12** A scripted data set, with input and output parameters

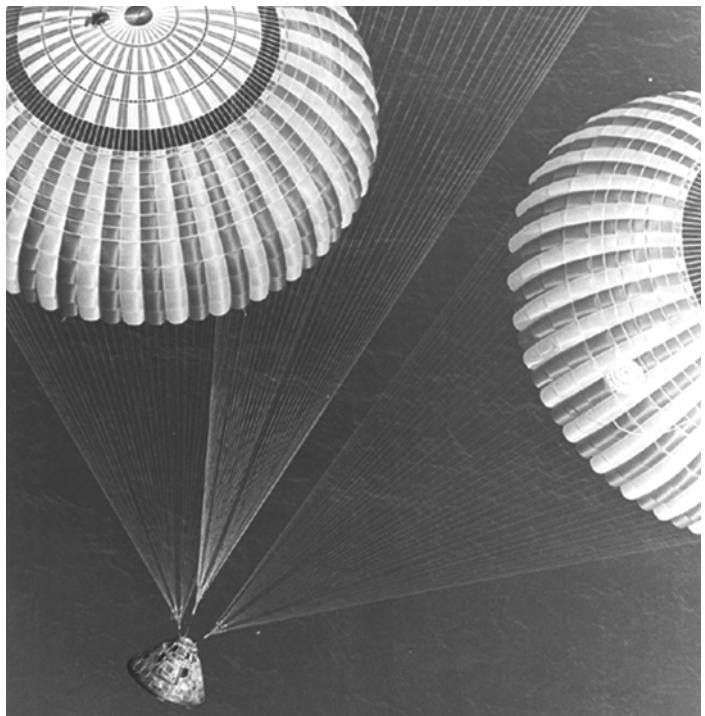
You can get and set the values of the `out_msg` and `in_count` parameters by using the `inputParams` and `outputParams` arrays as in the following example:

```
outputParams[ "out_msg" ] = "Total rows: " +  
    inputParams[ "in_count" ];
```

You can access a parameter in the array either by the name of the parameter or by a 1-based index value. The `inputParams` and `outputParams` arrays are not accessible to Java event handlers.

# IV

## *Integrating BIRT Functionality into Applications*



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# 12

## Understanding the BIRT APIs

BIRT consists of hundreds of Java classes and interfaces, but most of them are only of interest to contributors to the BIRT open source project. Developers of applications only require access to the classes and interfaces that are in the public API. The public API consists of the classes and interfaces in the following package hierarchies:

- Report engine API

The [org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api](#) package hierarchy contains the API that a developer of a custom report generator uses. This API provides the most commonly used functionality for a reporting application. The key class in the report engine API is ReportEngine. This class provides access to creating a report from a report design or a report document.

- Design engine API

The [org.eclipse.birt.report.model.api](#) package hierarchy is by far the larger of the two reporting APIs. This API provides access to the content and structure of a report design, a template, or a library. A reporting application can use this API to change the structure of a design. The design engine API is also the API that a developer of a custom report designer uses.

- Chart engine API

The [org.eclipse.birt.chart](#) package hierarchy contains the API that a developer of a custom chart generator uses. A reporting application can also use this API to modify charts in a report design.

- Extension APIs

BIRT also provides a set of extension APIs for creating custom report items, custom data sources and data sets, custom rendering formats, and custom charts. Chapters later in this book describe how to use these extensions.

For information on class and interface methods, see the API Javadoc, which you can access from the BIRT Report Designer or Eclipse Workbench main menu at Help→Help Contents→BIRT Developer Guide.

---

## Package hierarchy diagrams

This chapter contains hierarchical diagrams for packages. These diagrams show the hierarchy of the classes in the package and interfaces local to the package or implemented by classes in the package. Classes and interfaces preceded by a package name are not local to the package. The hierarchical diagrams indicate different attributes and relationships in the classes and interfaces by means of the graphics shown in Table 12-1.

**Table 12-1** Conventions for the hierarchy diagrams

---

■ Abstract class	
■ Class that has one or more subclasses	
■ Class with no subclasses	
■ Final class	
■ Interface	
■ Solid lines indicate a superclass-subclass relationship	
■ Broken lines indicate an implementation relationship	
■ An asterisk indicates too many subclasses to list	

---

---

# About the BIRT Report Engine API

The BIRT Report Engine provides report generation and rendering services in several different environments, including the following environments:

- Stand-alone engine

A Java developer uses a stand-alone engine to render an existing BIRT report from a report design (.rptdesign) file. In this environment, the Java developer creates a command line application that writes a complete report to disk, either in HTML or PDF format.

- BIRT report viewer

BIRT Report Designer uses the BIRT report viewer to view a report as paginated HTML. The BIRT report viewer is a web application that runs in the Tomcat Application Server, which is embedded in Eclipse. This viewer contains an embedded report engine.

- Custom report designer with an embedded engine

A custom desktop reporting application integrates the BIRT Report Engine for the purpose of previewing the report.

- Web application that embeds the engine

A web application similar to the BIRT report viewer can use the BIRT report engine to generate a web-based report.

The BIRT Report Engine is designed for easy customization to support the diverse environments in which it can be used. The BIRT Report Engine also supports seamless extension. The core engine runs and renders reports, leaving environment-dependent processing such as URL construction, image storage, and design file caching to the application that hosts the engine.

The BIRT Report Engine API consists of a set of interfaces and implementation classes. The BIRT Report Engine API supports integrating the run-time part of BIRT into your application. The API provides a set of task classes that support the following operations:

- Discover the set of parameters defined for a report.

- Get the default values for parameters.

- Run a report design to produce an unformatted report document.

- Run a report design or report document to produce an HTML or PDF formatted report.

- Extract data from a report document.

## **Creating the BIRT Report Engine**

Each application, whether it is stand-alone or web-based, only needs to create one ReportEngine instance. Since the BIRT Report Engine is thread-safe, the single-instance recommendation is not a restriction.

Create the BIRT Report Engine with a constructor that takes an EngineConfig object as an argument. The configuration object can be null, in which case a default engine configuration is used. At termination, the application should call shutdown( ) to unload extensions and delete temporary files.

## **Using the BIRT Report Engine API**

The following are the primary steps in using the BIRT Report Engine API:

- Create an instance of EngineConfig to set options for the report engine.
- Create an instance of the ReportEngine class.
- Open a report design using one of the openReportDesign( ) methods of ReportEngine or open a report document using the openReportDocument( ) method.
- Obtain information about report parameters using IGetParameterDefinitionTask.
- Run and render a report using IRunAndRenderTask or IRunTask followed by IRenderTask.
- Call shutdown( ) on your engine instance.

There are a few primary classes and interfaces that provide the core functionality of the BIRT Report Engine. The following sections provide an overview of these classes. For full details, see the Javadoc.

### **EngineConfig class**

The EngineConfig class wraps configuration settings for a report engine. Use the EngineConfig object to set global options for the report engine, including:

- Specifying the location of engine plug-ins and Java archive (.jar) files
- Specifying the location of data drivers
- Adding application-wide scriptable objects
- Managing logging

### **ReportEngine class**

The ReportEngine class represents the BIRT report engine. You create the ReportEngine class with a constructor that takes an EngineConfig object. If the configuration object is null, the environment must provide a BIRT\_HOME variable that specifies the directory that contains the engine plug-ins and JAR files.

You use a ReportEngine object to perform the following tasks:

- Get the configuration object.
- Open a report design or a report document.
- Create an engine task to get parameter definitions and set parameter values.
- Create an engine task to access the data from a data set.
- Get supported report formats and MIME types.
- Create an engine task to run a report or render a report to an output format.
- Create an engine task to extract data from a report document.
- Clean up and shut down the engine.

## IReportRunnable interface

To work with the report design with the engine, you must load the design using one of the openReportDesign( ) methods in the ReportEngine class. These methods return an IReportRunnable instance that represents the engine's view of the report design.

You use an IReportRunnable object to perform the following tasks:

- Get any parameter data.
- Get properties such as the report title and report author.
- Get any images embedded within the report design.
- Run the report.

## IReportDocument interface

To work with a report document with the engine, you must load the document using the ReportEngine.openReportDocument( ) method. This method returns an IReportDocument instance.

You use an IReportDocument object to render a report to HTML or PDF with an IRenderTask object. You can use the table of contents markers in the IReportDocument to determine which pages to render.

## IEngineTask interface

The IEngineTask interface provides the framework for the tasks that the report engine performs. The IEngineTask interface manages the scripting context and report locales. The other task interfaces extend IEngineTask.

## IGetParameterDefinitionTask interface

The IGetParameterDefinitionTask interface extends IEngineTask to provide access to information about parameters. The engine factory method to create an

`IGetParameterDefinitionTask` object takes an `IReportRunnable` argument. Parameter definitions provide access to:

- Information that BIRT Report Designer specified at design time
- Static or dynamic selection lists
- User-supplied values
- The grouping structure of the parameters
- Custom XML
- User-defined properties

## **IDataExtractionTask interface**

The `IDataExtractionTask` interface extends `IEngineTask` to provide access to the data stored in an `IReportDocument` object. You can use an `IDataExtractionTask` object to examine the metadata for a set of data rows. Using the metadata, you can select a set of columns to extract, sort, or filter. This interface can extract the data from:

- The whole report document
- A single report item
- A single instance of a report item

## **IRunTask interface**

The `IRunTask` interface provides the methods to run a report design. This task saves the result as a report document (.rptdocument) file to disk.

An `IRunTask` object takes parameter values as a `HashMap`. Call the `validateParameters( )` method to validate the parameter values before you run the report.

## **IRenderTask interface**

The `IRenderTask` interface provides the methods to render a report document to PDF or to paginated or unpaginated HTML. This task can save the report to disk or to a stream.

You can set options that are specific to each of the HTML and PDF formats. Set these options through the `HTMLRenderOption` and `PDFRenderOption` classes. Pass the appropriate render option object for your report to the `IRenderTask` object before rendering the report.

## **IRunAndRenderTask interface**

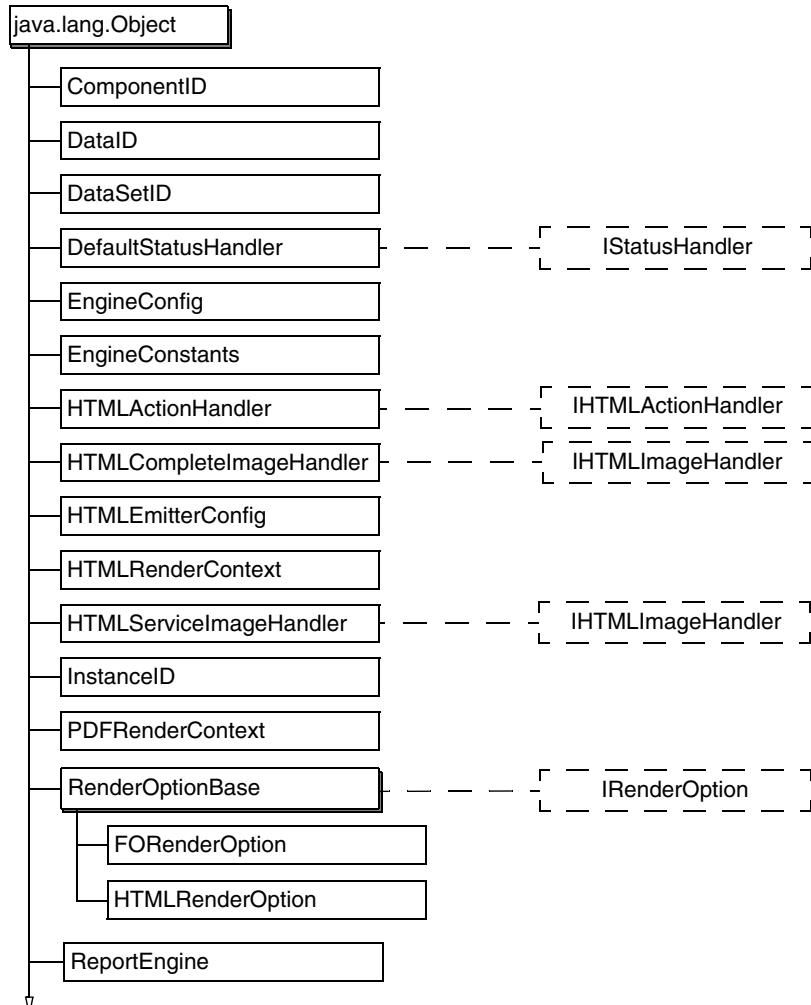
The `IRunAndRenderTask` interface provides the methods to render a report as unpaginated HTML. This task can save the report to disk or to a stream.

An IRunAndRenderTask object takes parameter values as a `HashMap`. Call the `validateParameters()` method to validate the parameter values before you run the report.

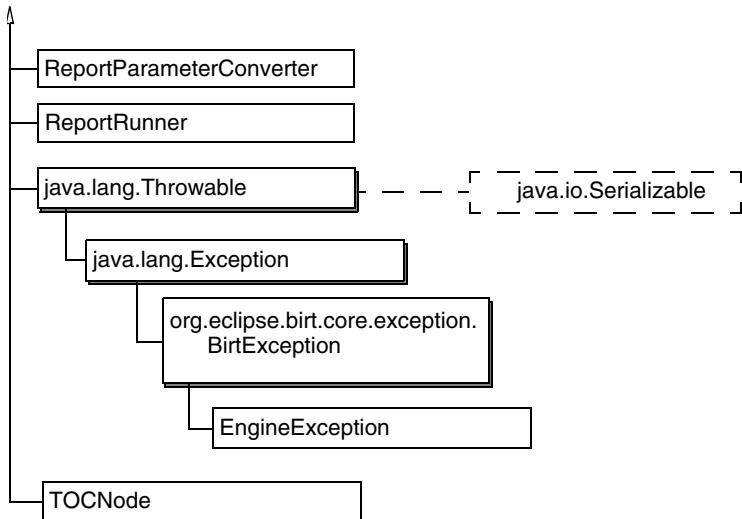
You can set options that are specific to HTML format. Set these options through the `HTMLRenderOption` class. Pass the render option object for your report to the `IRunAndRenderTask` object before running the report.

## Report engine class hierarchy

The class hierarchy in Figure 12-1 illustrates the organization of the classes within the report engine package. The names of the classes in the diagram do not include the package name, which is `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api`.



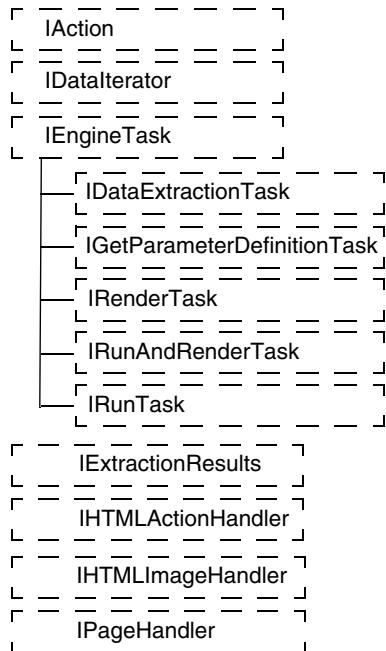
**Figure 12-1** Classes within the report engine package (continues)



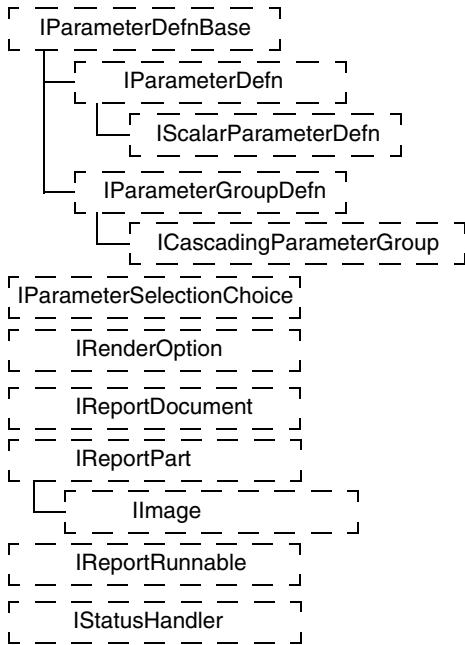
**Figure 12-1** Classes within the report engine package (*continued*)

## Report engine interface hierarchy

Figure 12-2 contains the interface hierarchy for the report engine API.



**Figure 12-2** Interface hierarchy for the report engine API



**Figure 12-2** Interface hierarchy for the report engine API (*continued*)

## About the design engine API

The design engine API is also known as the report model API. The design engine API is the API that a tool writer uses to build a design tool. The design engine API contains classes and methods to create, access, and validate a report design.

The `org.eclipse.birt.report.model.api` package contains the interfaces and classes that the tool writer uses to access the design model objects. Through the design engine API, you can do the following tasks:

- Read and write design files.
- Maintain the command history for undo and redo.
- Provide a rich semantic representation of the report design.
- Provide metadata about the ROM.
- Perform property value validation.
- Notify the application when the model changes.

## Using the BIRT design engine API

The purpose of the BIRT design engine API is to modify or create a report design file that the BIRT report engine can use to generate a report. BIRT Report Designer, for example, uses the BIRT design engine API for this purpose. A custom report design tool, written for the same general purpose as BIRT Report Designer, can also use the BIRT design engine API to generate a design file. The design engine API also supports libraries and templates in the same way as report designs.

The BIRT design engine API does not include a user interface. A custom report design tool must provide its own user interface code.

With the design engine, you can create a BIRT report design by performing the following tasks:

- With a static DesignEngine method, instantiating a SessionHandle object to load the property definitions of the report elements and to begin a user session
- With the SessionHandle object, setting session parameters and creating an instance of the ReportDesignHandle class
- With the ReportDesignHandle object, setting the report-specific properties, adding elements to the report design, and providing access to the report elements
- Saving the report design file

The following sections describe the primary classes of the BIRT design engine API.

### DesignEngine class

The DesignEngine class is the gateway to creating the other objects you need to build a report design tool. Use the static methods of the DesignEngine class to:

- Load the metadata system.

The initialize( ) method takes an argument containing the path to a file containing report element metadata. The metadata system describes the BIRT ROM elements and their properties and relationships. The metadata file that BIRT Report Designer uses is called rom.def. If you use this file, you do not need to call initialize( ).

- Create a SessionHandle object.

Use the newSession( ) method to perform this task. The SessionHandle provides a gateway to the ReportDesign object.

### SessionHandle class

The SessionHandle class represents the user session. A SessionHandle object provides access to the set of open designs. A session has a set of default values

for style properties and a default unit of measure. The session also has methods to create and open report designs, templates, and libraries. The methods to create or open a report design return a ReportDesignHandle object.

## ModuleHandle class

ModuleHandle provides access to the common structure and functionality of report designs, templates, and libraries. It is the parent class of the ReportDesignHandle and LibraryHandle classes. ModuleHandle provides access to the generic properties, such as author and comments. You also use ModuleHandle for many tasks on the file, including:

- Saving the module to a file
- Accessing the command stack for undo and redo
- Navigating to the various parts of the module
- Accessing the command stack
- Getting configuration variables

The ModuleHandle also has methods to get handles to the individual report items and all the other elements in a report design, template, or library. These elements and supporting components include:

- Report items. These elements are visual report elements such as tables, grids, images, and text elements.
- Code modules. These modules are global scripts that apply to the file as a whole.
- Parameters.
- Data sources and data sets.
- Color Palette. This component is a set of custom color names.
- CSS files that the module uses.
- Theme. The theme is a group of styles that the module uses for formatting report elements.
- Master page. This element defines the layout of pages in paginated report output.
- Libraries. Any module can use one or more libraries to provide predefined elements.
- Resources. External files provide lists of messages in localized forms.
- Embedded images.

## ReportDesignHandle class

ReportDesignHandle provides access to the report design-specific properties such as the scripts that execute when generating or rendering a report. This class

also provides access to properties that templates use, such as the cheat sheet, display name, and icon file.

ReportDesignHandle inherits most of its behavior and functionality from ModuleHandle. You also use ReportDesignHandle to get handles to the individual report items and for many report design-specific tasks, including:

- Navigating to the various parts of the design
- Setting the initialization script that runs when the report executes

The ReportDesignHandle also has methods to gain access to the following report components:

- Styles, the list of user-defined styles for formatting report elements
- Base directory, used to find the location of file system resources that have relative paths
- Body, a list of the report sections and report items in the design
- Scratch Pad, a temporary place to move report items while restructuring a report

## **LibraryHandle class**

LibraryHandle provides access to the library-specific properties, as shown in the following list. LibraryHandle inherits most of its behavior and functionality from ModuleHandle.

- Imported CSS styles
  - Styles imported from CSS files
- Themes
  - Groups of styles for formatting report elements

## **DesignElementHandle class**

The DesignElementHandle class is the base class for report elements. The DesignElementHandle class provides generic services for all elements, including such things as:

- Adding a report item to a slot
- Registering a change event listener
- Getting and setting properties, names, and styles
- Dropping an element from the design

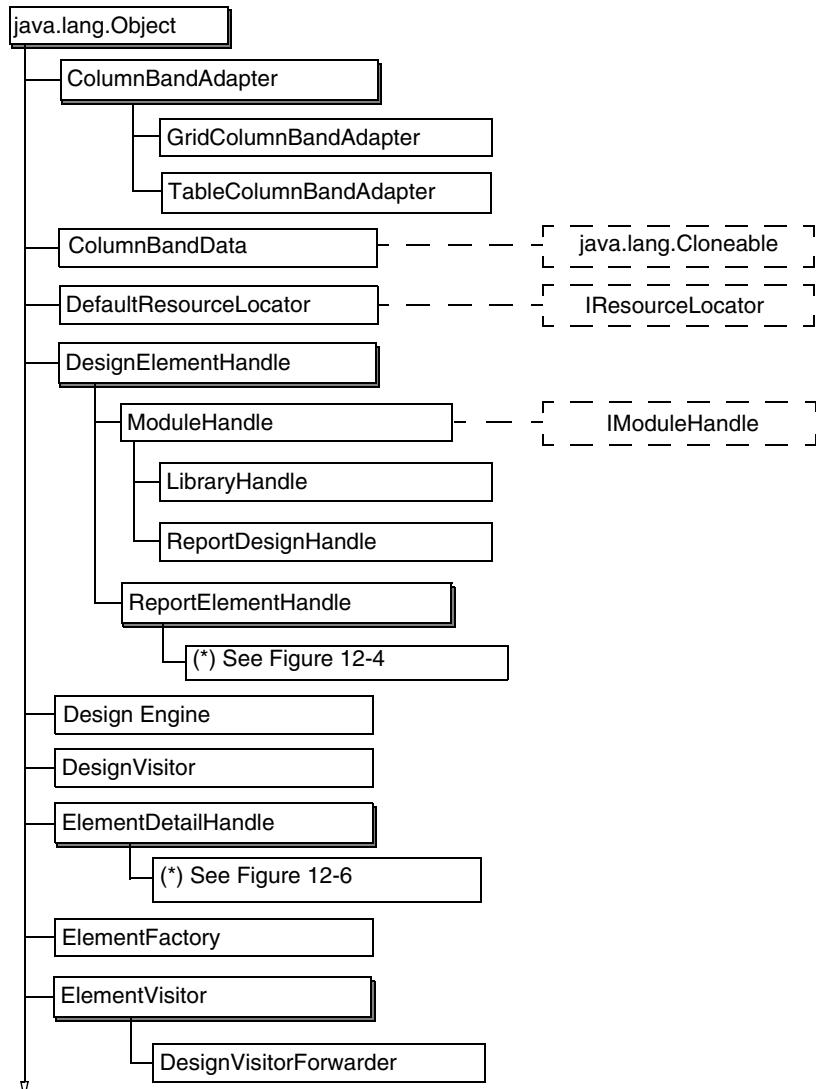
## **Individual element handle classes**

The individual element handle classes derive from ReportDesignHandle. Each report element has its own handle class. To work with operations unique to a

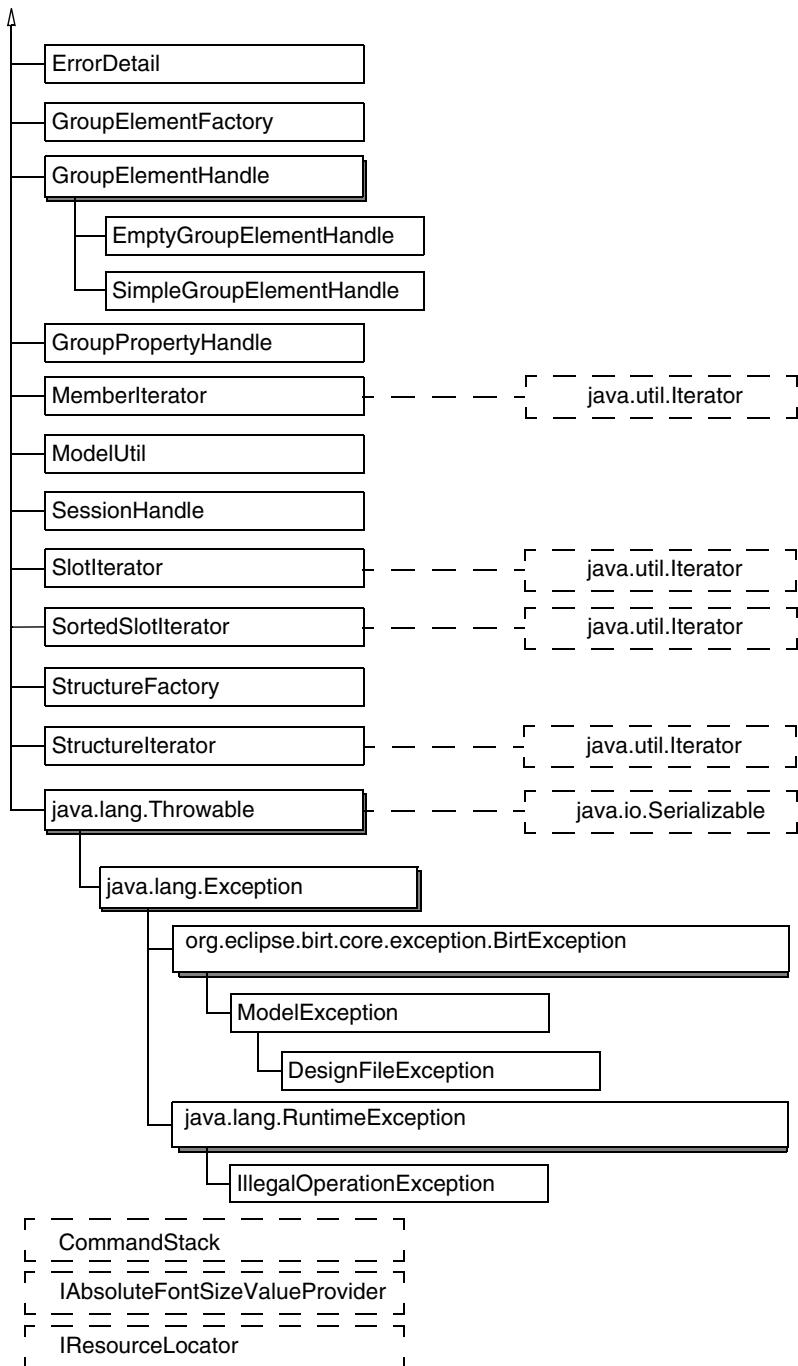
given report element, you cast the ReportDesignHandle to the appropriate subclass for the element. For example, the CellHandle class has methods such as getColumn( ), while the DataSourceHandle class has methods such as setBeforeOpen( ).

## Design engine class hierarchy

Figure 12-3 illustrates the hierarchy of the classes within the design engine package. The hierarchy diagram omits package prefixes on class names for the classes and interfaces in the package org.eclipse.birt.report.model.api.



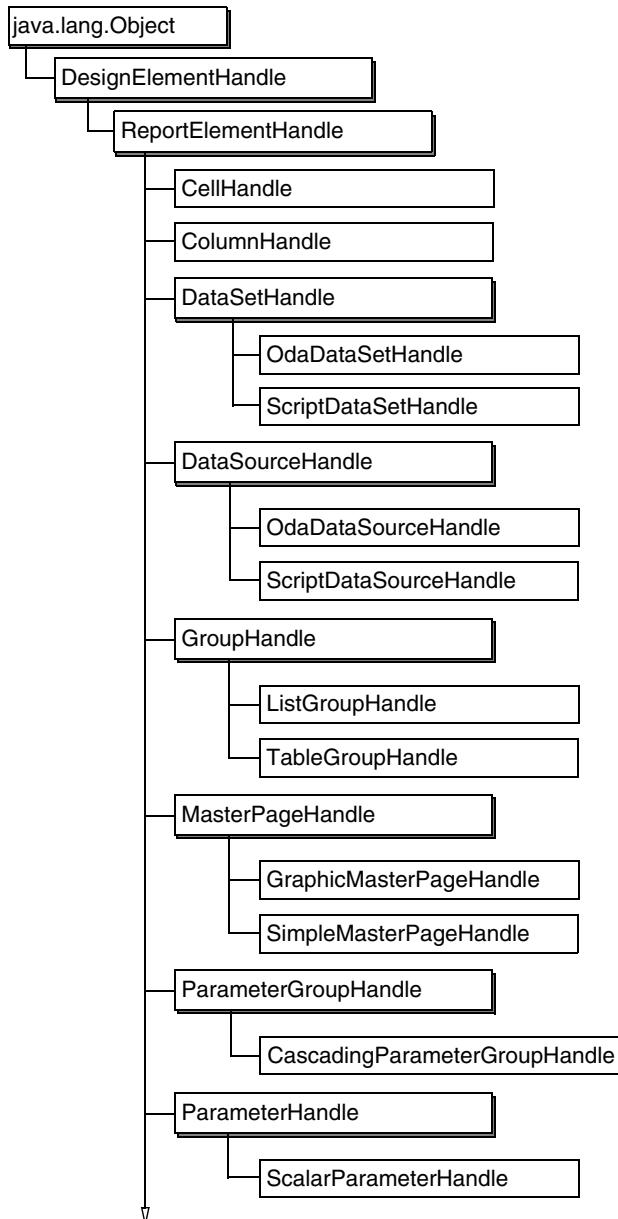
**Figure 12-3** Classes within the report model package (*continues*)



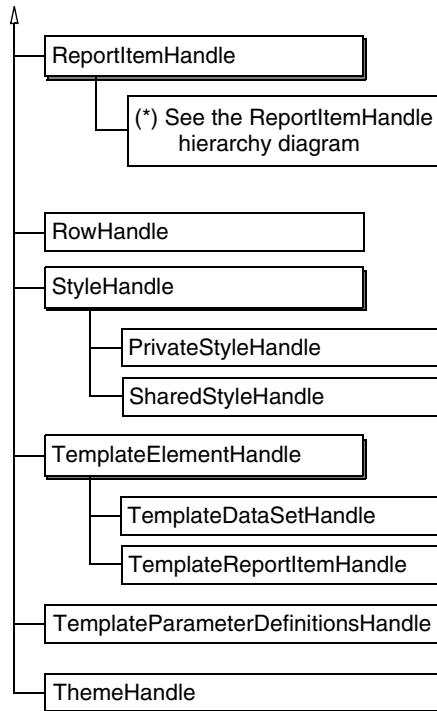
**Figure 12-3** Classes within the report model package (*continued*)

## ReportElementHandle hierarchy

Figure 12-4 contains the class hierarchy for ReportElementHandle and the classes that derive from it.



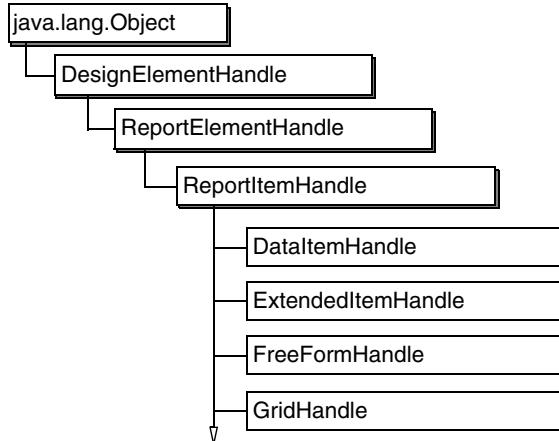
**Figure 12-4** ReportElementHandle class hierarchy (*continues*)



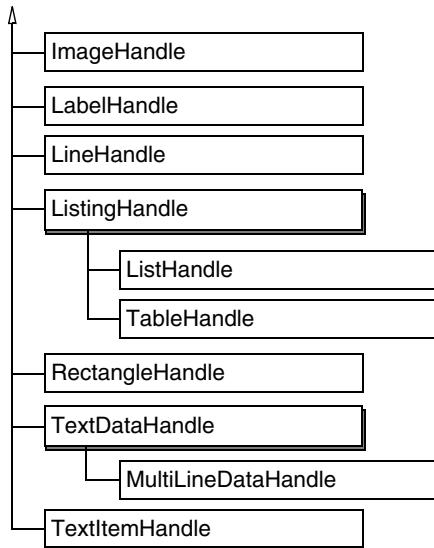
**Figure 12-4** ReportElementHandle class hierarchy (*continued*)

### ReportItemHandle hierarchy

Figure 12-5 contains the class hierarchy for ReportItemHandle and the classes that derive from it.



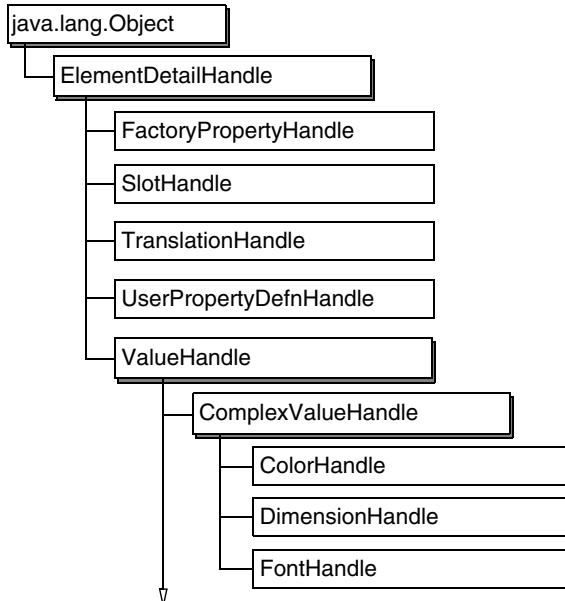
**Figure 12-5** ReportItemHandle class hierarchy



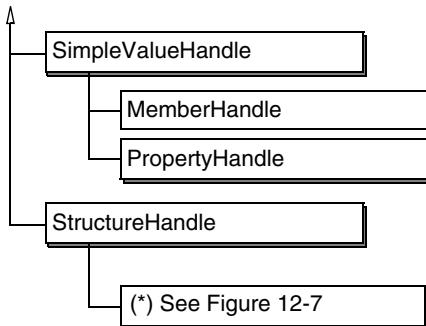
**Figure 12-5** ReportItemHandle class hierarchy (*continued*)

### ElementDetailHandle hierarchy

Figure 12-6 contains the class hierarchy for ElementDetailHandle and the classes that derive from it.



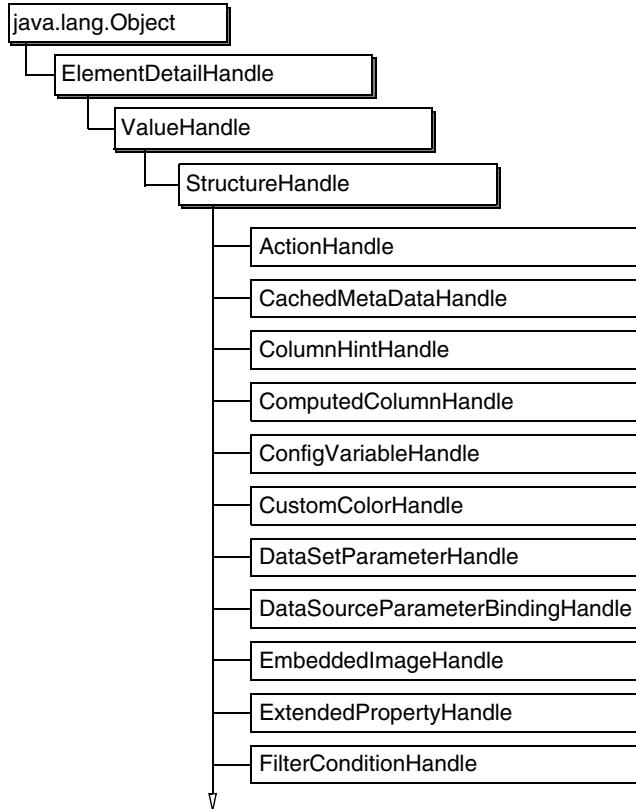
**Figure 12-6** ElementDetailHandle class hierarchy (*continues*)



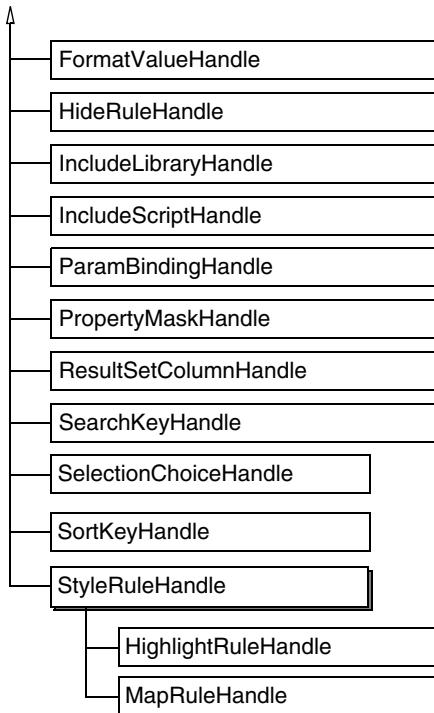
**Figure 12-6** ElementDetailHandle class hierarchy (*continued*)

## StructureHandle hierarchy

Figure 12-7 contains the class hierarchy for StructureHandle and the classes that derive from it.



**Figure 12-7** StructureHandle class hierarchy



**Figure 12-7**      StructureHandle class hierarchy *(continued)*

## About the BIRT Chart Engine API

The Chart Engine API is based upon the EMF as a structured data model. The Chart Engine API includes many packages in the [org.eclipse.birt.chart](#) hierarchy.

Use the classes and interfaces in the chart engine API to modify chart objects within a BIRT reporting application or in a stand-alone charting application.

The `model.*` packages contain the core chart model interfaces and enumeration classes generated using EMF. The `model.*.impl` packages contain the core chart model implementation classes generated using EMF. All other packages are dependencies and indirect references from the core model.

There is a one-to-one correspondence between the classes in the `impl` packages and the interfaces in corresponding `model` packages. The classes in the `impl` packages implement the methods in the interfaces of the corresponding `model` classes. The `impl` classes also contain factory methods that you use to create an instance of a class.

## Using the BIRT Chart Engine API

Although there are over 500 classes and interfaces in the BIRT Chart Engine API, most of functionality for creating or modifying a chart is concentrated in a small subset of classes and interfaces.

The primary interface in the BIRT Chart Engine API is the Chart interface. An object of the Chart type is called the chart instance object. The Chart interface has two subinterfaces, ChartWithAxes and ChartWithoutAxes. DialChart is a third interface that inherits from ChartWithoutAxes. You create a chart instance object with the create() method of either ChartWithAxesImpl, ChartWithoutAxesImpl, or DialChartImpl, as in the following statement:

```
ChartWithAxes myChart = ChartWithAxesImpl.create( );
```

You set the basic properties of a chart, such as its title and dimensionality with setter methods of the Chart interface, such as:

```
myChart.setTitle( "Monthly Sales" );
myChart.setDimension( ChartDimension.THREE_DIMENSIONAL );
```

You set the more complex properties of a chart, like the characteristics of the chart's axes and series by getting an instance of the object you want to modify and then setting its properties. For example, to set the caption of a chart's x-axis, you can use the following code:

```
Axis xAxis = myChart.getPrimaryBaseAxes( )[0];
xAxis.getTitle( ).getCaption( ).setValue( "Months" );
```

Although charts are often identified by type, such as a pie chart or a line chart, a chart with multiple series of differing types cannot be classified as one type. A series, on the other hand, has a specific type. With the BIRT Chart Engine API, you can create a specific type of series by using the create() method of one of the SeriesImpl subclasses. For example, the following code creates a bar series:

```
BarSeries barSeries1 = ( BarSeries ) BarSeriesImpl.create( );
```

For more information about using the BIRT Chart Engine API, see the chapter about programming with the BIRT Chart Engine APIs.

## Chart engine class hierarchy

The diagrams that follow contain hierarchies for the following chart engine packages:

- org.eclipse.birt.chart.aggregate
- org.eclipse.birt.chart.datafeed
- org.eclipse.birt.chart.device
- org.eclipse.birt.chart.event
- org.eclipse.birt.chart.exception

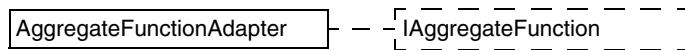
- org.eclipse.birt.chart.factory
- org.eclipse.birt.chart.log
- org.eclipse.birt.chart.model
- org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.attribute
- org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.component
- org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.data
- org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.layout
- org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.type
- org.eclipse.birt.chart.render
- org.eclipse.birt.chart.script
- org.eclipse.birt.chart.util

The hierarchy diagrams for the `org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.*.impl` packages are not included because they are simply implementations of the interfaces in the corresponding `org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.*` packages. The model packages, with two exceptions, contain only interfaces.

The first exception is `org.eclipse.birt.chart.model`, which has one class, `ScriptHandler`. The second exception is `org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.attribute`, which has a set of enumeration classes, one for each attribute. Each of the enumeration classes only contains a list of legal values for its attribute.

## **chart.aggregate hierarchy**

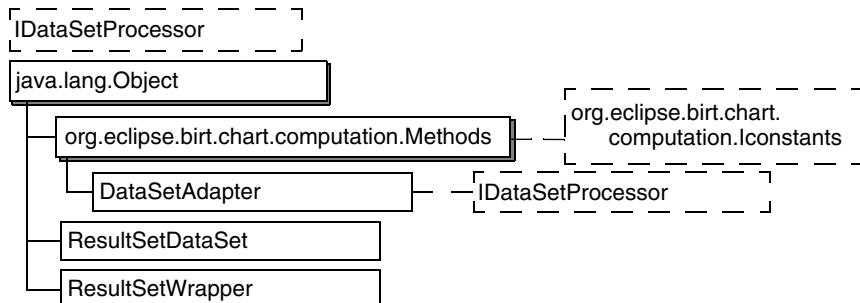
Figure 12-8 contains the class hierarchy for `org.eclipse.birt.chart.aggregate`.



**Figure 12-8** Interfaces in `org.eclipse.birt.chart.aggregate`

## **chart.datafeed hierarchy**

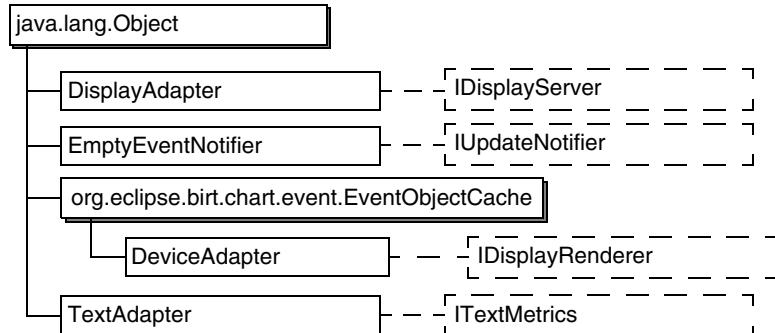
Figure 12-9 contains the class hierarchy for `org.eclipse.birt.chart.datafeed`.



**Figure 12-9** Interfaces in `org.eclipse.birt.chart.datafeed`

## **chart.device class hierarchy**

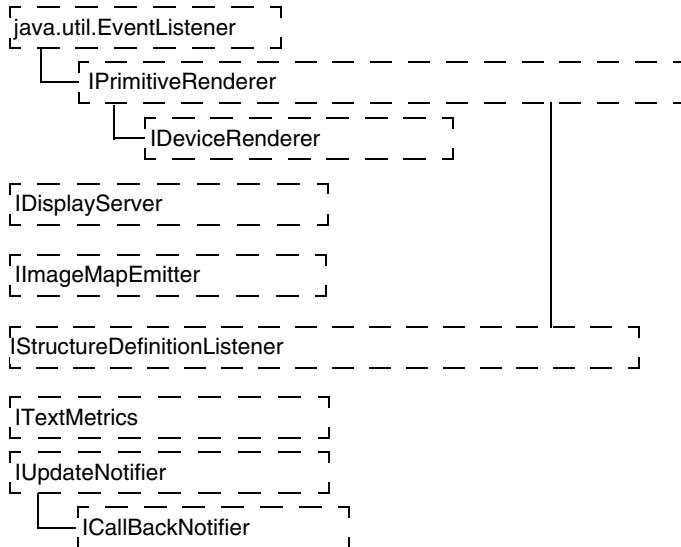
Figure 12-10 contains the class hierarchy for org.eclipse.birt.chart.device.



**Figure 12-10** Classes in org.eclipse.birt.chart.device package

## **chart.device interface hierarchy**

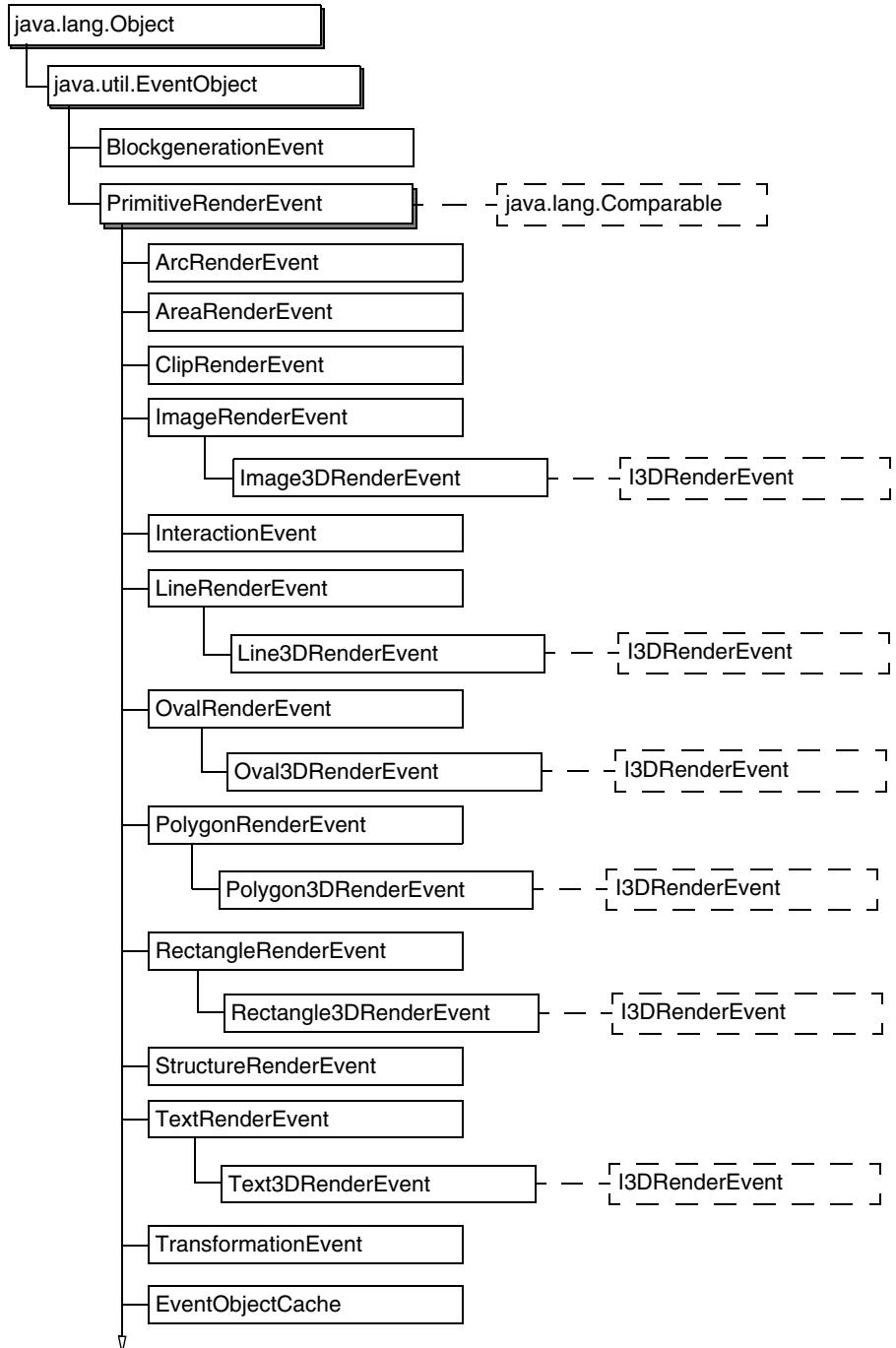
Figure 12-11 contains the interface hierarchy for org.eclipse.birt.chart.device.



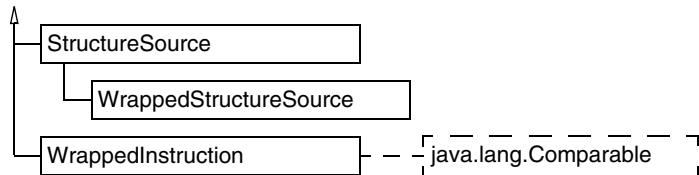
**Figure 12-11** Interfaces in org.eclipse.birt.chart.device package

## **chart.event class hierarchy**

Figure 12-12 contains the class hierarchy for org.eclipse.birt.chart.event.



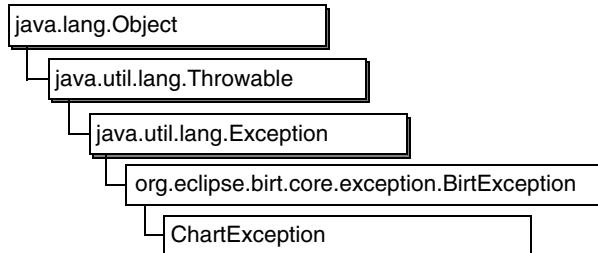
**Figure 12-12** Classes in `org.eclipse.birt.chart.event` package (*continues*)



**Figure 12-12** Classes in `org.eclipse.birt.chart.event` package (*continued*)

### chart.exception class hierarchy

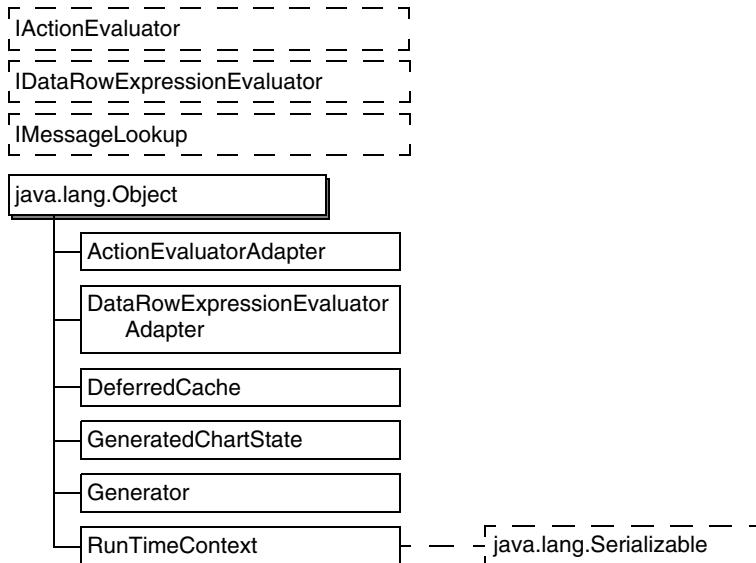
Figure 12-13 contains the class hierarchy for `org.eclipse.birt.chart.exception`.



**Figure 12-13** Classes in `org.eclipse.birt.chart.exception` package

### chart.factory class hierarchy

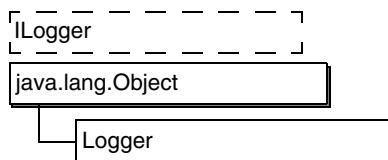
Figure 12-14 contains the class hierarchy for `org.eclipse.birt.chart.factory`.



**Figure 12-14** Classes and interfaces in `org.eclipse.birt.chart.factory` package

## chart.log class hierarchy

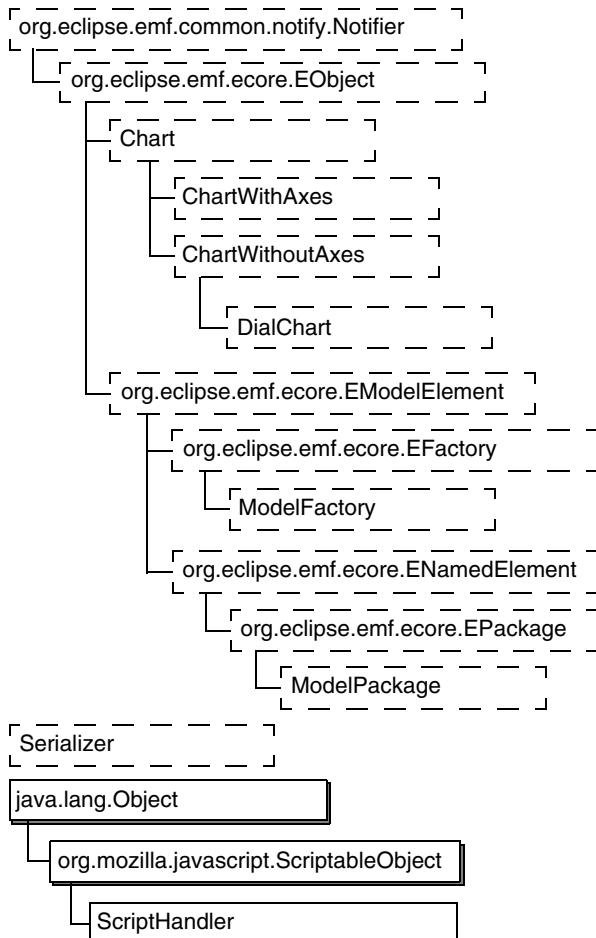
Figure 12-15 contains the class hierarchy for org.eclipse.birt.chart.log.



**Figure 12-15** Classes in org.eclipse.birt.chart.log package

## chart.model class hierarchy

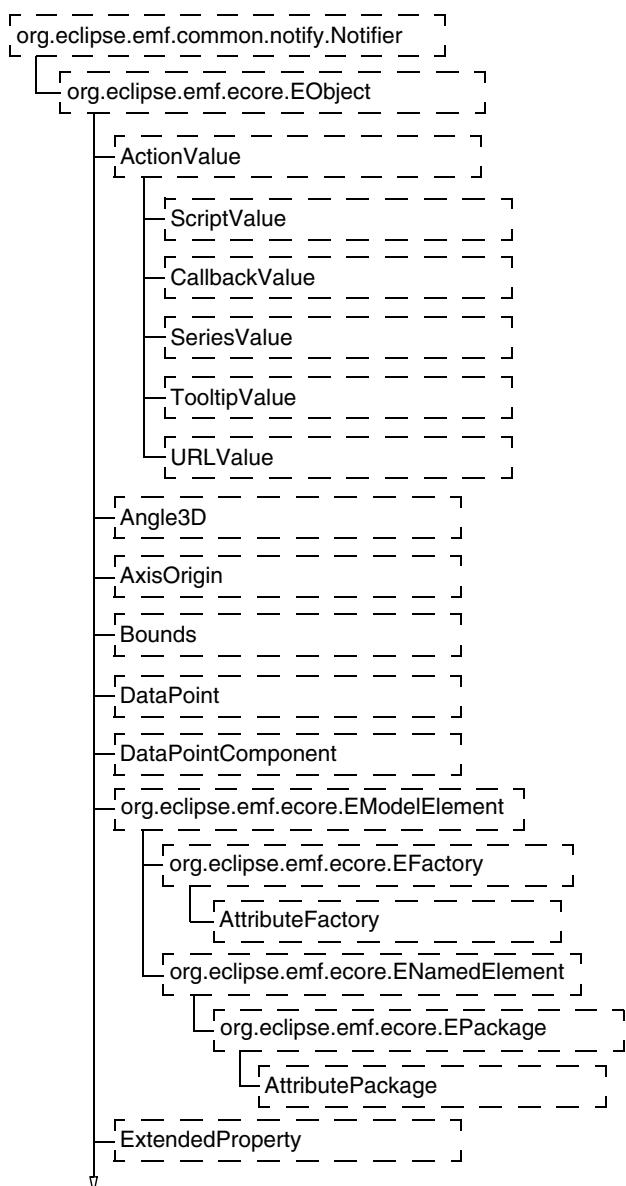
Figure 12-16 contains the class hierarchy for org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.



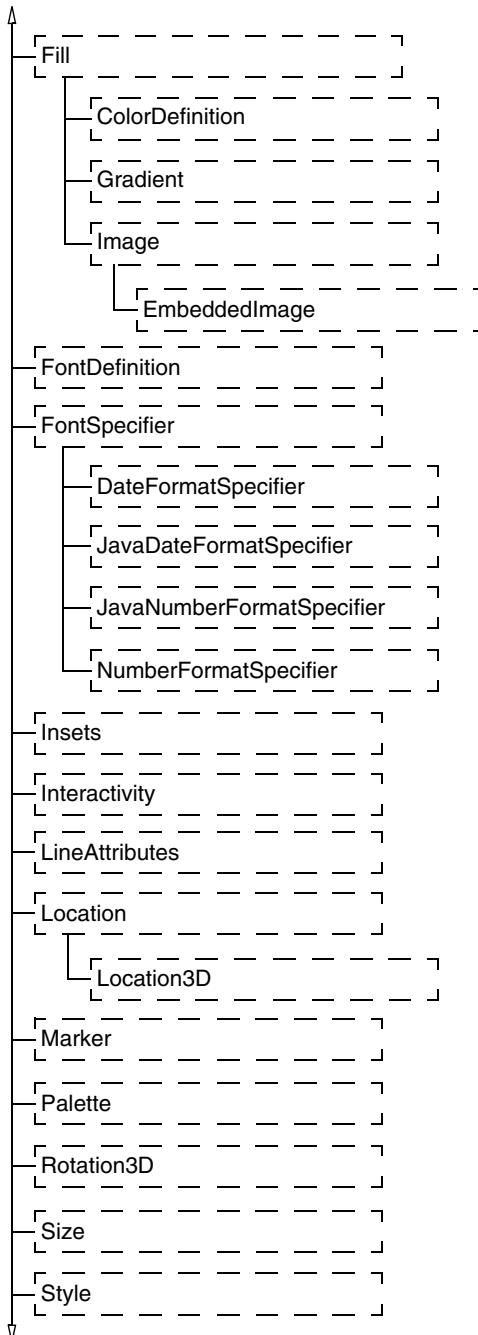
**Figure 12-16** Classes and interfaces in org.eclipse.birt.chart.model package

## chart.model.attribute interface hierarchy

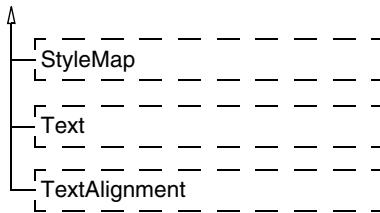
Figure 12-17 contains the interface hierarchy for org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.attribute.



**Figure 12-17** Interfaces in org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.attribute package



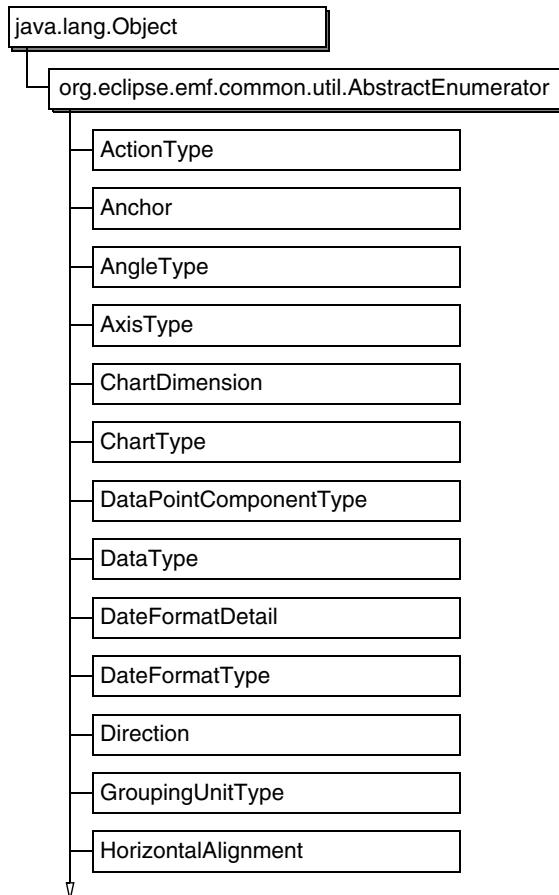
**Figure 12-17** Interfaces in `org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.attribute` package  
(continues)



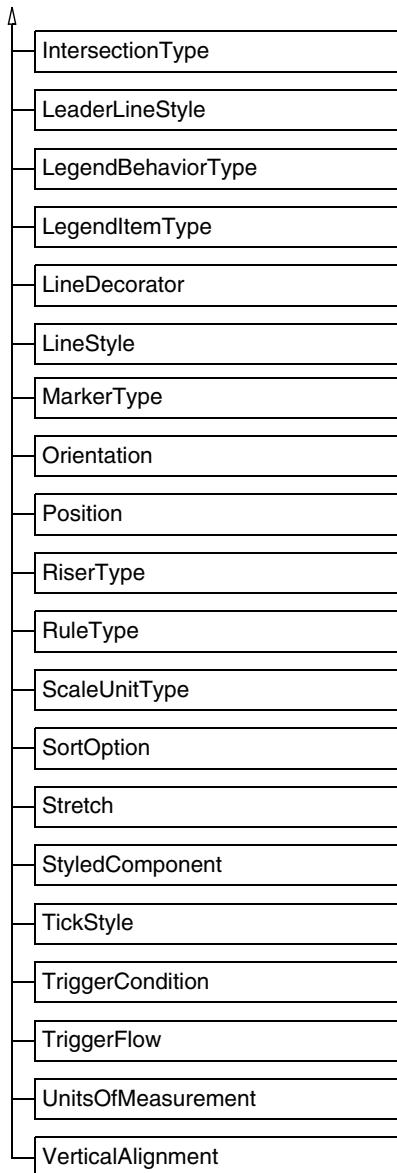
**Figure 12-17** Interfaces in `org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.attribute` package  
(continued)

## chart.model.attribute class hierarchy

Figure 12-18 contains the class hierarchy for `org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.attribute`.



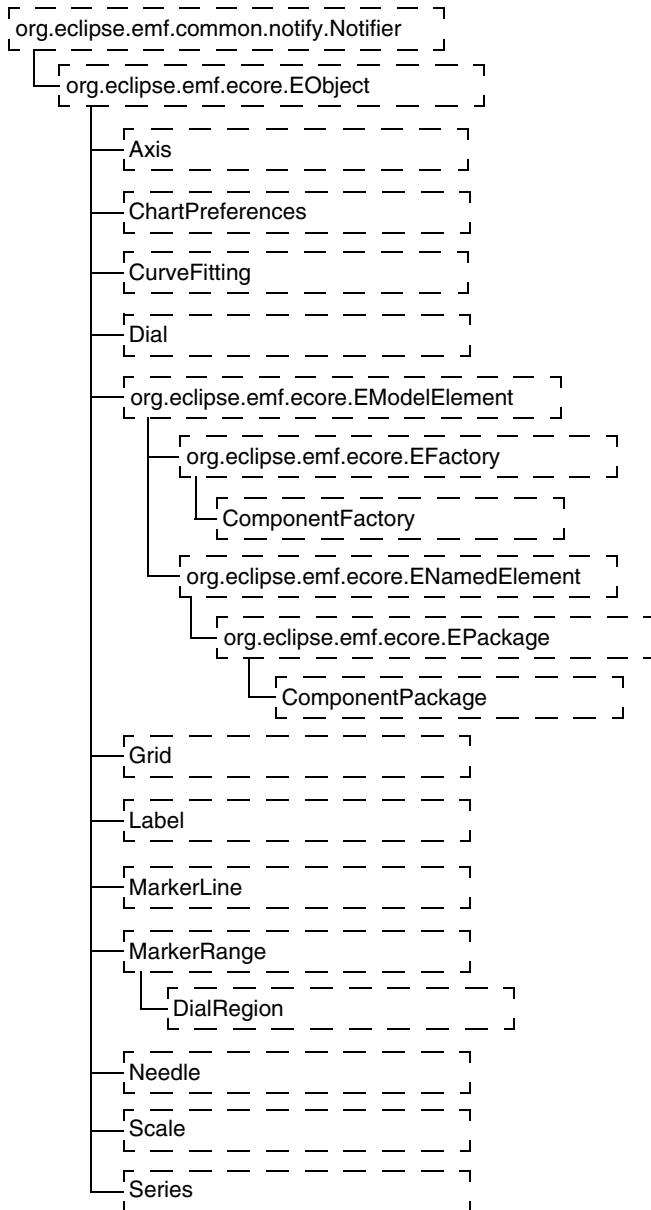
**Figure 12-18** Classes in `org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.attribute` package



**Figure 12-18** Classes in `org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.attribute` package  
(continued)

### **chart.model.component interface hierarchy**

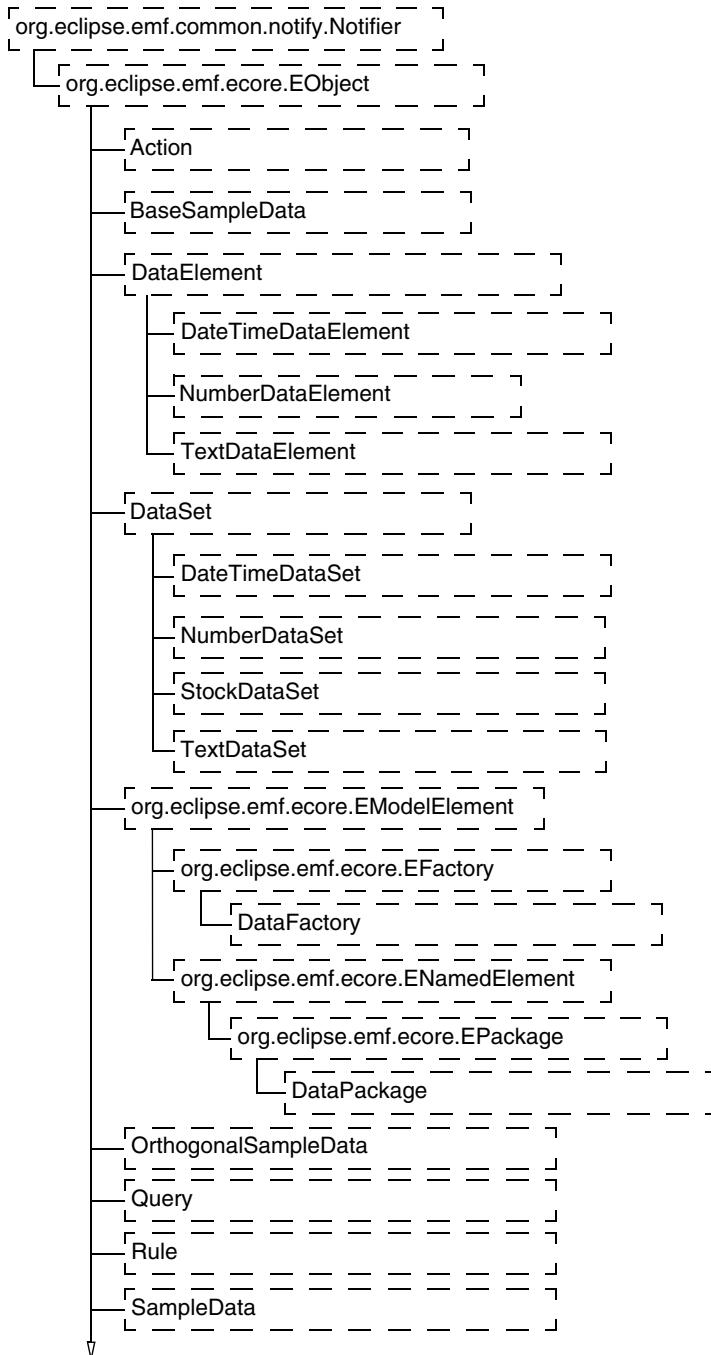
Figure 12-19 contains the interface hierarchy for `org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.component`.



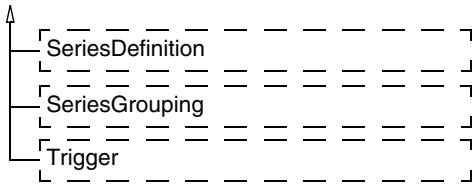
**Figure 12-19** Interfaces in `org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.component` package

## chart.model.data interface hierarchy

Figure 12-20 contains the interface hierarchy for `org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.data`.



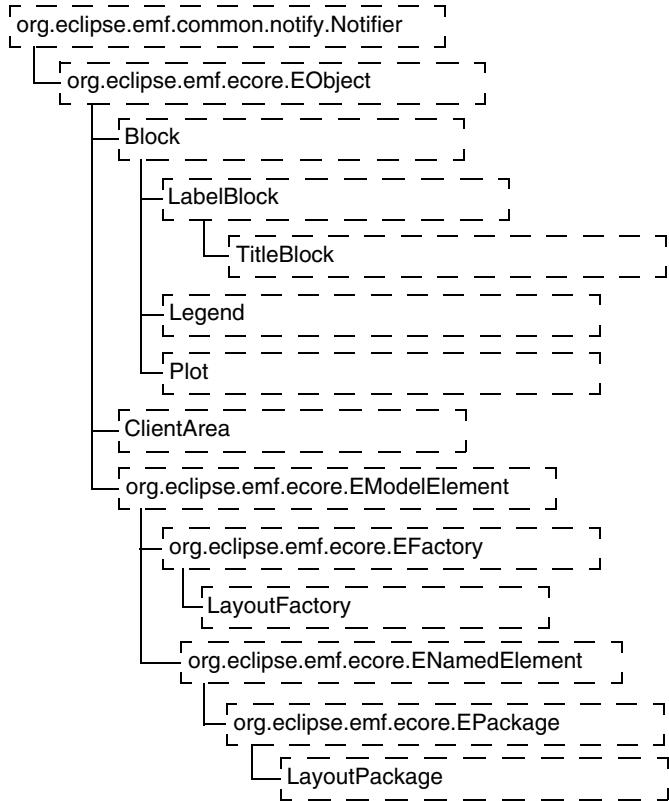
**Figure 12-20** Interfaces in `org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.data` package (*continues*)



**Figure 12-20** Interfaces in `org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.data` package (*continued*)

### chart.model.layout interface hierarchy

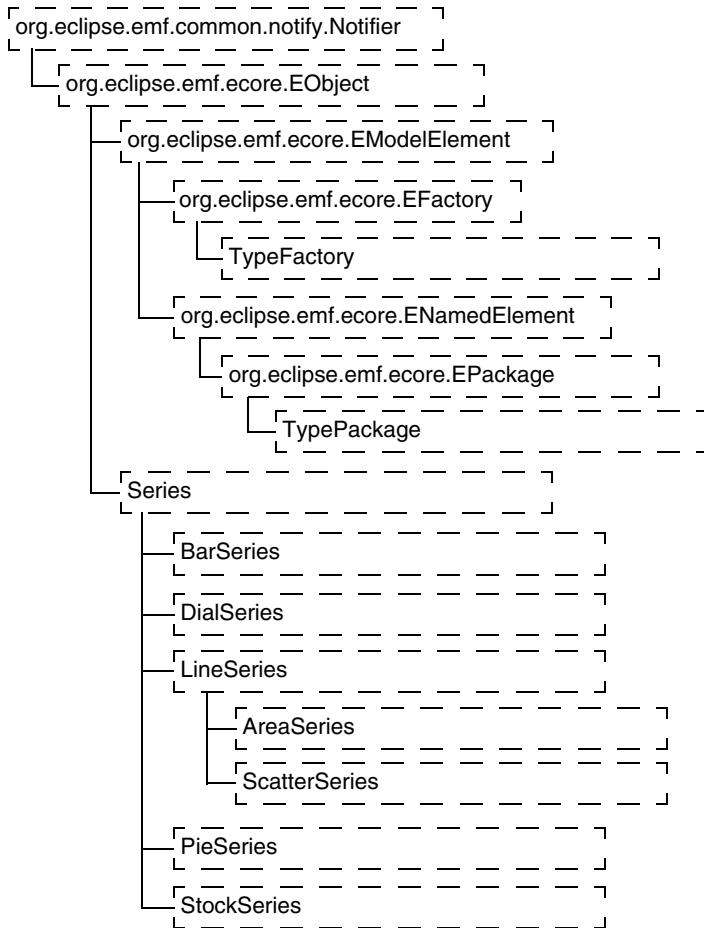
Figure 12-21 contains the interface hierarchy for `org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.layout`.



**Figure 12-21** Interfaces in `org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.layout` package

### chart.model.type interface hierarchy

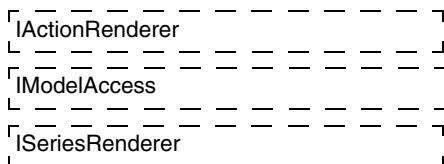
Figure 12-22 contains the interface hierarchy for `org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.type`.



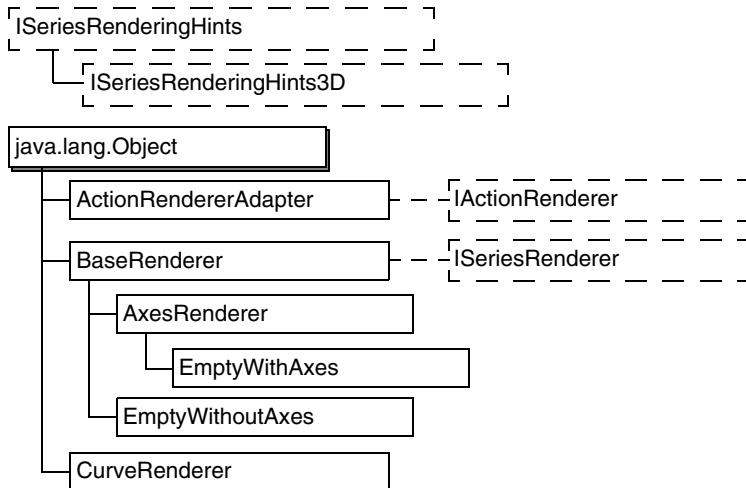
**Figure 12-22** Interfaces in `org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.type` package

### chart.render hierarchy

Figure 12-23 contains the class and interface hierarchy for `org.eclipse.birt.chart.render`.



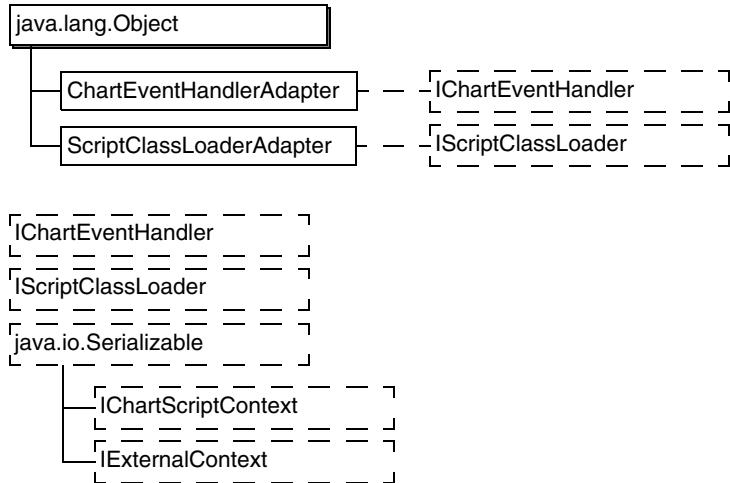
**Figure 12-23** Classes and interfaces in `org.eclipse.birt.chart.render` package  
(continues)



**Figure 12-23** Classes and interfaces in `org.eclipse.birt.chart.render` package (*continued*)

### chart.script hierarchy

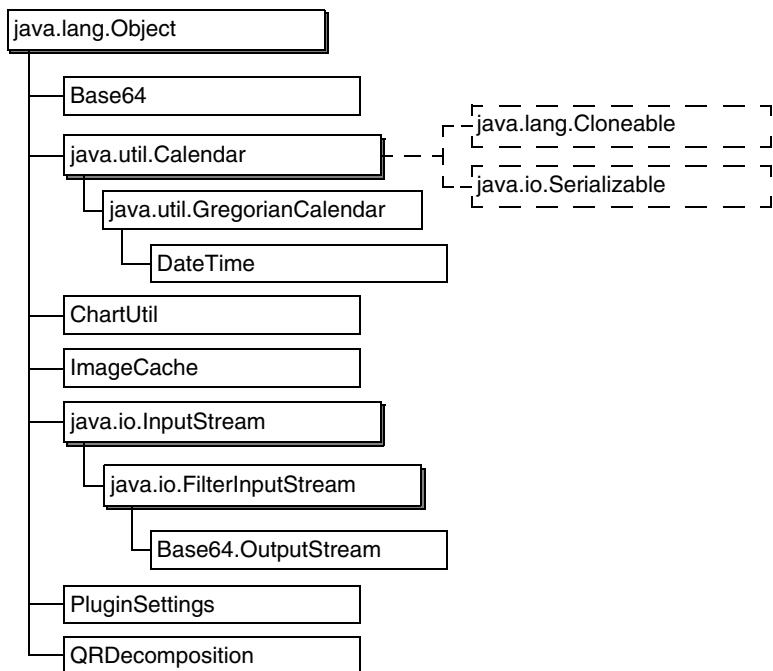
Figure 12-24 contains the class and interface hierarchy for `org.eclipse.birt.chart.script`.



**Figure 12-24** Classes and interfaces in `org.eclipse.birt.chart.script` package

## chart.util class hierarchy

Figure 12-25 contains the class hierarchy for org.eclipse.birt.chart.util.



**Figure 12-25** Classes in `org.eclipse.birt.chart.util` package

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---

# 13

## Programming with the BIRT Reporting APIs

A reporting application uses the BIRT report engine API to generate reports from report design (.rptdesign) files. Typically, the application produces the report as a formatted file or stream, in HTML or PDF format. Alternatively, the application can create a report document (.rptdocument) file that contains the report content in binary form, then renders the report to HTML or PDF later.

This chapter describes the fundamental requirements of a reporting application and describes the BIRT API classes and interfaces that you use in the application. This chapter also provides detailed information about the tasks to perform.

The BIRT APIs in the `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api` package support the process of generating a report from a report design. This package provides the `ReportEngine` class and supporting interfaces and classes.

Optionally, the reporting application can use the BIRT design engine API to access the structure of report designs, templates, and libraries. With this API, the application can create and modify report designs before generating a report. This API supports creating and modifying the report items and other elements within designs.

The `org.eclipse.birt.report.model.api` package and its subpackages provide access to all the items that comprise a report design.

For complete information about all the methods and fields of the classes and interfaces in these packages, see the online Javadoc. To view the Javadoc, open BIRT Report Designer and choose Help->Help Contents->BIRT Programmer Reference->Reference->API Reference. Choose Report Engine API Reference for the report engine API and Report Object Model API Reference for the design engine API. The Javadoc also shows supporting packages in the public API.

---

# Building a reporting application

An application that generates a report must carry out at least the required tasks described in the following sections. Further tasks, such as supplying user-entered values for parameters, are optional.

## Creating and configuring a report engine

Instantiate a ReportEngine object. Set the engine home directory and handler configuration for the desired output format. The engine home directory defines the location of required plug-ins and libraries.

A single report engine object can generate multiple reports from multiple report designs.

## Opening a report design or report document

Use one of the openReportDesign( ) methods of the ReportEngine class to open a report design from a String file name or an input stream. These methods return an IReportRunnable object.

Use the openReportDocument( ) method of the ReportEngine class to open a report document (.rptdocument) file from a String file name. This method returns an IReportDocument object.

## Ensuring access to the data source

Ensure that the report engine can locate the classes that connect to the data source and supply data to the data set. The report engine can either create a connection to the data source or use a Connection object that the application provides.

## Preparing to create a report in the supported output formats

Use an IRenderOption object to set the output format, the output file name or stream, the locale, and format-specific settings. The HTMLRenderOption class supports the HTML output format. For PDF output, use RenderOptionBase.

## Generating a report in one of the supported output formats

Use an IRunAndRenderTask object to create the report from the IReportRunnable object. Use an IRenderTask object to create the report from an IReportDocument object.

Alternatively, use a URL to access the report viewer servlet, such as when deploying a BIRT report to an application server, as described earlier in this book. The report viewer can generate a report from either a design file or a document file.

## Shutting down the engine

Shut down the report engine if the application does not need to generate more reports.

## Optional tasks

The tasks in the following list are optional for a reporting application. Typically, the application performs one or more of these tasks.

- Gather values for parameters.

If the application uses a report design that has parameters, use the default values for the parameters or set different values.

- Create a report document file.

A report document file contains the report in a binary storage form. If the application uses a report design, use an `IRunTask` object to create the report document as an `IReportDocument` object.

- Export data from a report document.

Use an `IDataExtractionTask` object to extract data values from any item or set of items in the report document. Export the data values to a file or another application, or perform further processing on the data.

## About the environment for a reporting application

You must ensure that the deployed application can access all the classes required for BIRT, your external data sources, and any other classes you need. The key requirement for BIRT is the location of the engine home. The engine home is the directory that contains the BIRT plug-ins and libraries needed to generate a report from a report design.

If you use the BIRT source code, you must ensure that the version that your application uses matches the version of the plug-ins and libraries in the BIRT engine home directory. If these versions are not the same, your reporting application is likely to fail.

The BIRT Report Engine package provides the complete environment for the reporting application. Earlier chapters in this book provide information about prerequisites and installing this package. The subdirectory, `ReportEngine`, of BIRT Report Engine contains all the plug-ins and libraries that the report engine uses. This directory contains a complete engine home that a reporting application requires.

## About plug-ins used by the report engine

The engine home directory has a subdirectory, `plugins`, that contains the `org.eclipse.birt` and other plug-ins that a reporting application can use. Depending on the requirements of your reporting application and the items in

your report designs, you can omit plug-ins that provide functionality that the application and designs do not use.

## About libraries used by the report engine

The lib subdirectory of the engine home directory contains the JAR files described in Table 13-1. This location within the report engine ensures that the class loader of the application server in which you deploy the report engine can locate the libraries. To support generation of reports in PDF format, the library `itext-1.3.jar` must exist in the lib subdirectory of the `report.engine.emitter.pdf` plug-in.

Depending on the requirements of your reporting application and the items in your report designs, you can omit libraries that provide functionality that the application and designs do not use.

**Table 13-1** Libraries in the engine home lib directory

Library	Description
<code>chartengineapi.jar</code>	From the chart.engine plug-in. Contains chart model and factory classes. Supports generation of charts in a report.
<code>com.ibm.icu_3.4.4.1.jar</code>	From IBM. Provides International Components for Unicode to support text in multiple locales.
<code>commons-cli-1.0.jar</code>	Used by the ReportRunner application in the report.engine plug-in. From the Apache Jakarta project. Provides command-line parsing. Reporting applications in a web environment do not require this library.
<code>commons-codec-1.3.jar</code>	Used by the report.engine plug-in. From the Apache Jakarta project. Provides encoding and decoding functionality.
<code>coreapi.jar</code>	From the core plug-in. Contains framework and utility classes.
<code>dataadapterapi.jar</code>	From the report.data.adapter plug-in.
<code>dteapi.jar</code>	From the data plug-in. Provides access to data sources. Transforms data that the data set provides.
<code>engineapi.jar</code>	From the report.engine plug-in. Required for generating a report from a report design.
<code>flute.jar</code>	Used by the report.model plug-in. From the W3 Consortium. Provides access to CSS functionality.
<code>js.jar</code>	From the core plug-in. Provides scripting functionality.

**Table 13-1** Libraries in the engine home lib directory (*continued*)

Library	Description
modelapi.jar	From the report.model plug-in. Describes the report design.
org.eclipse.emf.common_2.2.0.v<version>.jar	From the Eclipse EMF plug-in. Required for charts.
org.eclipse.emf.ecore.xmi_2.2.0.v<version>.jar	From the Eclipse EMF plug-in. Required for charts.
org.eclipse.emf.ecore_2.2.0.v<version>.jar	From the Eclipse EMF plug-in. Required for charts.
sac.jar	Used by the report.model plug-in. From the W3 Consortium. Required for CSS functionality.
scriptapi.jar	From the report.engine plug-in. Required for Java-based scripting.

## About required JDBC drivers

The engine home plugins/org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.jdbc\_<version> subdirectory contains a subdirectory, drivers. Place the driver classes or Java archive (.jar) files that you require to access JDBC data sources in this location.

## Modifying a report design with the API

A reporting application can also modify a report design before generating the report. The application uses classes in org.eclipse.birt.model.api to change the structure of a report design. Sections later in this chapter provide more information about the types of change you can make to a report design and how to use these classes.

To provide further customization of a report, during the generation of the output, a report design can use Java script classes or embedded JavaScript code to handle events. The reporting application can use the model API classes to include new scripts. Earlier chapters in this book provide more information about the functionality of scripting.

---

## Generating reports from an application

To build a stand-alone reporting application, code the tasks listed earlier in this chapter. The following sections describe these tasks in greater detail. The application does not require the BIRT Report Designer user interface to generate a report.

The key tasks are to ensure that the report engine has access to an engine home, set any parameter values, set up the tasks to generate the report, and run the report.

The org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api package contains the classes and interfaces that an application uses to generate reports. The main classes and interfaces are ReportEngine, EngineConfig, IReportRunnable, IRenderOption and its descendants, and IEngineTask and its descendants.

## Setting up the report engine

A report engine is an instantiation of the ReportEngine class. This object is the key component in any reporting application. It provides access to runnable report designs, parameters, the structure of a report design, and the task for generating a report from a report design. You set the report engine's properties with an EngineConfig object. The following sections describe the various configuration options.

After setting all the required properties, instantiate the report engine with new ReportEngine( ). The constructor takes an EngineConfig object as its argument.

### Configuring the engine home

The engine home is the key property that the report engine requires. The report engine cannot parse the report design nor run the report without a defined engine home.

For a stand-alone application, the engine home is an absolute path to a file system location. For an application running from a web archive (.war) file on an application server, the engine home is a relative path in the WAR file.

To set the engine home location, you use one of the following techniques:

- For a stand-alone application, call the EngineConfig.setEngineHome() method with an argument that is the path to your engine home directory, for example:

```
config.setEngineHome  
        ("C:/Program Files/birt-runtime-2_1_0/ReportEngine" );
```

- In your application's environment, set the BIRT\_HOME environment variable and set your CLASSPATH variable to access the required libraries. For example, in a Windows batch file that launches a stand-alone application, include commands similar to the following before running your application:

```
set BIRT_HOME=  
        "C:\Program Files\birt-runtime-2_1_0\ReportEngine"  
SET CLASSPATH=%BIRT_HOME%\<required library 1>;  
%BIRT_HOME%\<required library 2 and so on>;  
%CLASSPATH%
```

- For a web application that has a location in the file system, use the servlet context to find the real path of the engine home, for example:

```
config.setEngineHome  
        (servletContext.getRealPath( "/WEB-INF" ) );
```

- For a web application that runs from a WAR file, use a relative path from the WAR file root, for example:
 

```
config.setEngineHome( "" );
```
- In Eclipse, set BIRT\_HOME in the VM arguments in the Run dialog. For example, in VM arguments, type text similar to the following:
 

```
-DBIRT_HOME=
"C:\Program Files\birt-runtime-2_1_0\ReportEngine"
```

## Configuring the report engine

Optionally, you can also set other configuration properties using methods on an EngineConfig object. Table 13-2 describes these properties and how to set them with EngineConfig methods. The EngineConfig class also provides getter methods to access these properties. Sections later in this chapter provide examples of setting engine configuration properties and how an application uses them.

**Table 13-2**     EngineConfig properties

Property type	Setting the property
HTML emitter configuration	For custom handling of images or actions for HTML output. Create a new HTMLEmitterConfig object and set up the handlers. Then call setEmitterConfiguration( ).
Logging	To set the logging file location and level, call setLogConfig( ).
Platform context	To indicate whether the application and engine home are in a stand-alone environment or packaged as a web archive (.war) file, create an implementation of the IPlatformContext interface. Then call setEngineContext( ).
Resource files	To set the location where the reporting application can access resource files such as libraries and properties files that contain localized strings, call setResourcePath( ).
Scripting configuration	To provide external values to scripting methods, call setConfigurationVariable( ). To provide additional Java resources to scripting methods, call addScriptableJavaObject( ).
Status handling	To provide a custom status handler, create an implementation of the IStatusHandler interface. Then call setStatusHandler( ).
Temporary file location	To set up a custom location for temporary files, call setTempDir( ).

## **Setting up a stand-alone or WAR file environment**

Two engine configuration properties depend on whether the environment in which the application runs is stand-alone or in a web archive (.war) file in an application server. These properties are the platform context and the HTML emitter configuration. The platform context provides the report engine with the mechanism to access files. The HTML emitter configuration provides the functionality to process images and handle hyperlinking and bookmark actions.

### **Setting up the platform context**

For the platform context, the BIRT framework provides two implementations of the org.eclipse.birt.core.framework.IPlatformContext interface. These implementations provide all the required functionality for the platform context. For a stand-alone application, the context provides direct file system access to files. For an application running on an application server, the context uses the J2EE ServletContext class for file access. In the case of an application that runs from a WAR file, the platform context uses the resource-based access provided by the ServletContext class.

By default, BIRT uses a PlatformFileContext object, which provides the platform context for a stand-alone application. This context is also suitable for a web application that uses file system deployment on the application server.

For an application that runs from a WAR file on an application server, you must instantiate a PlatformServletContext object. The constructor for this class takes two arguments, a ServletContext object and a URL that is the path to the application. Use the PlatformServletContext object as the argument to the EngineConfig object's setEngineContext( ) method. For example, the code in Listing 13-1 sets up a platform context for a reporting application that uses MarketApp as its context root.

### **Setting up the HTML emitter**

When you generate a report in HTML format, BIRT's HTML emitter creates image files for image elements and chart elements. The emitter also handles hyperlink, bookmark, and drill-through actions.

To set up an image handler, instantiate an implementation of the IHTMLImageHandler interface. For a stand-alone application, create an HTMLCompleteImageHandler object. Typically, the functionality that this class provides is sufficient, so your application does not need to extend it. For an application that runs from a WAR file on an application server, instantiate an HTMLServerImageHandler object. Typically for the application server environment, you need to extend from the base class that BIRT provides.

To set up an action handler, instantiate an implementation of the IHTMLActionHandler interface. This object handles the hyperlink, bookmark, and drill-through actions that the IAction interface defines.

To set up the HTML emitter, instantiate an HTMLEmitterConfig object. To configure the image handler, call the HTMLEmitterConfig.setImageHandler( )

method. To configure the action handler, call the HTMLEmitterConfig.setActionHandler( ) method. Call the EngineConfig.setEmitterConfiguration( ) method to complete the emitter configuration. This method takes two arguments, the output format type, which is RenderOptionBase.OUTPUT\_FORMAT\_HTML, and an HTMLEmitterConfig object. For a reference implementation of an emitter configuration for HTML format, see the org.eclipse.birt.report.viewer plug-in.

#### **Listing 13-1** Setting up the platform context for WAR file deployment

---

```
// Instantiate an engine configuration object.  
EngineConfig config = new EngineConfig();  
// Set the relative path of the engine home in the WAR file.  
config.setEngineHome( "" );  
// Create the platform context as a hard-coded string.  
// Alternatively, use HttpServletRequest methods to retrieve  
// the context dynamically.  
// In this code, servletContext is a ServletContext object.  
IPlatformContext context = new PlatformServletContext  
    ( servletContext, "http://localhost:8080/MarketApp" );  
// Set the engine context in the configuration object.  
config.setEngineContext( context );
```

#### **How to set up a report engine**

Listing 13-2 shows an example of setting up a report engine as a stand-alone application on a Windows system. The application uses the engine home located in the BIRT run-time directory. The report output format is HTML. The application configures the HTML emitter, then creates the engine with completed EngineConfig object.

#### **Listing 13-2** Setting up the report engine

---

```
// Create an EngineConfig object.  
EngineConfig config = new EngineConfig();  
// Set up the path to your engine home directory.  
config.setEngineHome  
    ( "C:/Program Files/birt-runtime-2_1_0/ReportEngine" );  
// Explicitly set up the stand-alone application  
IPlatformContext context = new PlatformFileContext();  
config.setEngineContext( context );  
// Set up writing images or charts embedded in HTML output.  
HTMLCompleteImageHandler imageHandler =  
    new HTMLCompleteImageHandler();  
HTMLEmitterConfig hc = new HTMLEmitterConfig();  
hc.setImageHandler( imageHandler );  
config.setEmitterConfiguration  
    ( RenderOptionBase.OUTPUT_FORMAT_HTML, hc );  
// Create the engine.  
ReportEngine engine = new ReportEngine( config );
```

## Using the logging environment to debug an application

BIRT Report Engine uses the `java.util.logging` classes, `Logger` and `Level`, to log information about the processing that the engine performs. When you run an application in the Eclipse workbench, by default, the messages appear in the console. When you run an application external to Eclipse, the default location of the log messages depends on your environment. The default logging threshold is `Level.INFO`. Typically, you change this level in your application to reduce the number of internal logging messages.

To set up the logging environment to write the engine's log messages to a file on disk, use the `EngineConfig.setLogConfig()` method. This method takes two arguments, the directory in which to create the log file and the lowest level at which to log information. BIRT Report Engine creates a log file with a name whose format is `ReportEngine_YYYY_MM_DD_hh_mm_ss.log`. Set the logging level to a high threshold so that the engine logs a reduced number of messages.

Typically, you want to see information at `INFO` level when you first develop a block of code. To modify the amount of information that the engine logs, use the `ReportEngine.changeLogLevel()` method. This method takes a single argument, which is a `Level` constant. When the code is stable, you no longer need to see all the engine's `INFO` messages. At that point, you can delete or comment out the call to `changeLogLevel()`.

### How to use BIRT logging

The following example shows how to use logging in an application. You set up the logging environment, then modify it later in your application.

- 1 Set up the logging configuration on the report engine object.

```
// Create an EngineConfig object.  
EngineConfig config = new EngineConfig();  
//Set up the location and level of the logging output.  
config.setLogConfig( "C:/Temp", Level.ERROR );  
// Set up any other required configuration settings here.  
// Create the report engine.  
ReportEngine engine = new ReportEngine( config );
```

- 2 In any newly written code, increase the amount of logging.

```
engine.changeLogLevel( Level.INFO );
```

## Opening a source for report generation

BIRT Report Engine can generate a report from either a report design or a report document. The engine can also generate a report document from a report design.

To open a report design, you call one of the `openReportDesign()` methods on `ReportEngine`. These methods instantiate an `IReportRunnable` object, using a `String` that specifies the path to a report design or an input stream.

To open a report document, you call the ReportEngine.openReportDocument( ) method. This method instantiates an IReportDocument object, using a String that specifies the path to a report document. You must handle the EngineException that these methods throw.

## Understanding an IReportRunnable object

The IReportRunnable object provides direct access to basic properties of the report design. The names of report design properties are static String fields, such as IReportRunnable.AUTHOR. To access a report design property, use the getProperty( ) method with a String argument that contains one of these fields.

To access and set the values of parameters, you use methods on a parameter definition task object, described later in this chapter. To generate a report from a design, open the report design as shown in the following example, then perform the tasks shown later in this chapter.

### How to access a report design

Listing 13-3 shows how to open a report design and find a property value. If the engine cannot open the specified report design, the code shuts down the engine. The variable, engine, is a ReportEngine object.

#### **Listing 13-3 Accessing a report design**

---

```
String designName = "./SimpleReport.rptdesign";
IReportRunnable runnable = null;
try {
    runnable = engine.openReportDesign( designName );
}
catch ( EngineException e )
{
    System.err.println
        ( "Design " + designName + " not found!" );
    engine.shutdown( );
    System.exit( -1 );
}
// Get the value of a simple property.
String author = ( String ) runnable.getProperty
    ( IReportRunnable.AUTHOR );
```

## Understanding an IReportDocument object

The IReportDocument object provides access to the data in a report and the report's structure. IReportDocument provides methods to retrieve table of contents entries, bookmarks, and page information.

To access table of contents entries, use the findTOC( ) method. This method takes a TOCNode argument and returns a TOCNode object. To find the root table of contents entry, use an argument of null. To find the subentries of a table of contents entry, use the getChildren( ) method. This method returns a List of

TOCNode objects. From a TOCNode object, you can retrieve the display value of the entry and a Bookmark object.

In turn, you can use the Bookmark object as an argument to the getPageNumber( ) method, which returns the number of the page to which the bookmark links. With this information, you can specify particular pages to render to a formatted report.

### How to access a report document

Listing 13-4 shows how to open a report document and navigate its table of contents to find a page. If the engine cannot open the specified report design, the code shuts down the engine. The variable, engine, is a ReportEngine object.

#### Listing 13-4 Accessing a report document

---

```
String dName = "./SimpleReport.rptdocument";
IReportDocument doc = null;
try { doc = engine.openReportDocument( dName );
} catch ( EngineException e ) {
    System.err.println( "Document " + dName + " not found!" );
    engine.shutdown();
    System.exit( -1 );
}
// Get the root of the table of contents.
TOCNode td = doc.findTOC( null );
java.util.List children = td.getChildren( );
long pNumber;
// Loop through the top level table of contents entries.
if ( children != null && children.size( ) > 0 ) {
    for ( int i = 0; i < children.size( ); i++ ) {
        // Find the required table of contents entry.
        TOCNode child = ( TOCNode ) children.get( i );
        if ( child.getDisplayString( ).equals( "103" ) ) {
            // Get the number of the page that contains the data.
            pNumber = doc.getPageNumber( child.getBookmark( ) );
            System.out.println( "Page to print is " + pNumber );
        }
    }
}
```

## Accessing a report parameter programmatically

A report parameter is a report element that provides input to a report design before the application generates the report. A report document does not use report parameters for generating a report. If your report source is a report document or the default values for all report parameters for a report design are always valid, you do not need to perform the tasks in this section.

Report parameters have attributes that a reporting application can access. The most commonly used attributes are name and value. The report engine uses the report design logic and the report parameter values to perform tasks such as filtering a data set or displaying an external value in the report.

After the reporting application sets the values for the report parameters, it must pass these values to the task that generates the report, as shown later in this chapter. To access report parameters and their default values and to set user-supplied values to a parameter, the reporting application uses the BIRT report engine API classes and interfaces shown in Table 13-3.

**Table 13-3** Classes that support report parameters

Class or interface	Description
ReportEngine	Call the <code>createGetParameterDefinitionTask()</code> method to access parameters. This method returns an <code>IGetParameterDefinitionTask</code> object.
IGetParameterDefinitionTask	The interface to access a single report parameter or a collection of all the report parameters in a report design. This interface also provides access to valid values for parameters that use restricted sets of values, such as cascading parameters.
IParameterDefnBase	The base interface for report parameter elements. Scalar parameters implement the derived interface, <code>IScalarParameterDefn</code> . Parameter groups implement the derived interface <code>IParameterGroupDefn</code> . To get information about parameter attributes, use objects of these types.
IParameterGroupDefn	The base interface for report parameter groups. Cascading parameter groups implement the derived interface <code>ICascadingParameterGroup</code> .
IParameterSelectionChoice	The interface for valid values for a report parameter that uses a restricted set of values, such as a cascading parameter.
ReportParameterConverter	The class that converts a String value provided by a user interface into a locale-independent format.

The following sections describe how to access report parameters by name or with generic code. You use generic code if the application must be able to run any report design, for example, if you access report designs from a list that depends on user input. If the application runs only a fixed set of known report designs, you can access the report parameters by name.

## **Creating a parameter definition task object for the report design**

A single IGetParameterDefinitionTask object provides access to all parameters in a report design. Create only one of these objects for each report design, by using the ReportEngine.createGetParameterDefinitionTask( ) method.

## **Testing whether a report design has report parameters**

To test if a report design has report parameters, call the getParameterDefns( ) method on IGetParameterDefinitionTask. This method returns a Collection. To test whether the Collection has elements call the Collection.isEmpty( ) method. If the application runs only known report designs, you do not need to perform this task.

## **Getting the report parameters in a report design**

To access a single report parameter with a known name, use the IGetParameterDefinitionTask.getParameterDefn( ) method. This method returns an object of type IParameterDefnBase. Alternatively, use the IGetParameterDefinitionTask.getParameterDefns( ) method to return a Collection of IParameterDefnBase objects. The application can then use an Iterator to access each report parameter from this Collection in turn.

The getParameterDefns( ) method takes a Boolean argument. When the argument is false, the method returns an ungrouped set of report parameters. When the argument is true, the method returns parameter groups, as defined in the report design. To create a user interface that replicates the parameter group structure, use a value of true.

To check whether a report parameter is a group, the application must call IParameterDefnBase.getParameterType( ). This method returns IParameterDefnBase.PARAMETER\_GROUP when the parameter is a group or IParameterDefnBase.CASCADING\_PARAMETER\_GROUP when the parameter is a cascading parameter group.

To access the group's report parameters, use the IParameterGroupDefn.getContents( ) method. This method returns an ArrayList object that contains objects of type IScalarParameterDefn.

## **Getting the default value of each report parameter**

This task is optional. To get the default value of a single known report parameter, use IGetParameterDefinitionTask.getDefaultValue( ). This method returns an Object. To determine the effective class of the Object, use IScalarParameterDefn.getDataType( ). This method returns an int value, which is one of the static fields in IScalarParameterDefn.

To get the default value of all parameters in the report design, use IGetParameterDefinitionTask.getDefaultValues( ). This method returns a HashMap object, which maps the report parameter names and their default values.

## **Getting valid values for parameters using a restricted set of values**

Some report parameters accept only values from a restricted list. In some cases, this list is a static list of values, such as RED, BLUE, or GREEN. In other cases, the list is dynamic and a query to a database provides the valid values. For example, a query can return the set of sales regions in a sales tracking database.

To determine the list of valid values, call the `IGetParameterDefinitionTask.getSelectionList()` method. This method returns a Collection of `IParameterSelectionChoice` objects. `IParameterSelectionChoice` has two methods. `getLabel()` returns the display text and `getValue()` returns the value. If the Collection is null, the report parameter can take any value.

## **Getting the attributes of each report parameter**

This task is optional. To get the attributes of a report parameter, use the `IScalarParameterDefn` methods. The application can use the attributes to generate a customized user interface. For example, to get the data type of a report parameter, use the `getDataType()` method.

## **Collecting an updated value for each report parameter**

To provide new values for the report parameters, provide application logic such as a user interface or code to retrieve values from a database. To set the value of the parameter, call `IGetParameterDefinitionTask.setParameterValue()`.

If you provide a user interface that returns String values to your application for date and number parameters, you must convert the String into a locale-independent format before setting the value. To perform this task, first call `ReportParameterConverter.parse()` to set the value to a locale-independent format. Next, call `IGetParameterDefinitionTask.setParameterValue()`.

After setting the report parameter values, call the `IGetParameterDefinitionTask.getParameterValues()` method. This method returns a `HashMap` object that contains values that calls to `IGetParameterDefinitionTask.setParameterValue()` set. You can later use this `HashMap` object to set the report parameter values for report generation, as described later in this chapter.

## **How to set the value of a known report parameter**

The code sample in Listing 13-5 shows how to set the value of a report parameter that has a known name. The sample creates a `HashMap` object that contains the parameter values to use later to run the report. The variable, `engine`, is a `ReportEngine` object. The variable, `runnable`, is an object of type `IReportRunnable`.

This sample does not show details of code for retrieving the parameter value from a user interface or a database. The code to perform these tasks depends on your application's requirements.

### **Listing 13-5**    Setting the value of a single parameter

---

```
// Create a parameter definition task.  
IGetParameterDefinitionTask task =  
    engine.createGetParameterDefinitionTask( runnable );  
// Instantiate a scalar parameter.  
IScalarParameterDefn param = (IScalarParameterDefn)  
    task.getParameterDefn( "customerID" );  
// Get the default value of the parameter.  
// The code assumes that the data type of the parameter,  
// customerID, is Double.  
int customerID =  
    ((Double) task.getDefaultValue( param )).intValue( );  
  
// Get a value for the parameter. This example does not  
// provide the code for this task. This example assumes that  
// this step creates a correctly typed object, inputValue.  
  
// Set the value of the parameter.  
task.setParameterValue( "customerID", inputValue );  
// Get the values set by the application for all parameters.  
HashMap parameterValues = task.getParameterValues( );
```

#### **How to use the Collection of report parameters**

The code sample in Listing 13-6 shows how to use the Collection of report parameters. The sample uses the ReportParameterConverter class to convert the String values that the user interface supplies into the correct format for the parameter. The sample creates a HashMap object that contains the parameter values to use later to run the report. The variable, engine, is a ReportEngine object. The variable, runnable, is an object of type IReportRunnable.

This sample does not show details of code for retrieving the parameter values from a user interface or a database. The code to perform these tasks depends on your application's requirements.

#### **Getting the values for cascading parameters**

A cascading parameter group uses a query to retrieve values from a database. The parameter definition task filters the values for each parameter in the group, based on the values of preceding parameters in the group. For example, consider a cascading parameter group that uses the following query.

```
SELECT  
    PRODUCTS.PRODUCTLINE,  
    PRODUCTS.PRODUCTNAME,  
    PRODUCTS.PRODUCTCODE  
FROM CLASSICMODELS.PRODUCTS
```

### **Listing 13-6**    Setting the values of multiple parameters

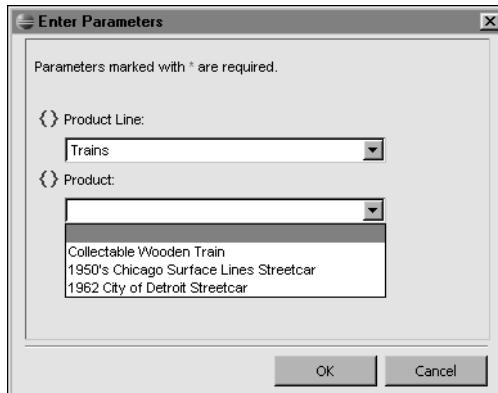
---

```
// Create a parameter definition task.  
IGetParameterDefinitionTask task =  
    engine.createGetParameterDefinitionTask( runnable );  
// Create a collection of the parameters in the report design.  
// This example does not use the parameter grouping.  
Collection params = task.getParameterDefns( false );  
// Get the default values of the parameters.  
HashMap parameterValues = task.getDefaultValues( );  
  
// Get values for the parameters. This example does not  
// provide the code for this task. Later code in this example  
// assumes that this step creates a HashMap object,  
// inputValues. The keys in the HashMap are the parameter  
// names and the values are those that the user provided.  
  
// Iterate through the report parameters, setting the values  
// to use for generating the report. Ensure that the values  
// are in standard locale-independent format.  
Iterator iterOuter = params.iterator( );  
while ( iterOuter.hasNext( ) )  
{  
    IParameterDefnBase param =  
        (IParameterDefnBase) iterOuter.next( );  
    String pname = param.getName( );  
    String value = (String) inputValues.get( pname );  
    if ( value != null )  
    {  
        ReportParameterConverter cfgConverter = new  
            ReportParameterConverter( "", Locale.getDefault() );  
        Object obj =  
            cfgConverter.parse( value, param.getDataType( ) );  
        parameterValues.put( pname, obj );  
    }  
}
```

The group contains two parameters, ProductLine on PRODUCTS.PRODUCTLINE and ProductCode on PRODUCTS.PRODUCTCODE. The display text for ProductCode is PRODUCTS.PRODUCTNAME. Figure 13-1 shows the appearance of the requester that prompts for values for these parameters when you preview the report in BIRT Report Designer.

To use the report engine API to get the values for cascading parameters, perform the tasks in the following list. Figure 13-1 shows an example of performing these tasks.

- To prepare the data values for the cascading parameters, call the method, IGetParameterDefinitionTask.evaluateQuery( ). This method takes the String name of the parameter group as a parameter.



**Figure 13-1** Cascading report parameters

- To populate the list of values for the first report parameter in the group, call the `IGetParameterDefinitionTask.getSelectionListForCascadingGroup()` method. This method takes two parameters, the String name of the parameter group and an array of Object. For the first parameter, this array is empty. The method returns a Collection of `IPrivateParameterSelectionChoice` objects.
- To populate the list of values for further report parameter in the group, call `getSelectionListForCascadingGroup()` again. In this case, the `Object[]` array contains the values for the preceding report parameters in the group. In the example shown in Figure 13-1, the `Object[]` array is:

```
new Object[] { "Trains" }
```

### How to use cascading parameters

The code sample in Listing 13-7 first shows how to run the query for cascading parameters. Next, the sample accesses the set of valid values for each parameter in the cascading parameter group in turn. The variable, `task`, is an object of type `IGetParameterDefinitionTask`.

#### **Listing 13-7** Getting the valid values for cascading parameters

```
// Create a grouped collection of the design's parameters.  
Collection params = task.getParameterDefns( true );  
// Iterate through the parameters to find the cascading group.  
Iterator iter = params.iterator( );  
while ( iter.hasNext( ) ) {  
    IParameterDefnBase param = ( IParameterDefnBase )  
        iter.next();  
    if ( param.getParameterType() ==  
        IParameterDefnBase.CASCADING_PARAMETER_GROUP ) {  
        ICascadingParameterGroup group =  
            ( ICascadingParameterGroup ) param;  
        Iterator i2 = group.getContents( ).iterator( );
```

```

// Run the query for the cascading parameters.
task.evaluateQuery( group.getName() );
Object[] userValues =
    new Object[group.getContents().size()];
// Get the report parameters in the cascading group.
int i = 0;
while ( i2.hasNext() ) {
    IScalarParameterDefn member =
        (IScalarParameterDefn) i2.next();
    // Get the values for the parameter.
    Object[] setValues = new Object[i];
    if ( i > 0 )
        System.arraycopy( userValues, 0, setValues, 0, i );
    Collection c =
        task.getSelectionListForCascadingGroup
            ( group.getName(), setValues );
    // Iterate through the values for the parameter.
    Iterator i3 = c.iterator();
    while ( i3.hasNext() ) {
        IParameterSelectionChoice s =
            (IParameterSelectionChoice) i3.next();
        String choiceValue = s.getValue();
        String choiceLabel = s.getLabel();
    }
    // Get the value for the parameter from the list of choices.
    // This example does not provide the code for this task.
    userValues[i] = inputChoiceValue;
    i++;
}
}

```

## Preparing to generate the report

BIRT provides two output formats for reports, HTML and PDF. You can also provide custom output formats by creating a new renderer from the rendering extension points, as discussed later in this book.

Three task classes support generating a report from a source. Sections earlier in this chapter described how to open the two types of source, a report design and a report document. The tasks that you use to generate a report from the source are:

- **IRunAndRenderTask.** An object of this type creates a report in unpaginated HTML format by running a report design directly. To instantiate this object, call the ReportEngine method, `createRunAndRenderTask()`.
- **IRunTask.** An object of this type creates a report document (.rptdocument) file from a report design. To instantiate this object, call the ReportEngine method, `createRunTask()`. After creating the report document, you create the report with an **IRenderTask** object.

- `IRenderTask`. An object of this type creates a complete report or a set of pages from a report by formatting the contents of a report document. To instantiate this object, call the `ReportEngine` method, `createRenderTask()`.

Each type of task object can act on multiple sources. When the application no longer needs the task object, call the task's `close()` method.

## Setting the parameter values for running a report design

To set the values for parameters for generating a report, use methods on an `IRunAndRenderTask` or an `IRunTask` object. These tasks run a report design to generate output. `IRenderTask` does not support changing the parameters for a report because its source is a report document. The `IRunTask` object that created the report document already specified the parameter values.

Call `setParameterValues()` to set the values for all the parameters. This method takes a `HashMap` as an argument. To create a suitable `HashMap`, perform the tasks described in “Accessing a report parameter programmatically,” earlier in this chapter.

To set the value for a single parameter when generating a report, call the `setParameterValue()` method. When the task generates the report or the report document, it uses the default values for any parameters that were not set by either of these methods.

## Setting up the rendering options

Before generating a report to either HTML or PDF, the application must set options that determine features of the output. The options must specify either an output file name or a stream. Other configuration options, such as setting whether to create embeddable HTML, are optional. BIRT supports two types of HTML output, HTML and embeddable HTML. Embeddable HTML is suitable for including inside another web page. This format contains no header information nor the `<html>` tag.

The application uses a rendering options object to set the output options on an `IRunAndRenderTask` or an `IRenderTask` object. The format-specific rendering options classes implement `IRenderOption` and extend `RenderOptionBase`. The rendering options class supporting the HTML format is `HTMLRenderOption`. There are no format-specific options for PDF output. To set options for PDF output, use the `RenderOptionBase` class.

## Setting up the rendering context

Before generating a report, the application must provide context settings to the rendering task. Use the `setAppContext()` method on an `IRenderTask` or an `IRunAndRenderTask` object. This method performs no function on an `IRunTask` object because this task does not render to an output format.

To set up the context for HTML rendering, use an `HTMLRenderContext` object. To set up the context for PDF rendering, use a `PDFRenderContext` object. To

apply a context setting, use setter methods on the rendering context object. These classes also have getter methods that retrieve context settings.

Both HTML and PDF rendering contexts support a base URL for an action handler and a list of the image formats that the output format accepts, as shown in the following list. The output format of the report defines which other context settings are available.

- Action handler base URL. If you use a custom action handler, set its base URL with the `setBaseURL()` method.
- Supported image formats for extended report items such as charts or custom extended items. The final rendering environment for the report, such as the browser for a report in HTML format, affects this context value. To set the supported formats, use `setSupportedImageFormats()` with a String that contains a list of the supported image formats as its argument. The image formats are standard types, such as BMP, GIF, JPG, and SVG. Semicolons (;) separate the items in the list. The method `getSupportedImageFormats()` returns a String of the same format.

After creating the rendering context object, call the task's `setContext()` method. This method takes a `HashMap` object as an argument. The key to the hash-map entry is one of the constants `APPCONTEXT_HTML_RENDER_CONTEXT` or `APPCONTEXT_PDF_RENDER_CONTEXT` in the `EngineConstants` class. The value of the entry is the rendering context object. Listing 13-8 includes code that sets the rendering context for HTML.

## Setting up the HTML rendering context

Before generating an HTML report that uses images on disk or creates images or charts in a report, the application must provide additional context settings. The `HTMLRenderContext` class provides the following settings:

- Image base directory. If your report designs use relative paths to access static images, set the path to their location with the `HTMLRenderContext.setBaseImageURL()` method.
- Image output directory. Many reports include images, either as static images or dynamically created images, such as charts. HTML reports place all images in a defined location. To set this location, call the `HTMLRenderContext.setImageDirectory()` method. If you do not set the base location, the report engine cannot place images in your report.

## Setting up the PDF rendering context

Before generating a PDF report that uses fonts from non-standard locations or needs to embed fonts in a report, the application must provide additional context settings. The `PDFRenderContext` class provides the following settings:

- Font directory. If your deployment platform uses fonts from a custom location, set the path to their location with the `setFontDirectory()` method.

This method takes a String argument, which is a list of directories separated by semicolon characters.

- Embedding fonts. If you need to embed custom fonts in the PDF document, call `PDFRenderContext.setEmbeddedFont( )` with an argument of true.

### How to configure properties for a report in HTML format

The code sample in Listing 13-8 shows the use of rendering options on an `IRunAndRenderTask` object to set report parameter values, the output format of the report, and the output file name. The variable, `engine`, is a `ReportEngine` object. The variable, `runnable`, is an object of type `IReportRunnable`. The variable, `name`, is the name of the report design.

#### **Listing 13-8 Configuring properties on an `IRunAndRenderTask` object**

---

```
// Create a run and render task object.  
IRunAndRenderTask task =  
    engine.createRunAndRenderTask( runnable );  
// Set values for all parameters in a HashMap, parameterValues  
task.setParameterValues( parameterValues );  
// Validate parameter values.  
boolean parametersAreGood = task.validateParameters( );  
// Set the name of an output file.  
HTMLRenderOption options = new HTMLRenderOption( );  
String output = name.replaceFirst( ".rptdesign", ".html" );  
options.setOutputFileName( output );  
// Apply the rendering options to the task.  
task.setRenderOption( options );  
// Instantiate an HTML rendering context object and  
// set the name of the directory for images.  
HTMLRenderContext renderContext = new HTMLRenderContext();  
renderContext.setImageDirectory("image");  
// Apply the rendering context to the task.  
HashMap appContext = new HashMap( );  
appContext.put  
    ( EngineConstants.APPCONTEXT_HTML_RENDER_CONTEXT,  
    renderContext );  
task.setAppContext( appContext );
```

### Providing an external connection to run a report design

In many application server environments, web applications have access to a pool of `Connection` objects. In order to use an external connection from such a pool for the data source in a report design, you must pass information to the data driver plug-in that the report design uses. You pass the information in the rendering context `HashMap` object. For example, the code in Listing 13-9 sets up the connection to a custom driver, `mydatapluginnname`. The variable `task` is an `IRunAndRenderTask` object or an `IRunTask` object.

The standard data drivers in BIRT do not support using an external connection. You must extend the drivers to perform this task. Later chapters in this book explain this process.

### **Listing 13-9** Setting up an external Connection object

---

```
HashMap contextMap = new HashMap( );
HTMLRenderContext renderContext = new HTMLRenderContext();
contextMap.put(
    ( EngineConstants.APPCONTEXT_HTML_RENDER_CONTEXT,
    renderContext );
// Get a connection from the pool
Connection myConnection = getConnectionFromPool( );
contextMap.put( "org.eclipse.birt.mydatatypepluginname",
    myConnection );
task.setContext( contextMap );
```

## **Generating the formatted output programmatically**

To generate a report, the application must call the run( ) method on an IRunAndRenderTask or an IRunTask object. The application must handle the EngineException that run( ) can throw.

After generating the report, the application can reuse the report engine to generate further reports. If your application only generates a single report, shut down the engine after performing the report generation.

### **How to generate a report**

The code sample in Listing 13-10 generates a report, then shuts down the report engine. The variable, engine, is a ReportEngine object. The variable, task, is an IRunAndRenderTask or an IRunTask object. The variable, name, is the name of the report design. The variable, output, is the name of the output file.

### **Listing 13-10** Generating a report from a report design or a report document

---

```
try {
    task.run( );
    System.out.println( "Created Report " + output + " ." );
}
catch ( EngineException e1 ) {
    System.err.println( "Report " + name + " run failed." );
    System.err.println( e1.toString( ) );
}
engine.shutdown( );
```

## **Accessing the formatted report**

When you generate a report document as a file on disk, you can access the report in the same way as any other file. For example, you open HTML

documents in a web browser and PDF documents using Adobe Reader. If you send the report to a stream, the stream must be able to process the information.

---

## About programming with a report design

A reporting application typically generates a report from a report design. In this type of reporting application, you typically develop a report design and include the design along with your application at deployment time. Any changes to the generated report depend on the values of report parameters and the data from the data set. To access the report design, the application uses an `IReportRunnable` object.

Sometimes business logic requires changes to the report design before generating the report. You can make some changes through using parameters and scripting. Other changes can only occur through modification of the report design itself.

A reporting application can make changes to the report design and the ROM elements that make up the design. To access the structure of the report design, the application obtains a `ReportDesignHandle` object from the design engine. To access the design engine, an application must first instantiate a report engine, as in any other reporting application.

The `ReportDesignHandle` object provides access to all properties of the report design and to the elements that the report design contains. The model API provides handle classes to access all ROM elements. For example, a `GridHandle` object provides access to a grid element in the report design. All ROM element handles, including the report design handle, inherit from `DesignElementHandle`. Report items inherit from `ReportElementHandle` and `ReportItemHandle`.

After making changes to a report design or its elements, the application can write the result to a stream or a file. The report engine can then open an `IReportRunnable` object on the resulting design and generate a report.

An application typically accesses the items in a report design to perform one of the following tasks:

- Modify an existing report design programmatically to change the contents and appearance of the report output.

An application can modify page characteristics, grids, tables, and other report items in the design, the data source, and the data set that extracts data from a data source.

- Build a report design and generate report output entirely in an application without using BIRT Report Designer.

A reporting application can access and modify the structures in a template or a library file in the same way as the structures in a report design. The techniques

described in the rest of this chapter are applicable to these files as well as to report designs.

A template has identical functionality to a report design. For this reason, the ReportDesignHandle class provides access to a template. The LibraryHandle class provides access to a library. Both these classes derive from the ModuleHandle class, which provides the fields and methods for the common functionality, such as accessing elements in the file.

The package that contains the classes and interfaces to work with the items in a report design, library, or template is org.eclipse.birt.report.model.api.

## About BIRT model API capabilities

A report developer can write an application that creates and modifies a report design programmatically. The BIRT model API has the same capabilities as BIRT Report Designer. For example, the following list shows some of the ways in which you can use the BIRT model API to manipulate a report design programmatically:

- Modifying a report item in a report design:
  - Format a report item, changing the font, font color, fill color, format, alignment, or size.
  - Modify the expression or other property of a report item.
  - Change the data set bound to a table or list.
- Adding a report item to a report design:
  - Add a simple report item such as a data item, label, or image.
  - Set the value to display in the new report item, such as the expression of a data item or the text in a label item.
  - Create a complex item such as a grid, table, or list.
  - Add other items into a grid, table, or list.
- Changing the structure of a report design:
  - Add or delete a group or column in a table or list.
  - Add a report parameter.
- Modifying non-visual elements in a report design:
  - Specify a data source for a data set.
  - Set a design property such as a report title, author, wallpaper, or comment.
  - Set a page property, such as height, width, or margins.

## Opening a report design programmatically for editing

To access a report design and its contents, the application must instantiate a report engine, then use a ReportDesignHandle object. You instantiate a ReportDesignHandle by calling a method on another class, such as the model class, SessionHandle, or the report engine interface, IReportRunnable.

The SessionHandle object manages the state of all open report designs. Use a SessionHandle to open, close, and create report designs, and to set global properties, such as the locale and the units of measure for report elements. The SessionHandle can open a report design from a file or a stream. Create the session handle only once. BIRT supports only a single SessionHandle for a user of a reporting application.

### Configuring the design engine to access a design handle

The DesignEngine class provides access to all the functionality of the Report Object Model (ROM) in the same way that the ReportEngine class provides access to report generation functionality. To create a DesignEngine object, you first create a DesignConfig object to contain configuration settings for the design engine. The DesignConfig object sets up custom access to resources and custom configuration variables for scripting. Instantiate a DesignEngine object with the DesignConfig object as an argument to the constructor.

Create the SessionHandle object by calling the method, newSessionHandle( ) on the DesignHandle object. To open the report design, call the method, openDesign( ), on the SessionHandle object. This method takes the name of the report design as an argument and instantiates a ReportDesignHandle object.

### Using an IReportRunnable object to access a design handle

You can also open a report design from an IReportRunnable object by using the getDesignHandle( ) method. The ReportDesignHandle object provides access to the design opened by the report engine. Changes to the report design do not affect the IReportRunnable object. To generate a report from the changed report design, you must reopen the design as an IReportRunnable object.

#### How to open a report design for editing

The code sample in Listing 13-11 creates a DesignEngine object, which it uses to create a SessionHandle object. The code then uses the SessionHandle object to open a report design.

#### **Listing 13-11** Opening a report design for editing

---

```
// Create a design engine configuration object.  
DesignConfig dConfig = new DesignConfig( );  
DesignEngine dEngine = new DesignEngine( dConfig );  
// Create a session handle, using the system locale.  
SessionHandle session = dEngine.newSessionHandle( null );  
// Create a handle for an existing report design.
```

```

String name = "./SimpleReport.rptdesign";
ReportDesignHandle design = null;
try {
    design = session.openDesign( name );
} catch (Exception e) {
    System.err.println
        ( "Report " + name + " not opened!\nReason is " +
        e.toString( ) );
    return null;
}

```

## Using a report item in a report design

A report item is a visual element in the report design. Typically, a report developer adds a report item to the design in BIRT Report Designer by dragging an item from the palette to the layout editor. Sometimes you need to change the properties of certain report items in the design before running the report. An application uses methods on the ReportDesignHandle class to access a report item either by name or from a list of items in a slot in a container report item.

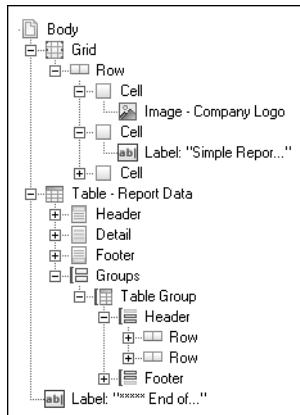
A slot is a logical component of a report item. For example, a table element has five slots: Header, Detail, Footer, Groups, and Columns. In turn, each of these slots can have further slots. Each slot has zero or more members of the appropriate report item type. For example, the Header, Detail, and Footer slots all contain elements of type RowHandle. RowHandle has a Cell slot that contains all the cells in the row. For a visual representation of the slots in an individual report item, see the Outline view in BIRT Report Designer.

### Accessing a report item by name

To make a report item accessible by name, the item must have a name. A report developer can set the name in BIRT Report Designer or programmatically by using the item's setName( ) method. To find a report item by name, use the findElement( ) method. This method returns a DesignElementHandle object. All report items derive from this class.

### Accessing a report item by iterating through a slot

To access a report item through the report design's structure, the application first gets the slot handle of the report body by calling the getBody( ) method. This slot handle holds the top-level report items in the report design. For example, consider a simple report structure that has three top-level items: a grid containing header information, a table containing data, and a label that displays a report footer. Figure 13-2 shows its outline view in BIRT Report Designer.



**Figure 13-2** Slots in a report design

To access the top-level items in this report design, you iterate over the contents of the body slot handle. These contents all derive from `DesignElementHandle`.

To access the iterator for a slot handle, call `SlotHandle.iterator()`. Each call to `Iterator.getNext()` returns a report item. Alternatively, to access a report item at a known slot index, call `SlotHandle.get()`. The slot index number is zero-based. The `ReportDesignHandle` class also provides finder methods, which can access an item or other report element by name.

## Examining a report item programmatically

To examine a report item, check the class of the report item, cast the object to its actual class, then call methods appropriate to that class. For example, the class of a label element handle is `LabelHandle`. To get the text that the label displays, call `LabelHandle.getText()`.

Some report items, such as a label or a text element, are simple items. Other items, such as a grid or a table element, are structured items. You can access properties for the whole of a structured item in the same way as for a simple item.

You can also iterate over the contents of the structured item. For example, use this technique to determine the contents of a cell in a table. To access the contents of a structured item, you call a method to retrieve the slot handle for rows or columns. For example, to access the `RowHandle` objects that make up a table element's footer, call `TableHandle.getFooter()`. Table and list elements also have a slot for groups. Like the body slot handle, the slot handles for the contents of structured report items can contain zero, one, or multiple elements.

## Accessing the properties of a report item

To provide information about report items, each class has getter methods specific to the report item type. For example, an image element handle, `ImageHandle`, has the `getURI()` method. This method returns the URI of an

image referenced by URL or file path. The DesignElementHandle class and other ancestor classes in the hierarchy also provide generic getter methods, such as getName( ).

Some properties of a report item are simple properties, with types that are Java types or type wrapper classes. An example of this type of property is the name property, which is a String object. Some of these properties, like name, have arbitrary values.

Other simple properties have restricted values from a set of BIRT String constants. The interface, DesignChoiceConstants in the org.eclipse.birt.report.model.api.elements package, defines these constants. For example, the image source property of an image element can have only one of the values, IMAGE\_REF\_TYPE\_EMBED, IMAGE\_REF\_TYPE\_EXPR, IMAGE\_REF\_TYPE\_FILE, IMAGE\_REF\_TYPE\_NONE, or IMAGE\_REF\_TYPE\_URL.

Other properties are complex properties and the getter method returns a handle object. For example, the DesignElementHandle.getStyle( ) method returns a StyleHandle object and ReportItemHandle.getWidth( ) returns a DimensionHandle object.

The handle classes provide access to complex properties of a report item, as described later in this chapter. These classes provide getter methods for related properties. For example, StyleHandle classes provide access to font and background color.

### How to access a report item by name

The code sample in Listing 13-12 finds an image item by name, checks its type, then examines its URI. The variable, design, is a ReportDesignHandle object.

#### **Listing 13-12** Finding a report item with a given name

---

```
DesignElementHandle logoImage =
    design.findElement( "Company Logo" );
// Check for the existence of the report item.
if ( logoImage == null) {
    return null;
}
// Check that the report item has the expected class.
if ( !( logoImage instanceof ImageHandle ) ) {
    return null;
}
// Retrieve the URI of the image.
String imageURI = ( (ImageHandle) logoImage ).getURI( );
return imageURI;
```

### How to use the report structure to access a report item

The code sample in Listing 13-13 finds an image item in a grid, checks its type, then examines its URI. Use this technique for generic code to navigate a report

design structure or if you need to find an item that does not have a name. The variable, `designHandle`, is a `ReportDesignHandle` object.

## Modifying a report item in a report design programmatically

To set the simple properties of report items, each class has setter methods specific to the report item type. For example, an image element handle, `ImageHandle`, has the `setURI()` method. This method sets the URI of an image referenced by URL or file path. The `DesignElementHandle` class and other ancestor classes in the hierarchy also provide generic setter methods, such as `setName()`. Setter methods throw exceptions, such as `NameException`, `SemanticException`, and `StyleException`.

To set attributes of a complex property, such as a style, you must call methods on a handle object, as described later in this chapter. These classes provide setter methods for related properties. For example, `StyleHandle` classes provide access to style properties, such as font and background color.

### **Listing 13-13 Navigating the report structure to access a report item**

---

```
// Instantiate a slot handle and iterator for the body slot.  
SlotHandle shBody = design.getBody();  
Iterator slotIterator = shBody.iterator()  
// To retrieve top-level report items, iterate over the body.  
while (slotIterator.hasNext()) {  
    Object shContents = slotIterator.next();  
    // To get the contents of the top-level report items,  
    // instantiate slot handles.  
    if (shContents instanceof GridHandle) {  
        GridHandle grid = ( GridHandle ) shContents;  
        SlotHandle grRows = grid.getRows( );  
        Iterator rowIterator = grRows.iterator( );  
        while (rowIterator.hasNext()) {  
            // Get RowHandle objects.  
            Object rowSlotContents = rowIterator.next();  
            // To find the image element, iterate over the grid.  
            SlotHandle cellSlot =  
                ( ( RowHandle ) rowSlotContents ).getCells( );  
            Iterator cellIterator = cellSlot.iterator( );  
            while ( cellIterator.hasNext( ) ) {  
                // Get a CellHandle object.  
                Object cellSlotContents = cellIterator.next( );  
                SlotHandle cellContentSlot =  
                    ( (CellHandle) cellSlotContents ).getContent( );  
                Iterator cellContentIterator =  
                    cellContentSlot.iterator( );  
                while (cellContentIterator.hasNext( )) {  
                    // Get a DesignElementHandle object.  
                    Object cellContents =  
                        cellContentIterator.next( );
```

```
// Check that the element is an image.  
if (cellContents instanceof ImageHandle) {  
    String imageSource = ( ( ImageHandle )  
        cellContents ).getSource( );  
    // Check that the image has a URI.  
    if ((imageSource.equals( IMAGE_REF_TYPE_URL ))  
        || (imageSource.equals(IMAGE_REF_TYPE_FILE))) {  
        // Retrieve the URI of the image.  
        String imageURI = ( ( ImageHandle )  
            cellContents ).getURI( );  
    }  
}  
}  
}  
}  
}  
}
```

Changes that you make to items in the report design do not affect the design file until you save the design to disk or to a stream. After saving the design, get an IReportRunnable handle for the modified design in order to generate a report.

### How to change a simple property of a report item

The code sample in Listing 13-14 uses a method on LabelHandle to change the text in a label. The variable, design, is a ReportDesignHandle object. This sample accesses the label by name. You can also access a report item by navigating the report structure.

**Listing 13-14** Changing the text property of a label report item

---

```
// Access the label by name.  
LabelHandle headerLabel =  
    ( LabelHandle ) design.findElement( "Header Label" );  
try {  
    headerLabel.setText( "Updated " + headerLabel.getText( ) );  
} catch ( Exception e ) {  
    // Handle the exception  
}
```

### Accessing and setting complex properties

Complex properties use BIRT handle objects to access data structures. For example, a DimensionHandle object provides access to size and position properties, such as the absolute value and the units of the width of a report item.

Some String properties on a handle object, such as font style and text alignment on a style handle, have restricted values defined by constants in the interface, DesignChoiceConstants in the org.eclipse.birt.report.model.api.elements package. For example, the font style property can have only one of the values, FONT\_STYLE\_ITALIC, FONT\_STYLE\_NORMAL, and FONT\_STYLE\_OBLIQUE.

## Using a property handle

To access complex properties, you use getter methods on the report item. For example, to access the width of a report item, call the method `ReportItemHandle.getWidth()`. This method returns a `DimensionHandle` object. To work with complex properties, you use getter and setter methods on the handle object. For example, to get and set the size of a dimension, you use `DimensionHandle.getMeasure()` and `DimensionHandle.setAbsolute()`, respectively.

When you set a value on a complex property, the change to the handle object affects the report item straight away. You do not call an additional setter method on the report item itself.

## Using styles on a report item

The `StyleHandle` class provides access to many fundamental properties of a report item, such as margin size, text alignment, background color, borders, font, and so on. `StyleHandle` provides a full set of getter methods for each style property. For simple properties, `StyleHandle` provides setter methods. To modify complex properties, you use setter methods on the property handle object, not on the style handle itself.

A report item can use two styles: a private style and a shared style. The handle classes for these styles are `PrivateStyleHandle` and `SharedStyleHandle`, respectively. Both classes derive from `StyleHandle`.

A private style contains the settings that the report developer chose in the property editor when designing the report. Shared styles appear in the Outline view in BIRT Report Designer. You use shared styles to apply the same appearance to multiple items in a report design. Changes to a shared style affect all report items that use the style. Style settings in a private style override the settings in a shared style.

### How to change a complex property of a report item

The code sample in Listing 13-15 shows how to use `PrivateStyleHandle` and `ColorHandle` objects to change the background color of a label. The variable, `design`, is a `ReportDesignHandle` object. This sample accesses the label by name. You can also access a report item by navigating the report structure.

#### **Listing 13-15** Changing a complex property of a report item

---

```
// Access the label by name.  
LabelHandle headerLabel =  
    ( LabelHandle ) design.findElement( "Header Label" );  
try {  
    // To prepare to change a style property, get a  
    // StyleHandle.  
    StyleHandle labelStyle = headerLabel.getPrivateStyle();  
    // Update the background color.  
    ColorHandle bgColor = labelStyle.getBackgroundColor();
```

```

    bgColor.setRGB( 0xFF8888 );
} catch ( Exception e ) {
    // Handle any exception
}

```

## Adding a report item to a report design programmatically

A reporting application can use a simple report design or a template to create more complex designs. The application can add extra report items to the design's structure based on external conditions. For example, based on the user name of the user requesting generation of a report, you can add extra information to the report for that category of user. You use the same techniques to add content to a new design if you create a design entirely with the API.

The class that creates new elements, such as report items, in a report design is ElementFactory. This class provides methods of the form, newXXX(), where XXX is the report item or element to create. The method newElement() is a generic method that creates an element of any type. To access the element factory, call the ReportDesign.getElementFactory() method.

You can place new report items at the top level of the report design, directly in the Body slot, within containers such as a cell in a table or grid, or on the master page. You can add a simple item, such as a label, or complex items, such as a table with contents in its cells. Wherever you add the new report item, the location is a slot, such as the body slot of the report design or a cell slot in a row in a table. To add a report item to a slot, you use one of the SlotHandle.add() methods. The method has two signatures that support adding the report item to the end of a slot, or to a particular position in a slot.

Table and list elements are container items that iterate over the rows that a data set provides. For these report items to access the data rows, you must bind them to a data set. The table or list element provides data rows to the report items that it contains. For this reason, you usually bind only the container item to a data set, as described later in this chapter.

### How to add a grid item and label item to a report design

The code sample in Listing 13-16 creates a grid item, then adds a label item to one of the cells in the grid. An application can create any other report item in a similar manner. The variable, design, is a ReportDesignHandle object.

#### **Listing 13-16** Adding a container item to the Body slot

---

```

// Instantiate an element factory.
ElementFactory factory = design.getElementFactory();
try {
    // Create a grid element with 2 columns and 1 row.
    GridHandle grid = factory.newGridItem( "New grid", 2, 1 );
    // Set a simple property on the grid, the width.
    grid.setWidth( "50%" );
    // Create a new label and set its properties.

```

```

LabelHandle label = factory.newLabel( "Hello Label" );
label.setText( "Hello, world!" );
// Get the first row of the grid.
RowHandle row = ( RowHandle ) grid.getRows( ).get( 0 );
// Add the label to the second cell in the row.
CellHandle cell = ( CellHandle ) row.getCells( ).get( 1 );
cell.getContent( ).add( label );
// Get the Body slot. Add the grid to the end of the slot.
design.getBody( ).add( grid );
} catch ( Exception e ) {
    // Handle any exception
}

```

## Accessing a data source and data set with the API

This section shows how to use ROM elements that are not report items. To use other ROM elements, such as the libraries that the report design uses, you employ similar techniques.

You access the report design's data sources and data sets from methods on the ReportDesignHandle instance, in a similar way to other report elements. The model classes that define a data source and data set are DataSourceHandle and DataSetHandle, respectively. A data set provides a report item such as a table with data from a data source. For a report item to access the data set, use the setDataSet( ) method.

You can use a finder method on the report design handle to access a data source or data set by name. The finder methods are findDataSource( ) and findDataSet( ), respectively.

Alternatively, to access all the data sources or data sets, you can use a getter method that returns a slot handle. The getter methods are getDataSources( ) and getDataSets( ), respectively. To access the individual data sources or data sets in a slot handle, you iterate over the contents of the slot handle in the same way as for any other slot handle.

### About data source classes

DataSourceHandle is a subclass of ReportElementHandle. You get and set report item properties for a data source in the same way as for any other report element. DataSourceHandle also provides methods to access the scripting methods of the data source.

The two subclasses of DataSourceHandle, OdaDataSourceHandle and ScriptDataSourceHandle, provide the functionality for the two families of BIRT data sources. For more information about ODA data sources, see the Javadoc for the ODA API, in Open Data Access (ODA) 3.0.0 API Reference. The scripting methods for a scripted data source fully define the data source, as described earlier in this book.

## About data set classes

DataSetHandle is a subclass of ReportElementHandle. You get and set properties for a data set in the same way as for any other report element. DataSetHandle also provides methods to access properties specific to a data set, such as the data source, the data set fields, and the scripting methods of the data set.

The two subclasses of DataSetHandle, OdaDataSetHandle and ScriptDataSetHandle, provide the functionality for the two families of BIRT data sets. For more information about ODA data sets, see the Javadoc for the ODA API.

## Using a data set programmatically

Typically, a reporting application uses data sets and data sources already defined in the report design. You can use the data set's setDataSource( ) method to change the data source of a data set. For example, based on the name of the user of the reporting application, you can report on the sales database for a particular geographical region, such as Europe or for North America.

### Changing the properties of a data set

Changing the properties of a data set requires consideration of the impact on the report design. If you change the data source of a data set, the type of the data source must be appropriate for the type of the data set. You must also be certain that the new data source can provide the same fields as the original data source.

#### How to change the data source for a data set

The code sample in Listing 13-17 shows how to check for a particular data source and data set in a report design, then changes the data source for the data set. The code finds the data source and data set by name.

Alternatively, use the getDataSets( ) and getDataSources( ) methods. Then use the technique for iterating over the contents of a slot handle. The variable, design, is a ReportDesignHandle object.

#### Listing 13-17 Modifying a data set

---

```
// Find the data set by name.  
DataSetHandle ds = design.findDataSet( "Customers" );  
// Find the data source by name.  
DataSourceHandle dso = design.findDataSource( "EuropeSales" );  
// Check for the existence of the data set and data source.  
if (dso == null) || (ds == null)  
{  
    System.err.println( "EuropeSales or Customers not found" );  
    return;  
}  
// Change the data source of the data set.
```

```

try
{
    ds.setDataSource( dso );
} catch ( SemanticException e1 ) {
    e1.printStackTrace( );
}

```

## Changing the data set binding of a report item

You can also use the report item's `setDataSet()` method to set or change the data set used by a report item. If you change the data set used by a report item, you must ensure that the contents of the report item access only data bindings that are supplied by the new data set. If necessary, you must change the references to data bindings in data elements, text elements, and scripting methods. If the data bindings in the old data set do not match the names or data types of the fields that the new data set provides, you must correct the data bindings before you generate a report from the modified report design. Use the `ReportItemHandle` method, `columnBindingsIterator()`, to iterate over the column bindings that the report item uses. The items in the list are of type `ComputedColumnHandle`. This class provides methods to access the name, expression, and data type of the column binding.

To access the data set column and expression that a data item uses, call the methods, `getResultSetColumn()` and `getResultSetExpression()`. You can compare the data type and name with the result set columns that the data set returns.

### How to bind a data set to a table

The code sample in Listing 13-18 shows how to check for a particular data set in a report design, then changes the data set for a table. The code finds the table and data set by name. Alternatively, use slot handles to navigate the report design structure. The variable, `design`, is a `ReportDesignHandle` object.

---

#### **Listing 13-18** Binding a data set to a report item

```

// Find the table by name.
TableHandle table =
    ( TableHandle ) design.findElement( "Report Data" );
// Find the data set by name.
DataSetHandle ds = design.findDataSet( "EuropeanCustomers" );
// Check for the existence of the table and the data set.
if (table == null) || ( ds == null ) {
    System.err.println( "Incorrect report structure" );
    return;
}
// Change the data set for the table.
try {
    table.setDataSet( ds );

```

```
    } catch (Exception e) {
        System.err.println( "Could not set data set for table" );
    }
}
```

## Saving a report design programmatically

After making changes to an existing report design or creating a new report design, you can choose to save the design for archival purposes, or for future use. To overwrite an existing report design to which the application has made changes, use the ReportDesignHandle.save( ) method. To save a new report design or to keep the original report design after making changes, use the ReportDesignHandle.saveAs( ) method.

Alternatively, if you do not need to save the changes to the report design, use the ReportDesignHandle.serialize( ) method. This method returns an output stream. The report engine can generate a report by opening a stream as an input stream.

If you do not need to make any further changes to the report design, use the ReportDesignHandle.close( ) method to close the report design.

### How to save a report design

The following code saves the open report design. The variable, design, is a ReportDesignHandle object.

```
design.saveAs( "sample.rptdesign" );
design.close( );
```

## Creating a report design programmatically

You can build a report design and generate the report output in an application without using BIRT Report Designer. You use the createDesign( ) method on the session handle class, SessionHandle, to create a report design. You use the other model classes to create its contents.

### How to create a new report design

The following code creates a report design.

```
SessionHandle session = DesignEngine.newSession( null );
ReportDesignHandle design = session.createDesign( );
```

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---

# 14

## Programming with the BIRT Charting APIs

This chapter describes the basic requirements of a charting application and illustrates the use of BIRT charting API classes and interfaces for modifying an existing chart definition and for creating a new chart.

The BIRT charting API allows you to:

- Write Java applications with bar charts, pie charts, line charts, scatter charts, area charts, dial charts, and stock charts.
- Customize a chart in many ways to fit the requirements of the application.
- Modify an existing chart item in a BIRT report design or add a chart to an existing report design.

While this chapter illustrates how to customize an existing chart and create a new chart within a BIRT application, describing how to use the charting API in a stand-alone application is beyond the scope of this book. However, creating a chart in a stand-alone application is not significantly different from creating a chart in a BIRT application.

Although there are more than 400 classes and interfaces in the BIRT charting API, this chapter discusses only the most important classes and interfaces. For detailed information about the complete set of charting API classes and interfaces, see the BIRT online help. For examples of completed charting applications, download the BIRT samples from the BIRT web site.

---

# About the environment for building a charting application

The minimum requirements for creating a basic charting application are:

- The BIRT run-time engine
  - The run-time engine is only required for an application that runs within the BIRT report context.
- The BIRT run-time charting engine
- Java JDK 1.4.2 or later
- The following JAR files and folders within the Java classpath:
  - From BIRT runtime/Chart Engine
    - ❑ org.eclipse.birt.chart.device.extension\_2.1.0.jar
    - ❑ org.eclipse.birt.chart.device.svg\_2.1.0.jar
    - ❑ org.eclipse.birt.chart.engine.extension\_2.1.0.jar
    - ❑ org.eclipse.birt.chart.engine\_2.1.0.jar
    - ❑ org.eclipse.birt.core.ui\_2.1.0.jar
    - ❑ org.eclipse.birt.core\_2.1.0.jar
  - From BIRT runtime/Report Engine
    - ❑ org.mozilla.rhino\_1.6.0 folder
    - ❑ org.apache.commons.codec\_1.3.0 folder
    - ❑ org.eclipse.emf.common\_2.2.0.jar
    - ❑ org.eclipse.emf.ecore\_2.1.0.jar
    - ❑ org.eclipse.emf.ecore.xmi\_2.1.0.jar
  - From eclipse/plugins
    - ❑ org.eclipse.birt.chart.device.swt\_2.1.0.jar
    - ❑ org.eclipse.birt.chart.ui.extension\_2.1.0.jar
    - ❑ org.apache.batik\_1.6.0 folder
    - ❑ org.apache.batik.pdf\_1.6.0 folder
    - ❑ org.apache.xerces\_2.8.0 folder
  - Any custom extension plug-in JAR files of your own creation

Your application may require additional JAR files in the Java classpath. You can be certain that you have all the necessary BIRT-related JAR files for an application if you add the following JAR files to your Java classpath:

- \$RUNTIME/Chart Engine /\*.jar
- \$RUNTIME/Report Engine/plugins/\*.jar

In addition to the JAR files that are installed with the BIRT run-time engine, you might need to include itext-1.3.jar in the Java classpath. itext-1.3.jar is an auxiliary JAR file that you have to download as described in the instructions in the chapter on BIRT requirements. itext-1.3.jar is used only for the generation of a PDF report.

---

## Verifying the development environment for charting applications

Listing 14-1 illustrates the creation of the most basic charting application it is possible to write. The output of the example program is an XML file that describes a chart that has no data binding, no labels, no series, and no titles.

Although the output of this example is not useful, by compiling and running the program, you can verify that your environment is correctly configured for compiling and running a charting application.

**Listing 14-1** Basic charting application

---

```
import java.io.*;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.*;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.impl.*;

public class MyFirstChartProg {
    public static void main( String[] args ) {
        Chart myChart = ChartWithAxesImpl.create( );
        Serializer si = SerializerImpl.instance( );
        try {
            si.write( myChart, new FileOutputStream( new File
                ( "C:\\myChart.chart" ) ) );
        }
        catch ( IOException e ) {e.printStackTrace( );}
    }
}
```

When this program compiles and executes without errors, it creates a file called myChart.chart containing several hundred lines of XML code representing a basic chart definition.

---

# Using the charting API to modify an existing chart

A Java program can open an existing BIRT report design file and alter the content of the report before displaying or saving the report. The chapter on programming BIRT describes how to open a report file using the BIRT engine API. This section describes how to modify an existing chart within the report design by using the charting API. The following sections contain code examples for each step in the process.

## Getting a Chart object from the report design

To get a report item from a report design, you must first get a ReportDesignHandle object. Listing 14-2 illustrates how to get a ReportDesignHandle object and then get a Chart object from it. The code in Listing 14-2 assumes that the chart that you want to modify is the first report item of a list and that the list is the first report item in the report.

**Listing 14-2** Getting a ReportDesignHandle object and a Chart object

---

```
SessionHandle sessionHandle = DesignEngine.newSession( null );
ReportDesignHandle designHandle = null;
try {
    designHandle = sessionHandle.openDesign( designFileName );
} catch ( DesignFileNotFoundException e1 ) {
    e1.printStackTrace( );
}
ListHandle li = ( ListHandle )
    designHandle.getBody( ).getContents( ).get( 0 );
ExtendedItemHandle eihChart1 =
    ( ExtendedItemHandle )
        li.getSlot( 0 ).getContents( ).get( 0 );
ChartReportItemImpl cri = null;
try {
    cri = ( ChartReportItemImpl ) eihChart1.getReportItem( );
}
catch ( ExtendedElementException e2 ) {
    e2.printStackTrace( );
}
Chart chart = ( Chart ) cri.getProperty( "chart.instance" );
```

## Modifying chart properties

When you have the chart you want to modify, you can change the chart's properties, as shown in the following code example.

```
chart.setDimensions( ChartDimension.TWO_DIMENSIONAL_LITERAL );
chart.getTitle( ).getLabel( ).getCaption( ).setValue
    ( "North America" );
```

```
chart.getTitle( ).getLabel( ).getCaption( ).getFont( )
.setRotation( 5 );
```

## Modifying axes properties

To modify the properties of one or more axes of a chart, it is first necessary to cast the Chart object to a type of ChartWithAxes, as shown in the following statement.

```
chart = ( ChartWithAxes ) chart;
```

Listing 14-3 illustrates the technique for getting the axes of a chart and setting their properties.

### Listing 14-3 Getting an axis and setting its properties

---

```
Axis xAxisPrimary = chart.getPrimaryBaseAxes( )[0];
xAxisPrimary.getLabel( ).getCaption( ).getFont( ).setRotation
( 45 );
xAxisPrimary.getTitle( ).getCaption( ).setValue( "Months" );
Axis yAxisPrimary =
    chart.getPrimaryOrthogonalAxis( xAxisPrimary );
yAxisPrimary.getMajorGrid( ).setTickStyle
( TickStyle.LEFT_LITERAL );
yAxisPrimary.setType( AxisType.LINEAR_LITERAL );
yAxisPrimary.getLabel( ).getCaption( ).getFont( ).setRotation
( 90 );
yAxisPrimary.getTitle( ).getCaption( )
.setValue( "Sales Growth" );
yAxisPrimary.setFormatSpecifier
( JavaNumberFormatSpecifierImpl.create( "$" ) );
```

## Modifying plot properties

The following code illustrates how to get the chart plot and how to modify its properties.

```
Plot plot = chart.getPlot( );
plot.getClientArea( ).setBackground( ColorDefinitionImpl.CREAM
( ) );
plot.getOutline( ).setVisible( true );
```

## Modifying the legend properties

You can also get the chart legend and modify its properties using code similar to the following code.

```
Legend legend = cm.getLegend( );
legend.getText( ).getFont( ).setSize( 16 );
legend.getInsets( ).set( 10, 5, 0, 0 );
legend.setAnchor( Anchor.NORTH_LITERAL );
```

## Modifying the series properties

The following code illustrates how to get a series from an axis and how to change the properties of the series.

```
SeriesDefinition seriesDefX = SeriesDefinitionImpl.create( );
seriesDefX = ( SeriesDefinition )
    xAxisPrimary.getSeriesDefinitions( ).get( 0 );
seriesDefX.getSeriesPalette( ).update( 0 );
```

## Adding a series to a chart

You can add a new series to a chart. Listing 14-4 illustrates how to create a second series, set some of its properties, assign data to the series, and add the series to an axis.

**Listing 14-4** Creating a series, setting its properties, and adding the series to an axis

---

```
SeriesDefinition seriesDefY = SeriesDefinitionImpl.create( );
seriesDefY.getSeriesPalette( ).update( ColorDefinitionImpl
    .YELLOW( ) );
BarSeries barSeries2 = ( BarSeries ) BarSeriesImpl.create( );
barSeries2.setSeriesIdentifier( "Q2" );
barSeries2.setRiserOutline( null );
barSeries2.getLabel( ).setVisible( true );
barSeries2.setLabelPosition( Position.INSIDE_LITERAL );

// Assign data to the series
Query query2 = QueryImpl.create( "row[\"Value2\"]" );
barSeries2.getDataDefinition( ).add( query2 );
seriesDefY.getSeries( ).add( barSeries2 );
seriesDefY.getQuery( ).setDefinition( "\"Q2\"" );

// Add the new series to the y-axis
yAxisPrimary.getSeriesDefinitions( ).add( seriesDefY );
```

## Adding a chart event handler to a charting application

There are two kinds of chart event handlers that you can add to a charting application: a Java event handler or a JavaScript event handler.

### Adding a Java chart event handler to a charting application

To add a Java event handler, you must first create a separate Java class file containing your new event handler method or methods. The process for creating a Java event handler class is identical to the process for creating a Java

event handler class for any other report item. For more information about creating a Java event handler class, see the chapter on scripting with Java.

To register a Java class in the charting application code, use the setScript( ) method of the chart instance object, as shown in the following statement.

```
chart.setScript  
( "com.MyCompany.eventHandlers.ChartEventHandlers" );
```

In the preceding statement, the string passed to the setScript( ) method is the fully qualified name of the Java class. Notice that the .class extension is not included in the class name.

## **Adding a JavaScript chart event handler to a charting application**

To add a JavaScript event handler, you must code the script as one long string and pass that string to the setScript( ) method of the chart instance object. You must include a function for every event handler method of the chart. For example, the Java statement in Listing 14-5 passes a string to chart.setScript( ) containing event handler scripts for two event handler methods.

**Listing 14-5** Adding an event handler script to a chart

---

```
cwaBar.setScript  
  "function beforeDrawDataPointLabel"  
  + "(dataPoints, label, scriptContext)"  
  + "{val = dataPoints.getOrthogonalValue( );"  
  + "clr = label.getCaption( ).getColor( );"  
  + "if ( val < -10 ) clr.set( 32, 168, 255 );"  
  + "else if ( ( val >= -10 ) & ( val <=10 ) )"  
  + "clr.set( 168, 0, 208 );"  
  + "else if ( val > 10 ) clr.set( 0, 208, 32 );}"
```

Line breaks in the JavaScript code are indicated by backslash n ( \n ), and quotes within the script are indicated by a backslash quote ( \" ). The JavaScript code in Listing 14-5 consists of several strings concatenated together to form a single string. This technique helps make the script more readable.

---

## **Using the charting APIs to create a new chart**

You can add a new chart to an existing report design or to a new report design. In either case, your program must perform a series of tasks. Creating a new chart and adding the chart to a report design requires performing the following tasks:

- Creating the chart instance object

The chart instance object contains the properties of the chart, such as its title, its axes, and its series.

- Setting the properties of the chart instance object

The properties of the chart include everything about the chart except the data set to which it is bound and the chart's ultimate display size.

- Getting an ElementFactory object

You use the ElementFactory object to create a new report element.

- Creating sample data

Sample data is useful for the correct display of a chart element in BIRT Report Designer.

- Getting an ExtendedItemHandle object

The ExtendedItemHandle object is similar to a standard report item handle. The item handle is the object with which you access the report item instance. The handle is also the object that binds to a data set and the object that you add to the report design.

- Setting the chart.instance property on the report item

The chart.instance property of the report item identifies the chart instance object. This property provides the link between the report item and the chart instance object.

- Getting a data set from the report design

A chart must bind to data in order to have meaning. The report design provides access to one or more data sets that the report developer defined. The program also can create a data set and add it to the design.

- Binding a chart to the data set

To bind a chart to a data set, you specify the data set as a property of the extended item handle object.

- Adding the new chart to the report design

The last step is to add the chart to the report design by adding the extended item handle object to the report design.

- Optionally saving the report design

An application program that creates or modifies a BIRT report design can also save the new or modified report design.

The following sections describe the preceding steps in more detail and provide code examples for every step.

## **Creating the chart instance object**

To create a chart instance object, you use a static method of one of the chart implementation classes. Depending on which chart implementation object you

use, you can either create a chart with or without axes. The following line of code creates a chart with axes.

```
ChartWithAxes newChart = ChartWithAxesImpl.create( );
```

## Setting the properties of the chart instance object

You define the characteristics of the chart by setting the properties of the chart instance object. The following sections describe setting various properties of the chart.

### Setting the chart color and bounds

To set the chart's color and bounds, use setter methods of the chart instance object.

```
newChart.getBlock( ).setBackground  
    ( ColorDefinitionImpl.WHITE );  
newChart.getBlock( ).setBounds( BoundsImpl.create( 0, 0, 400,  
    250 ) );  
newChart.getTitle( ).getLabel( ).getCaption( ).setValue  
    ( "Europe" );
```

### Setting plot properties

To set properties of the plot, first get a Plot object from the chart instance object, then use a setter method of a component of the Plot object.

```
Plot p = newChart.getPlot( );  
p.getClientArea( ).setBackground( ColorDefinitionImpl.create  
    ( 255, 255, 225 ) );
```

### Setting legend properties

To set properties of the chart legend, first get a Legend object from the chart instance object, then use a setter method of a component of the Legend object.

```
Legend lg = newChart.getLegend( );  
lg.getText( ).setFont( ).setSize( 16 );  
lg.getInsets( ).set( 1, 1, 1, 1 );  
lg.getOutline( ).setVisible( false );  
lg.setAnchor( Anchor.NORTH_LITERAL );
```

### Setting legend line properties

To set properties of the legend line, first get a LineAttribute object from the Legend object.

```
LineAttributes lia = lg.getOutline( );  
lia.setStyle( LineStyle.SOLID_LITERAL );
```

## Setting axes properties

A chart with axes always has at least two axes, the primary base axis and the axis orthogonal to the base axis. There can be more than one primary base axis, but for every base axis there is one axis that is orthogonal to it. To get a primary base axis, use the `getPrimaryBaseAxes()` method of the chart instance. This method returns an array. If there is only one primary base axis, get the zeroth element of the array, as shown in the following code.

```
Axis xAxisPrimary = newChart.getPrimaryBaseAxes( )[0];
```

The following code sets the properties of the primary base axis.

```
xAxisPrimary.setType( AxisType.TEXT_LITERAL );
xAxisPrimary.getMajorGrid( ).setTickStyle
    ( TickStyle.BELOW_LITERAL );
xAxisPrimary.getOrigin( ).setType
    ( IntersectionType.VALUE_LITERAL );
xAxisPrimary.getTitle( ).setVisible( false );
```

To get the axis orthogonal to the primary base axis, use the `getPrimaryOrthogonalAxis()` method of the chart instance object, as shown in the following code:

```
Axis yAxisPrimary =
    newChart.getPrimaryOrthogonalAxis( xAxisPrimary );
yAxisPrimary.getMajorGrid( ).setTickStyle
    ( TickStyle.LEFT_LITERAL );
yAxisPrimary.setScale( ).setMax( NumberDataElementImpl.create
    ( 160 ) );
yAxisPrimary.setScale( ).setMin( NumberDataElementImpl.create
    ( -50 ) );
yAxisPrimary.getTitle( ).getCaption( ).setValue
    ( "Sales Growth" );
```

## Creating a category series

To create a chart series, use the static `create()` method of the `SeriesImpl` class.

```
Series seriesCategory = SeriesImpl.create( );
```

Once you have a `Series` object, you must create a query and add the query to the series data definition, as shown in the following code:

```
Query query = QueryImpl.create( "row[\"Category\"]" );
seriesCategory.getDataDefinition( ).add( query );
```

## Creating a y-series

To create a y-series, use the static `create()` method of one of the subclasses of the `SeriesImpl` class. You can create series of various types using the `create()` method of one of the following classes:

- `AreaSeriesImpl`

- BarSeriesImpl
- DialSeriesImpl
- LineSeriesImpl
- PieSeriesImpl
- ScatterSeriesImpl
- StockSeriesImpl

Because a chart can have multiple series of differing types, it is not always possible to classify a chart as a single type.

The following example creates a bar series and a line series.

```
BarSeries bs1 = ( BarSeries ) BarSeriesImpl.create( );
bs1.setSeriesIdentifier( "Q1" );
LineSeries ls1 = ( LineSeries ) LineSeriesImpl.create( );
ls1.setSeriesIdentifier( "Q2" );
```

## Defining the y-series queries

To set the data values for the y-series, you must create Query objects and add the queries to the LineSeries objects as shown in the following code.

```
Query query1 = QueryImpl.create( "row[\"Value1\"]" );
Query query2 = QueryImpl.create( "row[\"Value2\"]" );
bs1.getDataDefinition( ).add( query1 );
ls1.getDataDefinition( ).add( query2 );
```

## Setting the y-series properties

To set the properties of the y-series, use getter and setter methods of the LineSeries objects, as shown in Listing 14-6.

**Listing 14-6**    Setting the properties of a series

---

```
ls1.getLineAttributes( ).setColor
    ( ColorDefinitionImpl.RED( ) );
ls1.getMarker( ).setType( MarkerType.TRIANGLE_LITERAL );
ls1.getLabel( ).setVisible( true );
ls1.getLabel( ).getCaption( ).setValue( "Q1" );
ls2.getLineAttributes( ).setColor
    ( ColorDefinitionImpl.YELLOW( ) );
bs1.getMarker( ).setType( MarkerType.TRIANGLE_LITERAL );
bs1.getLabel( ).setVisible( true );
bs1.getLabel( ).getCaption( ).setValue( "Q2" );
```

## Setting the properties of the x- and y-series

To set the properties of either the x- or y-series, you must first use the static `create()` method of the `SeriesDefinitionImpl` class to get a `SeriesDefinition` object, as shown in the following code.

```
SeriesDefinition sdX = SeriesDefinitionImpl.create();
SeriesDefinition sdY1 = SeriesDefinitionImpl.create();
SeriesDefinition sdY2 = SeriesDefinitionImpl.create();
```

To set the color of a series, get a `SeriesPalette` object and call its `update()` method, as shown in the following code.

```
sdX.getSeriesPalette().update( 0 );
sdY1.getSeriesPalette().update( 0 );
sdY2.getSeriesPalette().update( 0 );
```

## Adding a series definition to the Axis object

After setting the properties of a `SeriesDefinition` object, you must add the `SeriesDefinition` object to the `Axis` object's collection of series definitions, as shown in the following code.

```
xAxisPrimary.getSeriesDefinitions().add( sdX );
yAxisPrimary.getSeriesDefinitions().add( sdY1 );
yAxisPrimary.getSeriesDefinitions().add( sdY2 );
```

## Adding series, queries, and categories to the series definitions

To add the line series to the series definition's collection of series, get the series from the `SeriesDefinition` object and add the line series to it, as shown in the following examples.

```
sdY1.getSeries().add( ls1 );
sdY2.getSeries().add( bs1 );
```

To add a query to the series definition, get the query from the `SeriesDefinition` object and pass the query to the `setDefinition()` method, as shown in the following code.

```
sdY1.getQuery().setDefinition( "\"Q1\" " );
sdY2.getQuery().setDefinition( "\"Q2\" " );
```

To add a category to the `SeriesDefinition` object, get the series from the `SeriesDefinition` object and add the category to it, as shown in the following statement:

```
sdX.getSeries().add( seriesCategory );
```

## Creating sample data

This section describes an optional step in the creation of a chart. If you omit the code in Listing 14-7, the chart renders correctly at run time but not in the BIRT Report Designer.

### **Listing 14-7 Adding sample data to a chart**

---

```
SampleData sdt = DataFactory.eINSTANCE.createSampleData( );
BaseSampleData sdBase =
    DataFactory.eINSTANCE.createBaseSampleData( );
sdBase.setDataSetRepresentation( "A" );
sdt.getBaseSampleData( ).add( sdBase );
OrthogonalSampleData sdOrthogonal =
    DataFactory.eINSTANCE.createOrthogonalSampleData( );
sdOrthogonal.setDataSetRepresentation( "1" );
sdOrthogonal.setSeriesDefinitionIndex( 0 );
sdt.getOrthogonalSampleData( ).add( sdOrthogonal );
newChart.setSampleData( sdt );
```

## Getting an element factory object

You must have an ElementFactory object to create the next object in the chain. To get an ElementFactory object, use the getElementFactory( ) method of the ReportDesignHandle object.

```
ElementFactory ef = designHandle.getElementFactory( );
```

## Getting an extended item handle object

You use the ElementFactory object to create an ExtendedItemHandle object. Because the chart report item is an extended report item, you use the newExtendedItem( ) method of the ElementFactory object to create the ExtendedItemHandle object.

```
ExtendedItemHandle chartHandle = ef.newExtendedItem( null,
    "Chart" );
```

## Setting the chart.instance property on the report item

You must set the chart.instance property of the report item object so that it contains the chart instance object. You get the report item from the extended item handle object, as shown in the following code.

```
try{
    chartHandle.getReportItem( ).setProperty( "chart.instance",
        newChart );
} catch( ExtendedElementException e )
{
    e.printStackTrace( );
}
```

## Getting a data set from the report design

The new chart is still not bound to a data set. To bind a chart to a data set, you must get a data set from the report design, as shown in the following code.

```
OdaDataSetHandle dataSet =  
    ( OdaDataSetHandle ) designHandle.getDataSets( ).get( 0 );
```

## Binding the chart to the data set

Use the extended item handle to bind the chart to the data set. This is also a good place to set the dimensions of the report item.

```
try {  
    chartHandle.setDataSet( dataSet );  
    chartHandle.setHeight( "250pt" );  
    chartHandle.setWidth( "400pt" );  
}  
catch ( SemanticException e ) {  
    e.printStackTrace( );  
}
```

## Adding the new chart to the report design

Once the properties of the chart are properly set and the chart is bound to a data set, it is time to add the new chart to the report design. The following code adds the chart to the footer of a list item.

```
ListHandle li = ( ListHandle )  
    designHandle.getBody( ).getContents( ).get( 0 );  
try {  
    li.getFooter( ).add( chartHandle );  
}  
catch ( ContentException e3 ) {  
    e3.printStackTrace( );  
}  
catch ( NameException e3 ) {  
    e3.printStackTrace( );  
}
```

## Saving the report design after adding the chart

Although the previous step is the final step in creating the chart and adding it to the report, you still have to save the design. It is a good idea to save the modified report design with a new name in order not to destroy the original report design file.

```
try {  
    designHandle.saveAs( "./Test_modified.rptdesign" );  
}
```

```
        catch ( IOException e ) {
            e.printStackTrace( );
        }
    designHandle.close( );
```

## Putting it all together

The application in Listing 14-8 uses many of the techniques illustrated in this section and unites them in a coherent Java application.

**Listing 14-8** Adding a chart to the report design

---

```
import java.io.IOException;
import java.util.HashMap;
import org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api.*;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.*;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.attribute.*;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.attribute.impl.*;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.component.*;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.component.impl.*;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.data.*;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.data.impl.*;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.layout.*;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.type.*;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.type.impl.*;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.reportitem.*;

/**
 * Reads a BIRT report design file, adds a chart and writes a
 * new report design file containing the added chart.
 * Run this application with the following command line:
 * java ChartReportApp origDesing modifiedDesign
 */

public class ChartReportApp
{
    private EngineConfig config;

    ChartReportApp () {

        // Get an EngineConfig object with which to specify
        // the home of the BIRT report engine.
        config = new EngineConfig( );

        // Alter this path to the location of your Eclipse
        // installation.
    }
}
```

```

        config.setEngineHome(
            "C:/birt-runtime-2_1_0/Report Engine" );
    }

/***** Give default values to the original design, the new design,
* and the output format.
* Extract command line values, if any.
* Create an instance of this class, build a chart,
* and run the report
*****/

public static void main(String[] args)
{
    String reportDesign = "./test.rptdesign";
    String newReportDesign = "./Test_modified.rptdesign";
    String format = HTMLRenderOption.OUTPUT_FORMAT_HTML;
    boolean showInfo = true;

    if(args.length > 0){
        reportDesign = args[0];
    }
    if(args.length > 1){
        newReportDesign = args[1];
    }

    ChartReportApp cra = new ChartReportApp( );

    cra.build( reportDesign, newReportDesign );
    cra.run( newReportDesign, format );
}

/***** Build a chart *****/
public void build ( String origDesign, String newDesign )
{
    // Get a new DesignEngine session
    SessionHandle sessionHandle = DesignEngine.newSession(
        null );

    // Get a handle to the original report design
    ReportDesignHandle designHandle = null;
    try {
        designHandle = sessionHandle.openDesign( origDesign );
    } catch ( DesignFileException e1 ) {
        e1.printStackTrace( );
}

```

```

}

// Create a new chart instance object
ChartWithAxes newChart = ChartWithAxesImpl.create( );

// Set the properties of the chart
newChart.setType( "Line Chart" );
newChart.setSubType( "Overlay" );
newChart.getBlock().setBackground(
    ColorDefinitionImpl.WHITE() );
newChart.getBlock().setBounds(
    BoundsImpl.create( 0, 0, 400, 250 ) );
Plot p = newChart.getPlot();
p.getClientArea().setBackground(
    ColorDefinitionImpl.create( 255, 255, 225 ) );
newChart.getTitle().getLabel().getCaption().
    setValue( "Europe" );

Legend lg = cwaLine.getLegend();
LineAttributes lia = lg.getOutline();
lg.getText().getFont().setSize( 16 );
lia.setStyle( LineStyle.SOLID_LITERAL );
lg.getInsets().set( 1, 1, 1, 1 );
lg.getOutline().setVisible( false );
lg.setAnchor( Anchor.NORTH_LITERAL );

Axis xAxisPrimary = newChart.getPrimaryBaseAxes()[0];
xAxisPrimary.setType( AxisType.TEXT_LITERAL );
xAxisPrimary.getMajorGrid().setTickStyle(
    TickStyle.BELOW_LITERAL );
xAxisPrimary.getOrigin().setType(
    IntersectionType.VALUE_LITERAL );
xAxisPrimary.getTitle().setVisible( false );

Axis yAxisPrimary = cwaLine.getPrimaryOrthogonalAxis(
    xAxisPrimary );
yAxisPrimary.getMajorGrid().setTickStyle(
    TickStyle.LEFT_LITERAL );
yAxisPrimary.setScale().setMax(
    NumberDataElementImpl.create( 160 ) );
yAxisPrimary.setScale().setMin(NumberDataElementImpl.
    create( -50 ) );
yAxisPrimary.getTitle().getCaption().
    setValue( "Sales Growth" );

// Create sample data.
SampleData sdt = DataFactory.eINSTANCE.createSampleData();
BaseSampleData sdBase =
    DataFactory.eINSTANCE.createBaseSampleData();

```

```

sdBase.setDataSetRepresentation("A");
sdt.getBaseSampleData().add( sdBase );
OrthogonalSampleData sdOrthogonal =
    DataFactory.eINSTANCE.createOrthogonalSampleData();
sdOrthogonal.setDataSetRepresentation( "1" );
sdOrthogonal.setSeriesDefinitionIndex(0);
sdt.getOrthogonalSampleData().add( sdOrthogonal );
newChart.setSampleData(sdt);

// Create the category series
Series seCategory = SeriesImpl.create();

// Set data value for X-Series
Query query = QueryImpl.create( "row[\"Category\"]" );
seCategory.getDataDefinition().add( query );

// Create the primary data set
LineSeries ls1 = ( LineSeries ) LineSeriesImpl.create();
ls1.setSeriesIdentifier("Q1");

// Set data value for Y-Series
Query query1 = QueryImpl.create("row[\"Value1\"]");
ls1.getDataDefinition().add(query1);
ls1.getLineAttributes().setColor(
    ColorDefinitionImpl.RED());
ls1.getMarker().setType(MarkerType.TRIANGLE_LITERAL);
ls1.getLabel().setVisible(true);
ls1.getLabel().getCaption().setValue( "Q1" );
LineSeries ls2 = (LineSeries) LineSeriesImpl.create();
ls2.setSeriesIdentifier( "Q2" );

// Set data value for Y-Series
Query query2 = QueryImpl.create( "row[\"Value2\"]" );
ls2.getDataDefinition().add( query2 );

ls2.getLineAttributes().setColor(
    ColorDefinitionImpl.YELLOW());
ls2.getMarker().setType( MarkerType.TRIANGLE_LITERAL );
ls2.getLabel().setVisible( true );
ls2.getLabel().getCaption().setValue( "Q2" );

SeriesDefinition sdX = SeriesDefinitionImpl.create();
sdX.getSeriesPalette().update( 0 );
xAxisPrimary.getSeriesDefinitions().add( sdX );

SeriesDefinition sdY1 = SeriesDefinitionImpl.create();
sdY1.getSeriesPalette().update( 0 );
sdY1.getSeries().add( ls1 );
sdY1.getQuery().setDefinition( "\"Q1\"" );

```

```

yAxisPrimary.getSeriesDefinitions().add( sdY1 );

SeriesDefinition sdY2 = SeriesDefinitionImpl.create();
sdY2.getSeriesPalette().update( 0 );
sdY2.getSeries().add( ls2 );
sdY2.getQuery().setDefinition( "\"Q2\"" );
yAxisPrimary.getSeriesDefinitions().add( sdY2 );
sdX.getSeries().add(seCategory);

// Get a chart implementation object and set its
// chart.instance property
ElementFactory ef = designHandle.getElementFactory();
ExtendedItemHandle extendedItemHandle =
    ef.newExtendedItem( null, "Chart" );

try{
    ChartReportItemImpl chartItem =
        (ChartReportItemImpl)extendedItemHandle.
        getReportItem( );
    chartItem.setProperty("chart.instance", newChart);
} catch(ExtendedElementException e){ e.printStackTrace( ); }

// Get an ODA data set and bind it to the chart
OdaDataSetHandle dataSet = ( OdaDataSetHandle )
    designHandle.getDataSets( ).get( 0 );
try {
    extendedItemHandle.setDataSet( dataSet );
    extendedItemHandle.setHeight( "250pt" );
    extendedItemHandle.setWidth( "400pt" );
} catch ( SemanticException e ) {
    e.printStackTrace( );
}

// Add the chart to the report design
ListHandle li = (ListHandle) designHandle.
    getBody( ).getContents( ).get( 0 );
try {
    li.getFooter( ).add( extendedItemHandle );
} catch ( ContentException e3 ) {
    e3.printStackTrace( );
} catch ( NameException e3 ) {
    e3.printStackTrace( );
}

// Save the report design that now contains a chart
try {
    designHandle.saveAs( newDesign );
} catch ( IOException e ) {
}

```

```

        e.printStackTrace( );
    }
    designHandle.close();
}

/************************************************************
 * Run the report design that contains the new chart.
 * Depending on format parameter, this method creates either
 * an HTML report or a PDF report.
************************************************************/
public void run( String reportDesign, String format )
{
    // Create an image handler object
    IHTMLImageHandler imageHandler = new
        HTMLServerImageHandler();

    // Create an emitter config object and set the image
    // handler on it.
    HTMLEmitterConfig hc = new HTMLEmitterConfig();
    hc.setImageHandler( imageHandler );

    // Create a rendering context object and set its image
    // directories.
    HTMLRenderContext renderContext = new HTMLRenderContext( );
    renderContext.setImageDirectory( "./images" );
    renderContext.setBaseImageURL( "./images" );

    // Create the report engine.
    ReportEngine engine = new ReportEngine( config );

    // Create a runnable report from the reportDesign.
    IReportRunnable report = null;
    try
    {
        report = engine.openReportDesign( reportDesign );
    }
    catch ( EngineException e )
    {
        System.err.println( "Report " + reportDesign +
            " not found!\n" );
        engine.destroy( );
        return;
    }

    // Create a task to run the report
    IRunAndRenderTask task = engine.
        createRunAndRenderTask( report );
    HTMLRenderOption options = new HTMLRenderOption( );
}

```

```

// Set the output format, either HTML or PDF
options.setOutputFormat( format );

// Give the report the same name as the design,
// except give it the appropriate extension
String output = reportDesign.replaceFirst( ".rptdesign",
    "." + format );
options.setOutputFileName( output );

// Set the render options on the RunAndRenderTask object
task.setRenderOption( options );

// Create an application context HashMap and add the
// render context to it
HashMap appContext = new HashMap( );
appContext.put(
    EngineConstants.APPCONTEXT_HTML_RENDER_CONTEXT,
    renderContext );

// Set the application context on the task
task.setAppContext( appContext );

// Run the report.
try {
    task.run( );
}
catch ( EngineException e1 )
{
    System.err.println( "Report " + reportDesign +
        " run failed.\n" );
    System.err.println( e1.toString( ) );
}
engine.destroy( );
}
}

```

## Using the BIRT charting API in a Java Swing application

The BIRT charting API does not rely on the BIRT design engine or the BIRT report engine. You can use the BIRT charting API to generate a chart in any Java application.

The program shown in Listing 14-9 uses the BIRT charting API to build a chart in a Java Swing application. The application does not use the BIRT design

engine or the BIRT report engine, and it does not process a BIRT report design file.

### **Listing 14-9 Java Swing charting application**

---

```
import java.awt.BorderLayout;
import java.awt.Color;
import java.awt.Container;
import java.awt.Dimension;
import java.awt.FlowLayout;
import java.awt.Font;
import java.awt.FontMetrics;
import java.awt.Graphics;
import java.awt.Graphics2D;
import java.awt.GridLayout;
import java.awt.Rectangle;
import java.awt.Toolkit;
import java.awt.event.ActionEvent;
import java.awt.event.ActionListener;
import java.awt.event.ComponentEvent;
import java.awt.event.ComponentListener;
import java.util.HashMap;
import java.util.Map;
import javax.swing.JFrame;
import javax.swing.JPanel;

import org.eclipse.birt.chart.device.IDeviceRenderer;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.device.IUpdateNotifier;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.exception.ChartException;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.factory.GeneratedChartState;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.factory.Generator;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.Chart;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.ChartWithAxes;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.attribute.AxisType;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.attribute.Bounds;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.attribute.impl.BoundsImpl;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.component.Axis;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.util.PluginSettings;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.impl.ChartWithAxesImpl;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.attribute.impl.
    ColorDefinitionImpl;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.layout.Plot;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.layout.Legend;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.attribute.
    IntersectionType;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.attribute.LegendItemType;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.attribute.TickStyle;
```

```

import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.data.NumberDataSet;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.data.impl.
    NumberDataSetImpl;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.data.TextDataSet;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.component.Series;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.data.SeriesDefinition;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.type.BarSeries;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.data.impl.
    SeriesDefinitionImpl;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.attribute.Position;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.data.impl.TextDataSetImpl;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.type.impl.BarSeriesImpl;
import org.eclipse.birt.chart.model.component.impl.SeriesImpl;

/* The selector of charts in Swing JPanel.
 */
public final class SwingChartingApp extends JPanel implements
    IUpdateNotifier,
    ComponentListener
{

    private static final long serialVersionUID = 1L;
    private boolean bNeedsGeneration = true;
    private GeneratedChartState gcs = null;
    private Chart cm = null;
    private IDeviceRenderer idr = null;
    private Map contextMap;

    /* Constructs the layout with a container for displaying
     * chart
     */
    public static void main( String[] args )
    {
        SwingChartingApp scv = new SwingChartingApp( );
        JFrame jf = new JFrame( );
        jf.setDefaultCloseOperation( JFrame.DISPOSE_ON_CLOSE );
        jf.addComponentListener( scv );
        Container co = jf.getContentPane( );
        co.setLayout( new BorderLayout( ) );
        co.add( scv, BorderLayout.CENTER );
        Dimension dScreen = Toolkit.
            getDefaultToolkit( ).getScreenSize( );
        Dimension dApp = new Dimension( 800, 600 );
        jf.setSize( dApp );
        jf.setLocation( ( dScreen.width - dApp.width ) / 2,
            ( dScreen.height - dApp.height ) / 2 );
        jf.setTitle( scv.getClass( ).getName( ) + " [device="
            + scv.idr.getClass( ).getName( )

```

```

        + " ] " ) ; // $NON-NLS-1$
        jf.show( );
    }

/* Get the connection with SWING device to render the
 * graphics.
 */
SwingChartingApp( )
{
    contextMap = new HashMap( );
    final PluginSettings ps = PluginSettings.instance( );
    try
    {
        idr = ps.getDevice( "dv.SWING" ) ; // $NON-NLS-1$
    }
    catch ( ChartException ex )
    {
        ex.printStackTrace( );
    }
    cm = createBarChart( );
}

/* Build a simple bar chart */
public static final Chart createBarChart( )
{
    ChartWithAxes cwaBar = ChartWithAxesImpl.create( );

    /* Plot */
    cwaBar.getBlock( ).setBackgroundColor( ColorDefinitionImpl.WHITE( ) );
    cwaBar.getBlock( ).getOutline( ).setVisible( true );
    Plot p = cwaBar.getPlot( );
    p.getClientArea( ).setBackgroundColor(
        ColorDefinitionImpl.create( 255,
        255,
        225 ) );
    p.getOutline( ).setVisible( false );

    /* Title */
    cwaBar.getTitle( ).getLabel( ).getCaption( ).setValue( "Bar Chart" );

    /* Legend */
    Legend lg = cwaBar.getLegend( );
    lg.getText( ).getFont( ).setSize( 16 );
    lg.setItemType( LegendItemType.CATEGORIES_LITERAL );

    /* X-Axis */
}

```

```

Axis xAxisPrimary = cwaBar.getPrimaryBaseAxes( )[0];
xAxisPrimary.setType( AxisType.TEXT_LITERAL );
xAxisPrimary.getMajorGrid( ).
    setTickStyle( TickStyle.BELOW_LITERAL );
xAxisPrimary.getOrigin( ).
    setType( IntersectionType.VALUE_LITERAL );
xAxisPrimary.getTitle( ).setVisible( true );

/* Y-Axis */
Axis yAxisPrimary = cwaBar.
    getPrimaryOrthogonalAxis( xAxisPrimary );
yAxisPrimary.getMajorGrid( ).
    setTickStyle( TickStyle.LEFT_LITERAL );
yAxisPrimary.setType( AxisType.LINEAR_LITERAL );
yAxisPrimary.getLabel( ).getCaption( ).
    getFont( ).setRotation( 90 );

/* Data Set */
TextDataSet categoryValues =
    TextDataSetImpl.create( new String[]{
        "Item 1", "Item 2", "Item 3"} );
NumberDataSet orthoValues = NumberDataSetImpl.
    create( new double[]{
        25, 35, 15
    } );

/* X-Series */
Series seCategory = SeriesImpl.create( );
seCategory.setDataSet( categoryValues );
SeriesDefinition sdX = SeriesDefinitionImpl.create( );
sdX.getSeriesPalette( ).update( 0 );
xAxisPrimary.getSeriesDefinitions( ).add( sdX );
sdX.getSeries( ).add( seCategory );

/* Y-Series */
BarSeries bs = (BarSeries) BarSeriesImpl.create( );
bs.setDataSet( orthoValues );
bs.setRiserOutline( null );
bs.getLabel( ).setVisible( true );
bs.setLabelPosition( Position.INSIDE_LITERAL );
SeriesDefinition sdY = SeriesDefinitionImpl.create( );
yAxisPrimary.getSeriesDefinitions( ).add( sdY );
sdY.getSeries( ).add( bs );
return cwaBar;
}

public void regenerateChart( )
{
    bNeedsGeneration = true;
}

```

```

        repaint( );
    }

    public void repaintChart( )
    {
        repaint( );
    }

    public Object peerInstance( )
    {
        return this;
    }

    public Chart getDesignTimeModel( )
    {
        return cm;
    }

    public Object getContext( Object key )
    {
        return contextMap.get( key );
    }

    public Object putContext( Object key, Object value )
    {
        return contextMap.put( key, value );
    }

    public Object removeContext( Object key )
    {
        return contextMap.remove( key );
    }

    public Chart getRunTimeModel( )
    {
        return gcs.getChartModel( );
    }

    public void paint( Graphics g )
    {
        super.paint( g );
        Graphics2D g2d = (Graphics2D) g;
        idr.setProperty( IDeviceRenderer.GRAPHICS_CONTEXT, g2d );
        idr.setProperty( IDeviceRenderer.UPDATE_NOTIFIER, this );
        Dimension d = getSize( );
        Bounds bo = BoundsImpl.create( 0, 0, d.width, d.height );
        bo.scale( 72d / idr.getDisplayServer( ).
            getDpiResolution( ) );
    }
}

```

```

Generator gr = Generator.instance( );

if ( bNeedsGeneration )
{
    bNeedsGeneration = false;
    try
    {
        gcs = gr.build( idr.getDisplayServer( ),
                        cm,
                        bo,
                        null,
                        null,
                        null );
    }
    catch ( ChartException ex )
    {
        System.out.println( ex );
    }
}

try
{
    gr.render( idr, gcs );
}
catch ( ChartException ex )
{
    System.out.println( ex );
}

public void componentHidden( ComponentEvent e )
{
}

public void componentMoved( ComponentEvent e )
{
}

public void componentResized( ComponentEvent e )
{
    bNeedsGeneration = true;
}

public void componentShown( ComponentEvent e )
{
}
}

```

---

# Understanding the chart programming examples

The org.eclipse.birt.chart.examples plug-in is a collection of chart programming examples. The root directory of the chart programming examples is:

C:\eclipse\plugins\org.eclipse.birt.chart.examples

The individual examples in the chart examples plug-in are located in a subdirectory under the examples root directory, called EXAMPLES\_ROOT.

Most of the examples consist of one or more Java applications that use either Java Swing or Eclipse SWT. The application classes are called viewer applications and their class names end in Viewer. Most of the examples also have one or more additional classes that the viewer class uses. The additional classes are usually where the chart is built.

The following sections provide brief summaries of the examples in the chart examples plug-in.

## DataCharts

The DataCharts example consists of DataChartsViewer, a Java Swing application that uses the DataCharts class to build a chart. Depending on user selection, the application builds any of the following three kinds of charts:

- A pie chart with a minimum slice
- A bar chart with multiple y-axes
- A bar chart with multiple Y series

## GroupOnXSeries

The GroupOnXSeries example is a Java application that processes a BIRT report design and modifies it. The original report design contains a chart report item that does not group on the X series. The GroupOnXSeries Java application modifies the design so that the chart report item does group on the X series. The application modifies the design it reads from NonGroupOnXSeries.rptdesign and it saves a new BIRT report design named GroupOnXSeries.rptdesign.

## GroupOnYAxis

The GroupOnYAxis example is a Java application that processes a BIRT report design and modifies it. The original report design contains a chart report item that does not group on the y-axis. The GroupOnYAxis Java application modifies the design so that the chart report item does group on the y-axis. The application modifies the design it reads from NonGroupOnYAxis.rptdesign and it saves a new BIRT report design named GroupOnYAxis.rptdesign.

## AutoDataBinding

The AutoDataBinding example is an Eclipse SWT application that consists of the AutoDataBindingViewer and DataRowExpressionEvaluator classes. The AutoDataBindingViewer creates a SWT Display widget and adds a chart to it. The application binds data to the chart and renders the chart.

## FormatCharts

The FormatCharts example is a Java Swing application that consists of the FormatChartsViewer and FormatCharts Java classes. The FormatChartsViewer class calls any of several methods in FormatCharts to add a chart to the application. FormatCharts has methods to build the following kinds of charts based on user selection:

- Axis format
- Colored by category
- Legend title
- Percentage value
- Plot format
- Series format

## InteractivityCharts

There are three viewer applications for the InteractivityCharts example, SvgInteractivityViewer, SwingInteractivityViewer, and SwtInteractivityViewer. Each of the viewer applications uses a different Java framework, as indicated by the name of the viewer. All three applications do the same thing, offering the user a choice of type of interactivity chart and calling the corresponding method in the InteractivityCharts class. The four types of interactivity illustrated in these charts are:

- Click to highlight series
- Mouse over data points to show tooltips
- Click line series to toggle visibility
- Click pie slice to redirect URL

## PDFChartGenerator

The PDFChartGenerator example is a Java application that builds a simple chart and renders it as a PDF file. The PDFChartGenerator example consists of ChartModels and PDFChartGenerator. ChartModels has a single method that builds a simple chart. PDFChartGenerator uses the BIRT charting API to get the PDF renderer and the chart generator.

## **StyleProcessor**

The StyleProcessor example builds a simple chart and applies styles to several elements of the chart. The example consists of StyleChartViewer, an Eclipse SWT application, and StyleProcessor class, an implementation of the IStyleProcessor interface.

## **ScriptViewer**

The ScriptViewer example consists of two applications, JavaScriptViewer and JavaViewer. Both applications are SWT applications that illustrate the techniques for creating charts with report element event handlers.

JavaScriptViewer builds charts that have JavaScript event handlers. JavaViewer builds charts that have Java event handlers. Both applications use the ScriptCharts class to build charts.

The ScriptCharts class has methods to create charts with report element event handlers written in JavaScript and four methods that create charts with report element event handlers written in Java.

Each JavaScript event handler is defined as a single string in ScriptCharts. The Java event handlers are Java classes that are located in EXAMPLES\_ROOT/api/script/java. The ScriptCharts methods that add a Java event handler pass a string containing the path of the Java class.

## **Viewer**

The Viewer example is a set of six Eclipse applications that create a wide variety of charts. There are two Java Swing applications and four Eclipse SWT applications. The following list includes the viewers and the kinds of charts that they can create:

- Chart3DViewer
  - 3D bar chart
  - 3D line chart
  - 3D area chart
- CurveFittingViewer
  - Curve fitting bar chart
  - Curve fitting line chart
  - Curve fitting stock chart
  - Curve fitting area chart
- DialChartViewer
  - Single dial multiregion chart
  - Multidial multiregion chart

- Single dial single region chart
- Multidial single region chart
- SwingChartViewersSelector
  - Bar chart
  - Bar chart with 2 series
  - Pie chart
  - Pie chart with 4 series
  - Line chart
  - Bar/Line stacked chart
  - Scatter chart
  - Area chart
- SwingLiveChartViewer
  - Live animated chart with scrolling data
- SWTchartViewerSelector
  - Bar chart
  - Bar chart with 2 series
  - Pie chart
  - Pie chart with 4 series
  - Line chart
  - Bar/Line stacked chart
  - Scatter chart
  - Area chart

## ChartWizardLauncher

The ChartWizardLauncher example consists of two Java classes, ChartWizardLauncher and DefaultDataServiceProviderImpl.

ChartWizardLauncher attempts to read a chart from testCharts.chart. If the file exists, it modifies that file. If the file does not exist, the application creates a new file. The ChartWizardLauncher uses the BIRT chart wizard to create a wizard for the chart. DefaultDataServiceProviderImpl provides a basic implementation for a simulated data service.

## Report

There are three report examples, all of which are Java applications that have no user interface. The three report examples use the BIRT design engine to build a BIRT report design file from scratch. All three report examples use the BIRT charting API to add a chart to the report design. All of the report examples do add the following elements to the report design file:

- Master pages
- Data sources
- Data sets
- A body section

The MeterChartExample example adds a meter chart to the body of the report. The SalesReport example creates styles and adds a pie chart to the body of the report. The StockReport example adds a stock chart to the body of the report.

## Preference

The preference example illustrates how a Java servlet can process URL parameters to set style preferences for a chart. The servlet, PreferenceServlet, uses ChartModels to generate the chart. The servlet uses the LabelStyleProcessor class to use the style parameters to affect the style of a label in the chart. The example also includes a help page that explains how to do the following things:

- Set up Eclipse to work with Tomcat
- Run the Preference example
- Develop chart pages using JSPs and servlets

# V

## *Working with the Extension Framework*



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# 15

## Building the BIRT Project

This chapter explains how to download the BIRT 2.1 source code and build the BIRT project. This information is primarily for contributors to the BIRT open source project. You do not need to build BIRT to extend BIRT or write scripts for BIRT.

---

### About building the BIRT project

Building the BIRT project consists of the following tasks:

- Assuring that you have the correct software on your system

Your Eclipse version and your Java JDK must be compatible with the version of BIRT you are building. BIRT also requires several additional Eclipse plug-ins.

- Configuring your Eclipse workspace to compile BIRT code

You must configure your Eclipse workspace correctly to be able to build BIRT. Switching workspaces causes the Eclipse preferences to change, so it is necessary to confirm the workspace settings whenever you switch workspaces.

- Downloading and compiling the BIRT source code from the Eclipse web site

You use the Eclipse CVS system to download the BIRT source code. The downloaded code compiles automatically when the download is complete.

- Building the web viewer

You must build the web viewer separately from building BIRT.

## Assuring that you have the correct software on your system

To assure that you have all the components that are necessary for building BIRT, install Eclipse and all the related components necessary for running BIRT, as explained in the installation chapters. By creating a complete, functioning BIRT installation, you insure that you have all the correct software on your system necessary for building BIRT.

## Configuring the Eclipse workspace to compile BIRT

The BIRT source code uses some features that are only present in JDK version 1.4 and higher. In order for BIRT to build successfully, you need to set the Eclipse compiler compliance to 1.4. You can set this version for your Eclipse workspace by starting Eclipse and setting Eclipse preferences. If you create a new workspace or switch to a different workspace, you can lose the compiler settings, in which case you must reset them as described in the following instructions.

### How to set Eclipse workspace preferences

- 1 Choose Window→Preferences. Preferences appears, as shown in Figure 15-1.

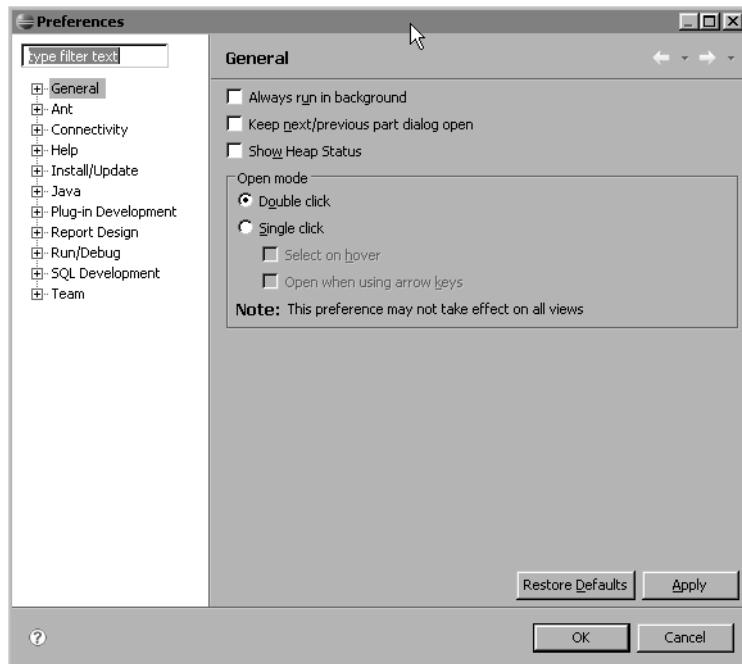
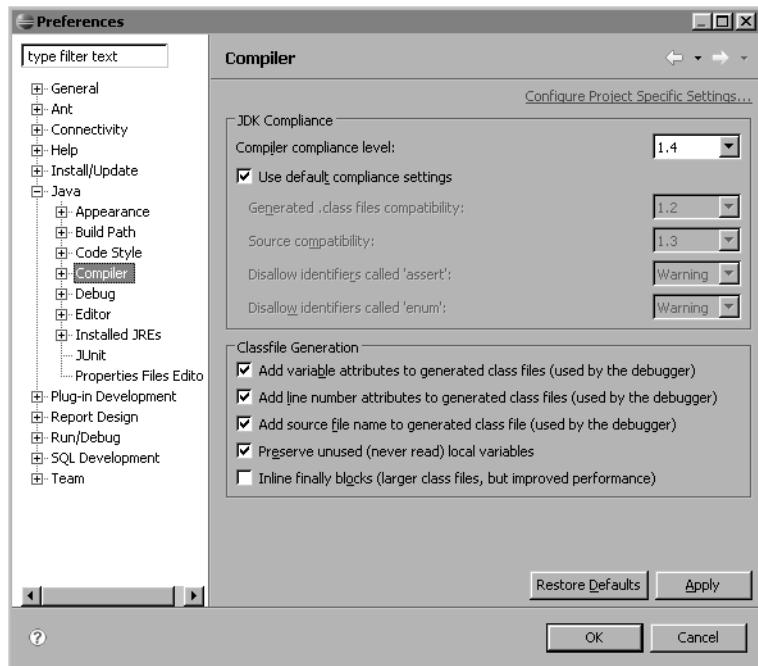


Figure 15-1 The Preferences dialog

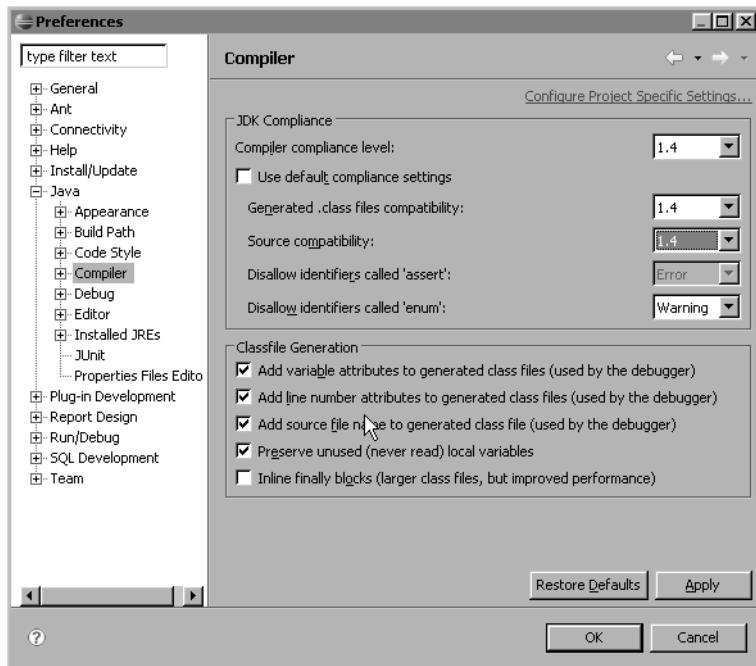
- 2** Expand the Java entry in the tree and select Compiler, as shown in Figure 15-2.



**Figure 15-2** Compiler preferences

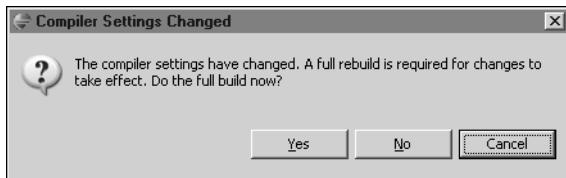
- 3** In JDK Compliance:
- Select 1.4 in Compiler compliance level.
  - Deselect Use default compliance settings.
  - In Generated .class files compatibility, select 1.4.
  - In Source compatibility, select 1.4.

- In Classfile Generation, accept the default settings, shown in Figure 15-3.



**Figure 15-3** Default settings for Classfile Generation

Choose OK. The message shown in Figure 15-4 appears.



**Figure 15-4** Compiler settings prompt

- 4 Choose Yes.

## Creating Eclipse projects

To build BIRT, you must download the source code. You use the CVS client in Eclipse to specify the Eclipse CVS repository site location and to download the source from the remote site. When you check out code from the Eclipse CVS site, Eclipse downloads the source code to the current Eclipse workspace on your local system. Every project you check out creates a corresponding Eclipse project in your current workspace. There are no restrictions or special

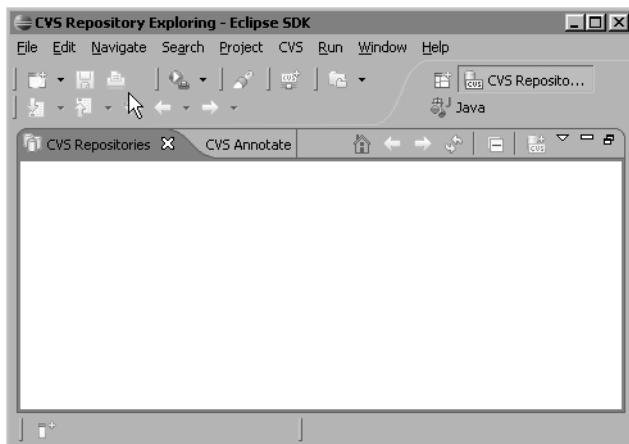
requirements to download the source code. It is freely available from the Eclipse open source site.

## Specifying the repository locations

The following instructions describe how to specify the repository location for the BIRT source.

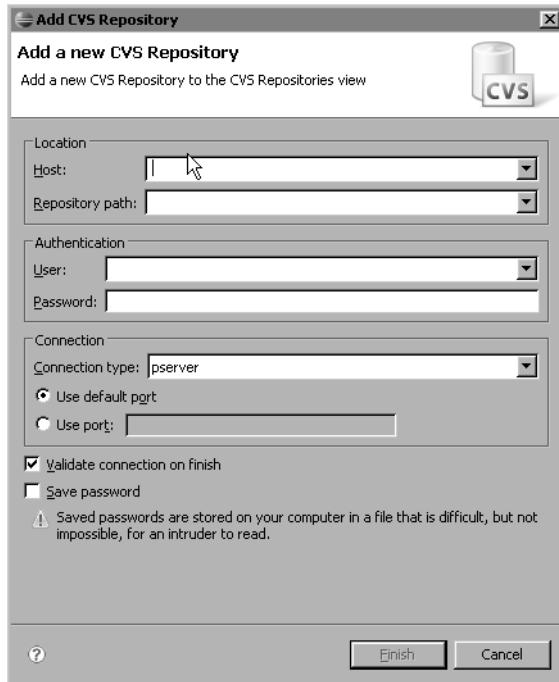
### How to specify a CVS repository location for the BIRT project

- 1 In Eclipse, choose Window→Open Perspective→Other→CVS Repository Exploring. The Eclipse desktop changes to the CVS perspective, similar to Figure 15-5.



**Figure 15-5** The CVS perspective

- 2 Right-click in CVS Repositories and choose New→Repository Location. Add CVS Repository appears, as shown in Figure 15-6.



**Figure 15-6** The Add CVS Repository dialog

- 3 On Add CVS Repository, set the values that appear in Table 15-1.

**Table 15-1** Values for Add CVS Repository fields

Field	Value
Host	dev.eclipse.org
Repository path	/home/birt
User	anonymous
Connection type	pserver
Use default port	Selected
Validate connection on finish	Selected
Save password	Deselected

- 4 Choose Finish.

A new node appears in CVS Repositories, as shown in Figure 15-7. This node is named :pserver:anonymous@dev.eclipse.org:/cvsroot/birt.

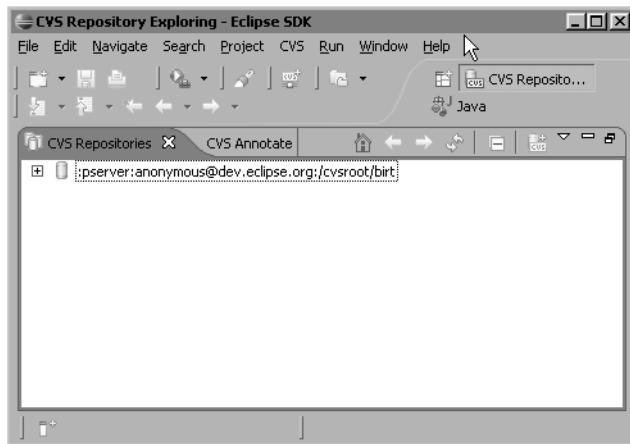


Figure 15-7 BIRT project repository in CVS Repositories

## Checking out the BIRT source

You use the CVS source code checkout procedure to check out BIRT source code.

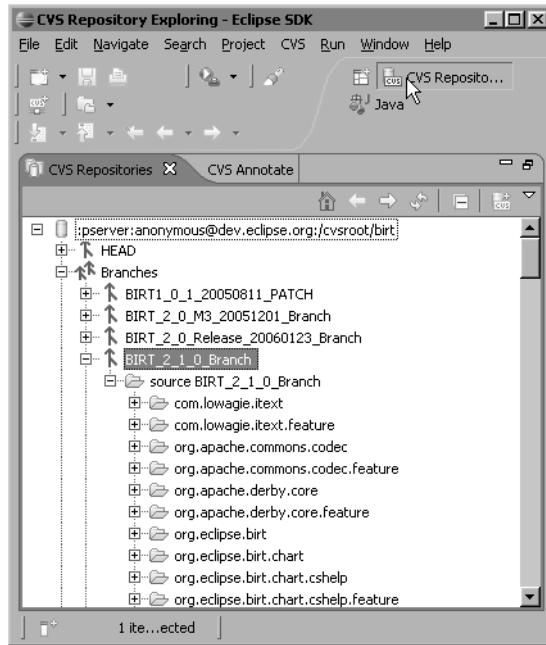
### How to check out the BIRT source

- 1 If Eclipse is not already set to the CVS Repositories perspective, choose Window→Open Perspective→Other→CVS Repository Exploring.
- 2 If the Problems view is not already visible, choose Basic→Problems in Show View.

Note any existing problems.

- 3 In the CVS Repositories tree, expand the following nodes:
  - :pserver:anonymous@dev.eclipse.org:/cvsroot/birt
  - Branches
  - BIRT\_2\_1\_0\_Branch
  - sourceBIRT\_2\_1\_0\_Branch

The CVS Repositories tree appears, as shown in Figure 15-8.



**Figure 15-8** The BIRT release in CVS Repositories

- 4 In the BIRT repository, at:

```
:pserver:anonymous@dev.eclipse.org:/cvsroot/
birt->Branches->BIRT_2_1_0_Branch->
    sourceBIRT_2_1_0_Branch
```

select all nodes.

- 5 Some of the nodes in CVS are extraneous for building BIRT and can create compile errors. While the compile errors are not serious, it is easier to verify that you have a good build if you have no compiler errors. The following nodes are unnecessary and can be deselected:

- org.eclipse.birt.chart.tests
- org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.flatfile
- org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.flatfile.nl
- org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.flatfile.ui
- org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.flatfile.ui.nl
- org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.rcp.ui
- org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.tests
- org.eclipse.birt.report.tests.chart
- org.eclipse.birt.report.tests.engine

- org.eclipse.birt.report.tests.model
- org.eclipse.birt.test.performance
- org.eclipse.birt.tests.core
- org.eclipse.birt.tests.data

**6** From the context menu, choose Check Out.

The entire BIRT source tree now downloads and builds. The building phase of this operation can take a long time. There is a progress meter in the bottom-right corner of the Eclipse window that provides percentage build completion information.

**7** Check the Problems view for errors.

You should see more problems now than before you checked out the BIRT source. You must add one JAR file to eliminate the new errors, as described in the following section.

## **Adding the extra JAR file**

There is one extra JAR file, iText-1.3.jar, that BIRT requires to complete the build process. This JAR file is not in the repository and you must download it separately.

You can download iText\_1.3.jar from:

<http://prdownloads.sourceforge.net/itext/itext-1.3.jar>

The following section describes how to add iText-1.3.jar to the com.lowagie.itext project.

### **How to add iText-1.3.jar to the com.lowagie.itext project**

- 1** Copy iText-1.3.jar into com.lowagie.itext/lib, located in the current Eclipse workspace.
- 2** If the Package Explorer view is not visible, perform the following steps:
  - 1** Choose Window→Show View→Other.
  - 2** In Show View, select Java→Package Explorer.
- 3** In Package Explorer, select the com.lowagie.itext folder.
- 4** Choose File→Refresh.

Eclipse rebuilds the workspace after every change to a project. When BIRT finishes rebuilding the workspace, the Problems view should show only the errors that existed before starting the BIRT build, if any.

# Building the web viewer

Once you have a successful BIRT build, you are ready to build the BIRT report viewer and the web viewer. Except for the choice of the build script, the process for building the two viewers is identical. However, you must build the report viewer before building the web viewer. Both viewer build scripts are Ant scripts located in org.eclipse.birt.report.viewer.

## How to build the report viewer and the web viewer

- 1 Choose Window→Open Perspective→Java to change your Eclipse perspective to Java. Package Explorer appears on the Eclipse workbench, as shown in Figure 15-9.

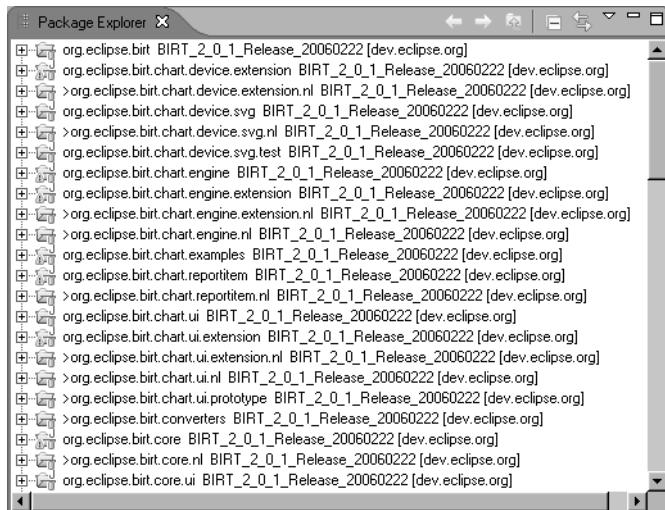


Figure 15-9 Package Explorer

- 2 In Package Explorer, expand org.eclipse.birt.report.viewer, as shown in Figure 15-10.

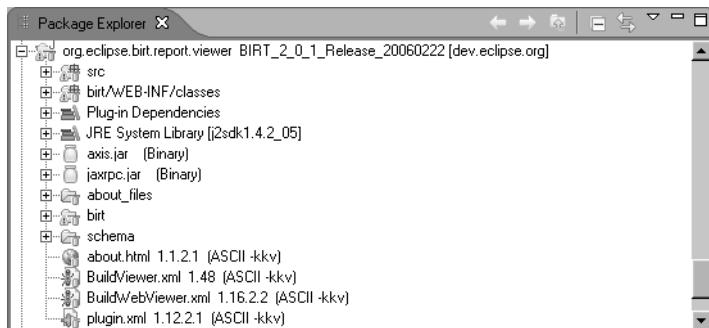
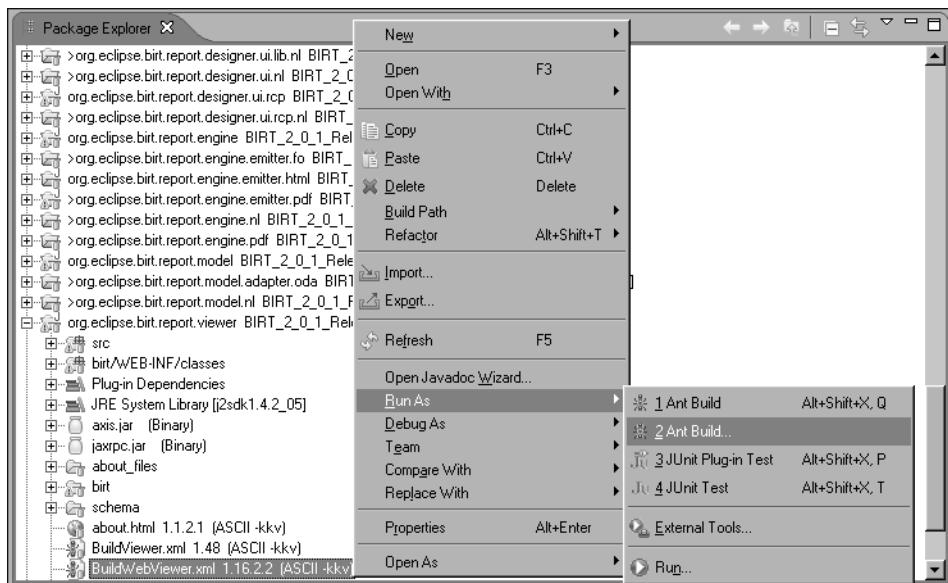


Figure 15-10 Contents of org.eclipse.birt.report.viewer

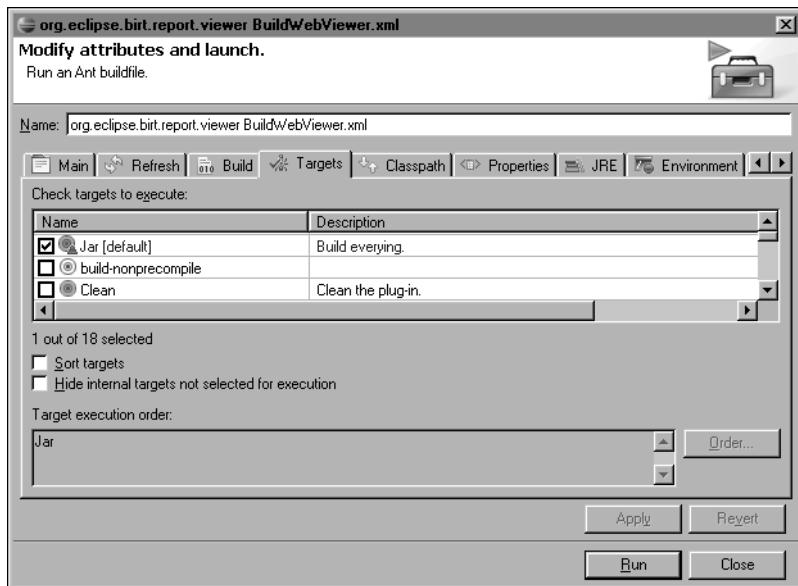
- 3** Right-click BuildViewer.xml and choose Run As > 2 Ant Build from the context menu, as shown in Figure 15-11. There are two Ant Build choices on the context menu. Be sure to choose 2 Ant Build.



**Figure 15-11** Selecting 2 Ant Build

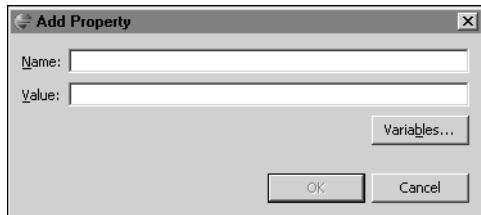
Modify attributes and launch appears.

- 4 Choose the Targets tab and deselect all the targets except JAR (default), as shown in Figure 15-12.



**Figure 15-12** The Modify attributes and launch dialog

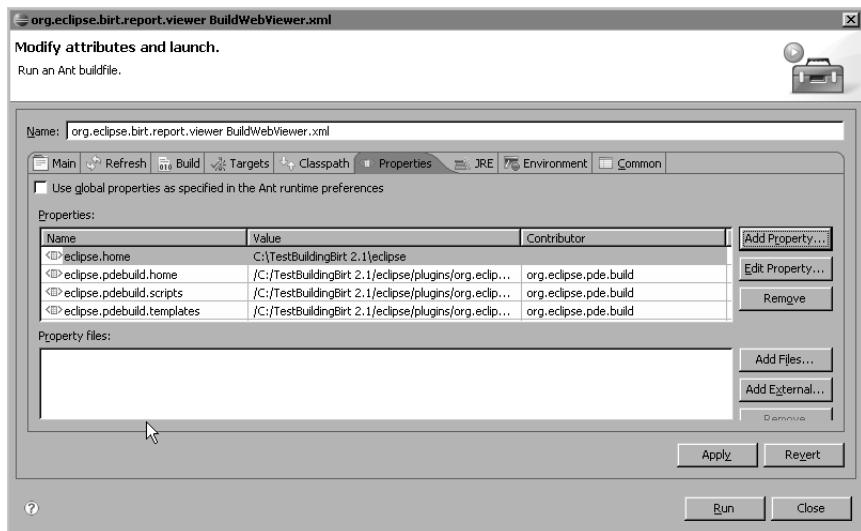
- 5 Choose the Properties tab. Modify attributes and launch—Properties appears.  
6 Deselect Use global properties as specified in the Ant run-time preferences and choose Add Property. Add Property appears, as shown in Figure 15-13.



**Figure 15-13** Add Property

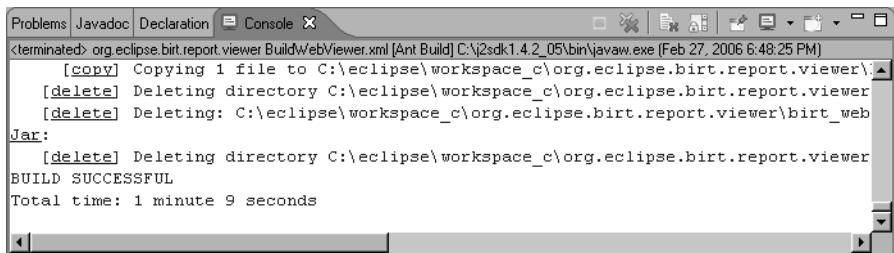
- 7 In Name, type:  
eclipse.home  
8 In Value, type the path to your Eclipse home directory. Choose OK.

Properties appears, as shown in Figure 15-14.



**Figure 15-14** The Properties page, showing eclipse.home

- 9 Choose Run. Console appears, as shown in Figure 15-15.



**Figure 15-15** The Console page

Assuming that there were no errors in the web viewer build, a folder is created named:

\$ECLIPSE\_WORKSPACE/org.eclipse.birt.report.viewer/birt\_web

- 10 Repeat step 3 through step 9, substituting BuildWebViewer.xml for BuildViewer.xml in step 3.

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# 16

## Extending BIRT

This chapter provides an overview of the BIRT extension framework and shows how to create and deploy a BIRT extension using the Eclipse Plug-in Development Environment (PDE).

---

### Overview of the extension framework

The Eclipse platform is an open source, integrated system of application development tools that you implement and extend using a plug-in interface. Eclipse provides a set of core plug-ins that configure the basic services for the platform's framework. A platform developer can build and integrate new tools in this application development system.

BIRT is a set of plug-in extensions that enable a developer to add reporting functionality to an application. The BIRT APIs define extension points that allow a developer to add custom functionality to the BIRT framework. Eclipse makes BIRT source code available to the developer community in the CVS repository.

In the Eclipse installation, the name of a plug-in directory contains an appended version number. This book omits the version number from the names of the plug-in directories. For example, the book abbreviates the name of the plug-in directory, `org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.jdbc_2.1.0.N20060628-1351`, to `org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.jdbc`.

The following sections provide a general description of how to make an extension to a defined extension point in the BIRT release 2.1 framework using the Eclipse PDE.

---

# Understanding the structure of a BIRT plug-in

An Eclipse plug-in implements the following components:

- Extension point schema definition

An XML document that specifies a grammar that you must follow when defining the elements of a plug-in extension in the Eclipse PDE

- Plug-in manifest

An XML document that describes the plug-in's activation framework to the Eclipse run-time environment

- Plug-in run-time class

A Java class that defines the methods for starting, managing, and stopping a plug-in instance

The following sections provide detailed descriptions of these Eclipse plug-in components.

## Understanding an extension point schema definition file

A plug-in directory typically contains an XML extension point schema definition (.exsd) file in a schema subdirectory. The XML schema documents the elements, attributes, and types used by the extension point. The Eclipse PDE uses this information to describe the elements and attributes in the property editors and other facilities of the Eclipse platform.

You use the Eclipse PDE to develop the plug-in content, test, and deploy a plug-in. The Eclipse PDE automatically generates the plugin.xml, build.properties, and run-time archive files.

The file, \$INSTALL\_DIR\ eclipse\ plugins\ org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui\ schema\ reportitemUI.exsd, documents the settings for a report item extension to the BIRT Report Designer user interface. The XML schema file, reportitemUI.exsd, has the following structure:

- <schema> is the root element that sets the target namespace and contains all other elements and their attributes.
- <annotation> contains the following attributes:
  - <appinfo> provides the following items:
    - Machine-readable metadata that Eclipse uses to identify the plug-in
    - Text-based information that appears in the PDE Extensions page and HTML extension point description

- <documentation> provides user information that appears in the PDE's HTML extension point description.
- <element> declares a reference for the model and optional user interface extensions, such as figure, label, image, builder, property page, palette, editor, outline, and description. Each extension element is a complex type containing attributes and annotations, as described below:
  - model is an extension element that specifies the Report Object Model (ROM) name for the report item extension.
  - Each user interface extension element specifies the following items:
    - Extension element name.
    - Fully qualified name of the Java class implementing the interface specified for the extension element. For example, builder implements the interface, org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui.extensions.IReportItemBuilderUI.

Listing 16-1 is a partial schema example showing reportitemUI.exsd. The ellipses (...) mark the places in the code where lines are omitted.

#### **Listing 16-1 Partial example schema for Report Item UI**

---

```

<?xml version='1.0' encoding='UTF-8'?>
<!-- Schema file written by PDE -->
<schema targetNamespace="org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui">
  <annotation>
    <appInfo>
      <meta.schema
        plugin="org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui"
        id="reportitemUI"
        name="Report Item UI Extension Point"/>
    </appInfo>
    <documentation>
      This extension point is used in conjunction with the
      Report Item extension point defined in the model. It
      is used to register the GUI to be used for the
      Extended report item.
    </documentation>
  </annotation>
  <element name="extension">
    <complexType>
      <sequence>
        ...
        <element ref="model" />
        <element ref="builder" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="1" />
        <element ref="propertyPage" minOccurs="0"
          maxOccurs="1" />
        <element ref="palette" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="1" />
        <element ref="editor" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="1" />
        <element ref="outline" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="1" />
      </sequence>
    </complexType>
  </element>
</schema>

```

```

        <element ref="description" minOccurs="0"
                 maxOccurs="1"/>
    </sequence>
    <attribute name="point" type="string" use="required">
        ...
    </attribute>
</complexType>
</element>
<element name="model">
    <complexType>
        <attribute name="extensionName" type="string"
                  use="required">
            <annotation>
                <documentation>
                    The ROM Report Item Extension name that maps
                    to this UI
                </documentation>
            </annotation>
        </attribute>
    </complexType>
</element>
...
<element name="builder">
    <annotation>
        <documentation>
            Optional Builder for the element inside the Editor.
            Instantiated when a new item is dragged from the
            palette inside the editor.
        </documentation>
    </annotation>
    <complexType>
        <attribute name="class" type="string">
            <annotation>
                <documentation>
                    a fully qualified name of the Java class
                    implementing org.eclipse.birt.report
                    .designer.ui.extensions.IReportItemBuilderUI
                </documentation>
            <appInfo>
                <meta.attribute kind="java"/>
            </appInfo>
            </annotation>
        </attribute>
    </complexType>
</element>
...
</schema>
```

## Understanding a plug-in manifest file

You install an Eclipse plug-in in a subdirectory of the \$INSTALL\_DIR/eclipse/plugins directory. The plug-in manifest file, plugin.xml, describes the plug-in's activation framework to the Eclipse run-time environment.

At run time, Eclipse scans the subdirectories in \$INSTALL\_DIR/eclipse/plugins, parses the contents of each plug-in manifest file, and caches the information in the plug-in registry. If the Eclipse run time requires an extension, Eclipse lazily loads the plug-in, using the registry information to instantiate the plug-in's objects. The run-time environment for the BIRT Report Engine functions in a similar way.

The plug-in manifest file declares the plug-in's required code and extension points to the plug-in registry. The plug-in run-time class provides the code segment. By lazily loading the plug-in's code segment, the run-time environment minimizes start-up time and conserves memory resources.

The plug-in manifest file, plugin.xml, has the following structure:

- <plugin> is the root element.
- <extension> specifies the extension points and the related elements and attributes that define the processing capabilities of the plug-in component.

Listing 16-2 shows the contents of the plug-in manifest file, org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem.rotatedlabel\plugin.xml. This file describes the required classes and extension points for the BIRT report item extension sample, rotated label.

**Listing 16-2** Sample plug-in manifest file

---

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<?eclipse version="3.2"?>
<plugin>
    <extension
        id="rotatedLabel"
        name="Rotated Label Extension"
        point="org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui
              .reportitemUI">
        <reportItemLabelUI
            class="org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem
                  .rotatedlabel.RotatedLabelUI"/>
        <model extensionName="RotatedLabel"/>
        <palette icon="icons/rotatedlabel.jpg"/>
        <editor
            canResize="true"
            showInDesigner="true"
            showInMasterPage="true"/>
        <outline icon="icons/rotatedlabel.jpg"/>
        <propertyPage
```

```

        class="org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem
            .rotatedlabel.RotatedLabelPropertyEditUIImpl"/>
</extension>
<extension
    id="rotatedLabel"
    name="Rotated Label Extension"
    point="org.eclipse.birt.report.model.reportItemModel">
<reportItem
    class="org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem
        .rotatedlabel.RotatedLabelItemFactoryImpl"
    extensionName="RotatedLabel">
<property
    defaultDisplayName="Rotation Angle"
    defaultValue="-45"
    name="rotationAngle"
    type="integer"/>
<property
    defaultDisplayName="Display Text"
    defaultValue="Rotated Label"
    name="displayText"
    type="string"/>
</reportItem>
</extension>
<extension
    id="rotatedLabel"
    name="Rotated Label Extension"
    point="org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.reportitem
        Presentation">
<reportItem
    class="org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem.rotated
        label.RotatedLabelPresentationImpl"
    name="RotatedLabel"/>
</extension>
</plugin>
```

## Understanding a plug-in run-time class

A plug-in runs within an instance of a plug-in run-time class. A plug-in run-time class extends org.eclipse.core.runtime.Plugin, the abstract superclass for all plug-in run-time class implementations. The Plugin run-time class defines the methods for starting, managing, and stopping a plug-in instance.

The Plugin run-time class typically contains a reference to an Open Services Gateway Initiative (OSGi) resource bundle that manages the execution context. Plugin implements the interface, org.osgi.framework.BundleActivator, which installs, starts, stops, and uninstalls the OSGi resource bundle. The OSGi resource bundle implements a service registry to support the following services:

- Installing the resource bundle

- Subscribing to an event
- Registering a service object
- Retrieving a service reference

The OSGi platform provides a secure, managed, extensible Java framework for deploying, downloading, and managing service applications. For more information about the OSGi platform, visit the OSGi Alliance web site at <http://www.osgi.org/>. For more information about the Java run-time and OSGi APIs, see the reference documentation for the Platform Plug-in Developer Guide in Eclipse Help.

Listing 16-3 is a code example showing the life-cycle and resource bundle methods for the report item plug-in, rotated label.

### **Listing 16-3     Sample code for the rotated label report item plug-in**

---

```
package org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem.rotatedlabel;

import org.eclipse.core.runtime.Plugin;
import org.osgi.framework.BundleContext;
import java.util.*;

/**
 * The main plugin class to be used in the desktop.
 */
public class RotatedLabelPlugin extends Plugin {
    // The Plugin ID
    public final static String ID =
        "org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem.rotatedlabel";
    //The shared instance.
    private static RotatedLabelPlugin plugin;
    //Resource bundle.
    private ResourceBundle resourceBundle;

    /**
     * The constructor.
     */
    public RotatedLabelPlugin() {
        super();
        plugin = this;
        try {
            resourceBundle = ResourceBundle.getBundle
                ("org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem.rotatedlabel
                 .RotatedLabelPluginResources" );
        } catch (MissingResourceException x) {
            resourceBundle = null;
        }
    }
}
```

```

    /**
     * This method is called upon plug-in activation
     */
    public void start(BundleContext context) throws Exception {
        super.start(context);
    }

    /**
     * This method is called when the plug-in is stopped
     */
    public void stop(BundleContext context) throws Exception {
        super.stop(context);
    }

    /**
     * Returns the shared instance.
     */
    public static RotatedLabelPlugin getDefault() {
        return plugin;
    }

    /**
     * Returns the string from the plugin's resource bundle,
     * or 'key' if not found.
     */
    public static String getResourceString(String key) {
        ResourceBundle bundle =
            RotatedLabelPlugin.getDefault().getResourceBundle();
        try {
            return (bundle != null) ? bundle.getString(key) : key;
        } catch (MissingResourceException e) {
            return key;
        }
    }

    /**
     * Returns the plugin's resource bundle,
     */
    public ResourceBundle getResourceBundle() {
        return resourceBundle;
    }
}

```

# Working with the Eclipse PDE

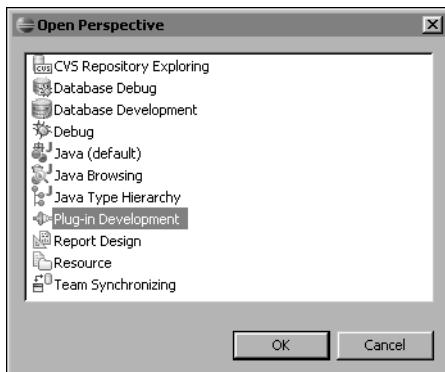
The Eclipse PDE is an integrated design tool that you use to create, develop, test, debug, and deploy a plug-in. The PDE provides wizards, editors, views, and launchers to assist you in developing a plug-in.

The Eclipse PDE provides a wizard to assist you in setting up a plug-in project and creating the framework for a plug-in extension. In the Plug-in Development perspective, you can use the New Plug-in Project wizard to assist you in setting up a plug-in project and creating the framework for a plug-in extension. The PDE wizard automatically generates the plug-in manifest file, plugin.xml, and, optionally, the Java plug-in run-time class.

## How to choose the Plug-in Development perspective

To access the PDE, you must choose the Plug-in Development perspective. To open the Plug-in Development perspective, perform the following tasks:

- 1 From the Eclipse menu, choose Window→Open Perspective→Other. Open Perspective appears.
- 2 Select Plug-in Development, as shown in Figure 16-1.



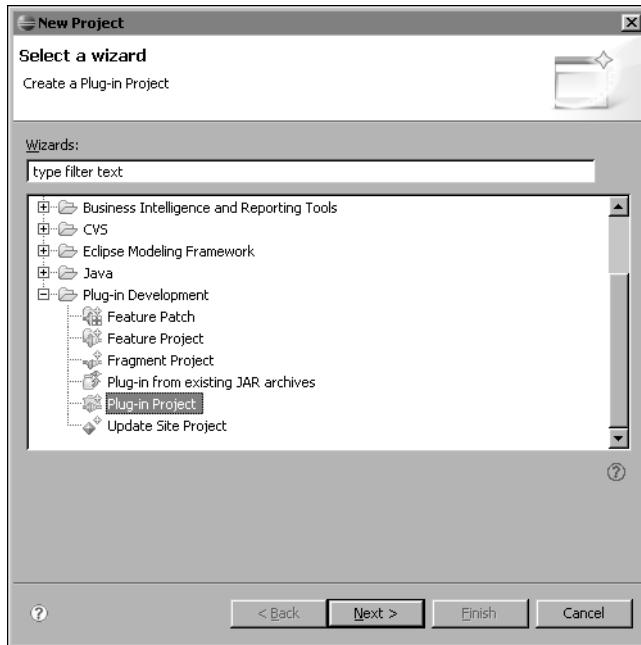
**Figure 16-1** Selecting a perspective

Choose OK. The Plug-in Development perspective appears.

## How to set up a new plug-in project

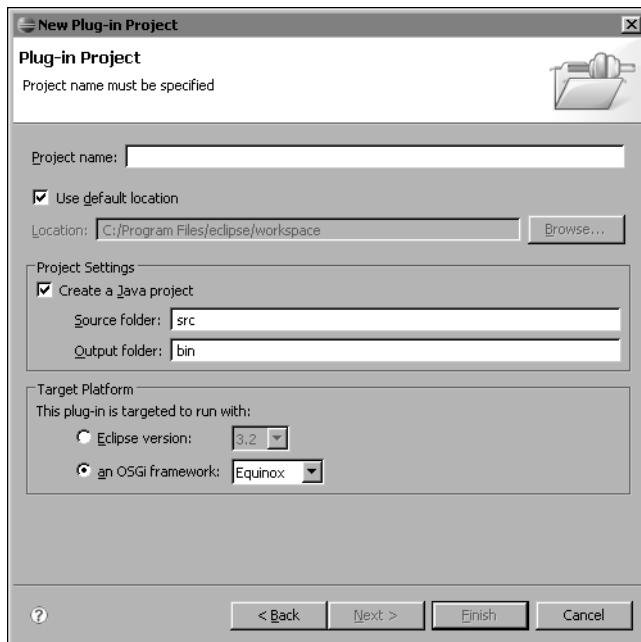
To access the New Plug-in Project wizard and create a project, perform the following tasks:

- 1 From the PDE menu, choose File→New→Project. New Project appears.
- 2 In Wizards, expand Plug-in Development, and select Plug-in Project, as shown in Figure 16-2.



**Figure 16-2** New Project

Choose Next. New Plug-in Project appears, as shown in Figure 16-3.



**Figure 16-3** New Plug-in Project

## **Understanding plug-in project properties**

Using the New Plug-in Project wizard, you can define the following properties for the plug-in:

- Project settings
  - Name
  - Location
  - Source and output folders
  - Plug-in format, such as the Eclipse version and whether to create an OSGi bundle manifest
- Plug-in content
  - Properties such as ID, version, name, provider, and the run-time library classpath
  - Choose to generate an activator, a Java class that controls the plug-in's life cycle
  - Create a rich client application
- Plug-in components such as an editor, property page, view, menu, or other components from a series of templates

In Eclipse 3.2, opting to create an OSGi bundle manifest, MANIFEST.MF, offers significant advantages. The OSGi bundle manifest, META-INF/MANIFEST.MF, contains a set of manifest headers that provide descriptive information about a bundle.

Eclipse 3.2 uses an implementation of the OSGi R4 framework specification. This framework defines the directives that specify the access rules for an exported package and the headers that facilitate class loading, start-up time, filtering, and other features.

BIRT release 2.1 uses the OSGi framework that comes with the Eclipse 3.2 platform. You must implement any plug-in that extends a BIRT release 2.1 extension point as an OSGi bundle.

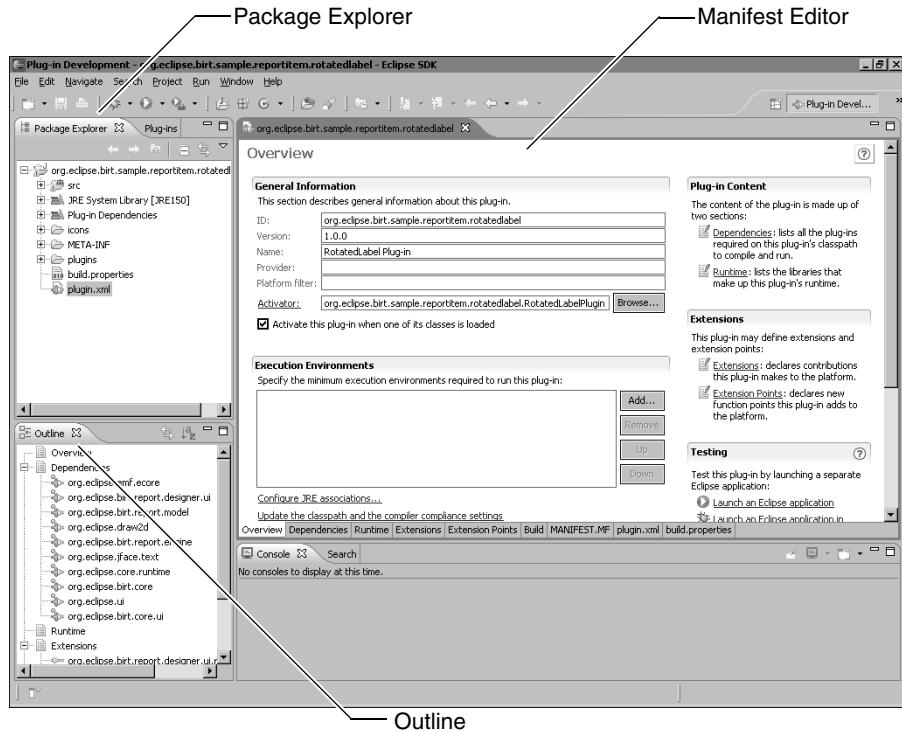
Inside the Eclipse environment, you can develop and deploy a plug-in for BIRT Report Designer. Outside of the Eclipse environment, you can develop and deploy a plug-in for BIRT Web Viewer. BIRT Web Viewer is a J2EE web application consisting of servlets and JSPs that encapsulates the BIRT Report Engine API to generate reports.

## **Understanding the Eclipse PDE Workbench**

The Eclipse PDE supports host and run-time instances of the workbench project. The host instance provides the development environment. The run-time instance allows you to launch a plug-in to test it.

Figure 16-4 shows the project for the report item extension sample, rotated label, in the host instance of the PDE Workbench. In the host instance, the PDE Workbench provides the following view and editor components:

- Package Explorer provides an expandable view of the plug-in package.
- Outline provides an expandable view of the project settings.
- PDE Manifest Editor displays a page containing the project settings for the currently selected item in Outline.



**Figure 16-4** The host instance of the PDE Workbench

In PDE Manifest Editor, you specify project settings and edit related files to create the plug-in framework on the following pages:

- Overview

Lists general information such as the plug-in ID, version, name, provider, platform filter, and activator class. This page also contains sections that link to the plug-in content pages, extensions, launchers for testing and debugging, deployment wizards, and the settings for the execution environment. In Figure 16-4, PDE Manifest Editor displays the Overview page.

- Dependencies

Lists the plug-ins that must be on the classpath to compile and run.

- Runtime
    - Declares the packages that the plug-in exposes to clients, the package visibility to other plug-ins, and the libraries and folders in the plug-in classpath.
  - Extensions
    - Declares the extensions that the plug-in makes to the platform.
  - Extension Points
    - Declares the new extension points that the plug-in adds to the platform.
  - Build
    - Displays the build configuration settings. A change to a setting on this page updates the file, build.properties.
  - MANIFEST.MF
    - Displays an editable page containing the header settings for the manifest file, MANIFEST.MF, that provide descriptive information about an OSGi bundle.
  - Plug-in.xml
    - Displays an editable page containing the settings for the plug-in manifest file, plugin.xml.
  - Build.properties
    - Displays an editable page containing the settings for the file, build.properties.
- A modification to a setting in a PDE Manifest Editor page automatically updates the corresponding plug-in manifest or build properties file.

---

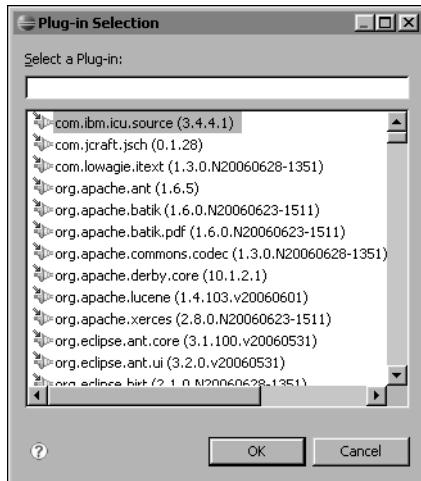
## Creating the structure of a plug-in extension

Use the host instance of the PDE Workbench to create the basic structure of a plug-in extension by performing the following tasks:

- Specifying the plug-in dependencies
- Verifying the plug-in run-time archive
- Specifying the plug-in extension

### How to specify the plug-in dependencies

- 1 On PDE Manifest Editor, choose Overview.
- 2 In Plug-in Content, choose Dependencies.
- 3 In Required Plug-ins, choose Add. Plug-in Selection appears, as shown in Figure 16-5.



**Figure 16-5** Plug-in Selection

- 4 In Plug-in Selection, select a plug-in, such as the following example:

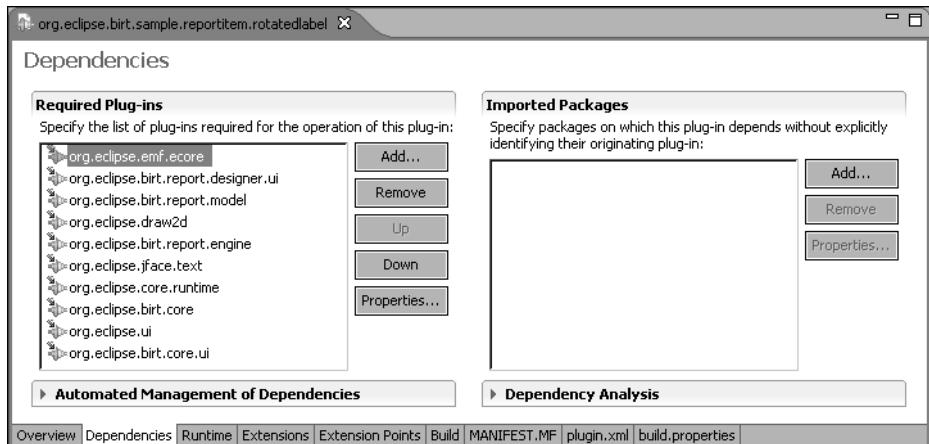
```
org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui
```

Choose OK.

- 5 Repeat steps 2 and 3 to add more plug-ins to the list of required plug-ins in the Dependencies page.

In Required Plug-ins, the order of the list determines the sequence in which a plug-in loads at run time. Use Up and Down to change the loading order as necessary.

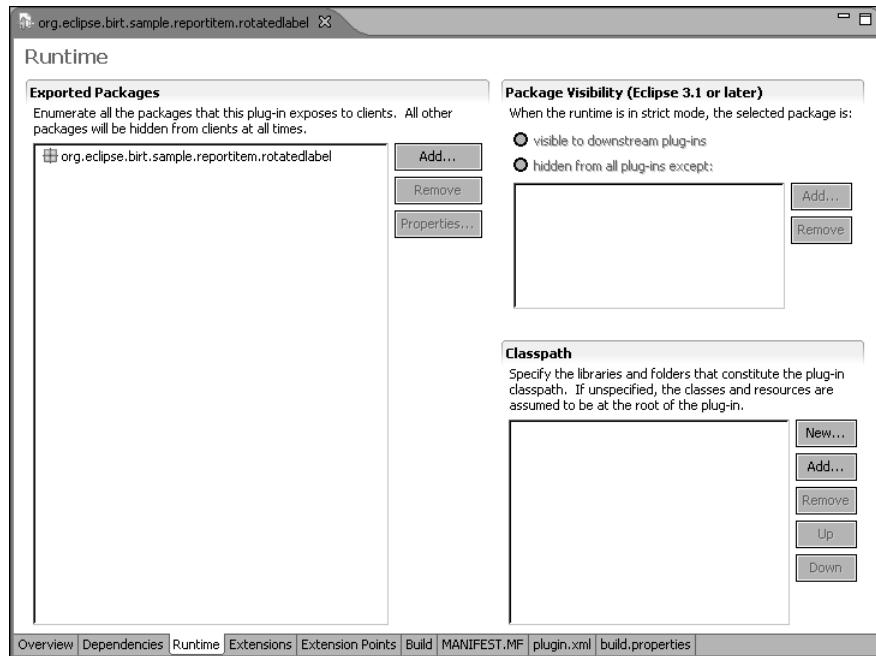
Figure 16-6 shows an example of a list of dependencies for a plug-in extension.



**Figure 16-6** The Dependencies page

## How to verify the plug-in run-time archive

- 1 On PDE Manifest Editor, choose Runtime. Runtime appears, as shown in Figure 16-7.



**Figure 16-7** The Runtime page

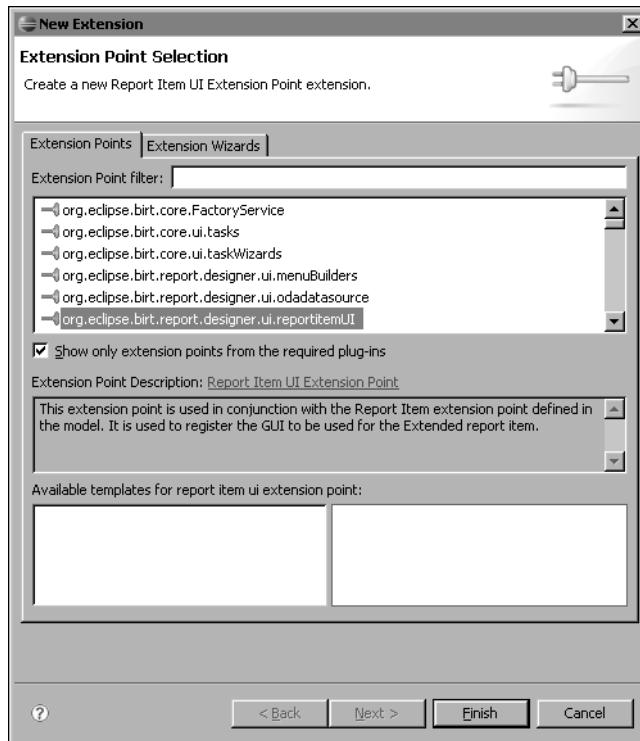
- 2 In Runtime, perform the following tasks:
  - In Exported Packages, list all the packages that the plug-in exposes to clients.
  - In Package Visibility, when the plug-in is in strict run-time mode, indicate whether a selected package is one of the following options:
    - Visible to downstream plug-ins
    - Hidden except for the specified plug-ins
  - In Classpath, choose Add to add the name of an archive file or folder to the classpath manually.

## How to specify the plug-in extension

- 1 On PDE Manifest Editor, choose Extensions.
- 2 In All Extensions, choose Add. New Extension appears.
- 3 On Extension Point Selection, in Extension Points, select a plug-in, such as the following example:

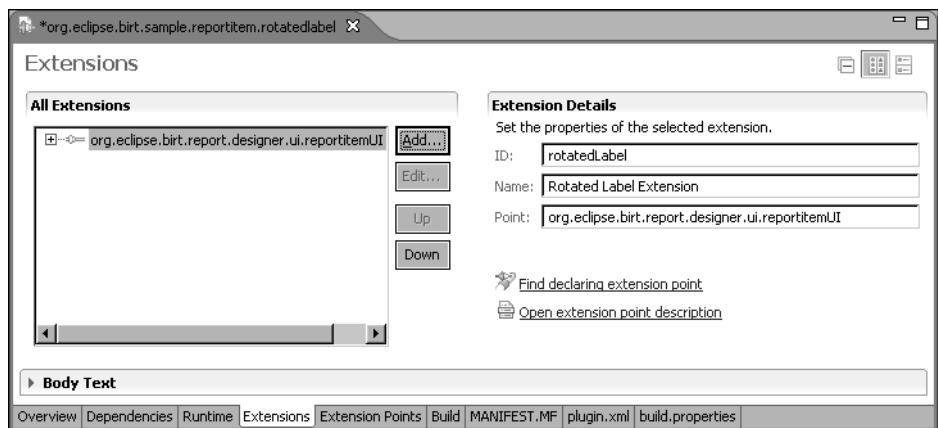
```
org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui.reportitemUI
```

New Extension appears, as shown in Figure 16-8.



**Figure 16-8** New Extension—Extension Point Selection

Choose Finish. Extensions appears, as shown in Figure 16-9.



**Figure 16-9** The Extensions page

- 4 Repeat steps 2 and 3 to add more plug-ins to the list of required extension points in the Extensions page.

# Creating the plug-in extension content

The XML schema specifies a grammar that you must follow when creating an extension in the Eclipse PDE. When you select an element of an extension in the Extensions page of the PDE, Eclipse uses the XML schema to populate the Extension Element Details section with the list of valid attributes and values for the element.

On Extensions, if you choose Find declaring extension point, the PDE searches for an extension point that matches the criteria. If you choose Open extension point description, the PDE generates an HTML page containing the information documented in the XML schema and displays the page in a viewer.

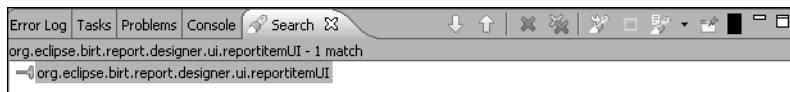
This section discusses the following tasks:

- Searching for and viewing extension point information
- Specifying plug-in extension content
- Specifying a build configuration

## How to search for and view extension point information

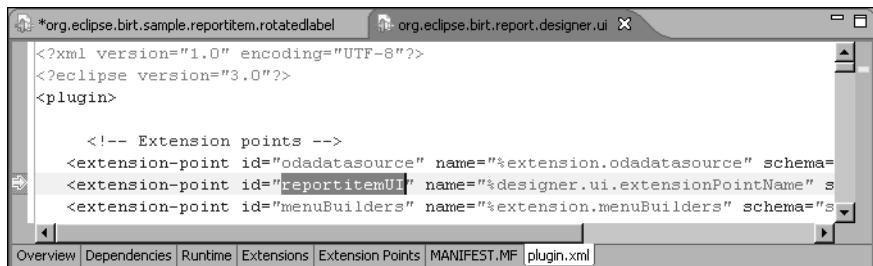
- 1 In the Eclipse PDE, select a plug-in extension in All Extensions.
- 2 In Extension Details, choose Find declaring extension point.

Search appears. In Figure 16-10, Search lists one match, org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui.reportitemUI.



**Figure 16-10** Search, showing a single match

- 3 In Search, double-click on the match, such as org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui.reportitemUI. In PDE Manifest Editor, a window appears, displaying the contents of the file, org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui/plugin.xml, as shown in Figure 16-11.

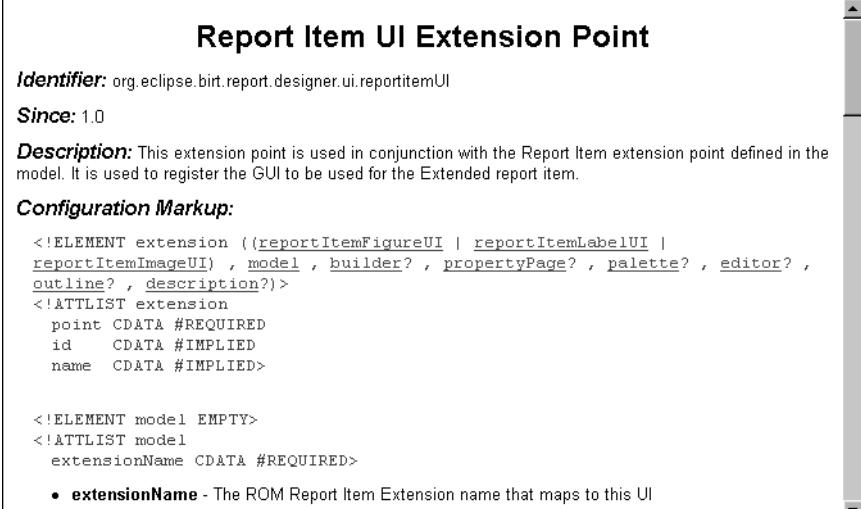


**Figure 16-11** Plugin.xml, showing three extension points

Plugin.xml describes the extension points, odadatasource, reportItemUI, and menu Builders.

- 4 In PDE Manifest Editor, close the window displaying contents of the plugin.xml file. Choose Extensions.
- 5 In Extension Details, choose Open extension point description.

A viewer opens, displaying the HTML document for the extension point. In Figure 16-12, the viewer displays Report Item UI Extension Point, containing information extracted from the XML schema, \$INSTALL\_DIR\ eclipse\ plugins\org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui\schema\reportitemUI.exsd.



The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Report Item UI Extension Point". It contains the following information:

**Identifier:** org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui.reportitemUI

**Since:** 1.0

**Description:** This extension point is used in conjunction with the Report Item extension point defined in the model. It is used to register the GUI to be used for the Extended report item.

**Configuration Markup:**

```
<!ELEMENT extension ((reportItemFigureUI | reportItemLabelUI |  
reportItemImageUI) , model , builder? , propertyPage? , palette? , editor? ,  
outline? , description?)>  
<!ATTLIST extension  
point CDATA #REQUIRED  
id CDATA #IMPLIED  
name CDATA #IMPLIED>  
  
<!ELEMENT model EMPTY>  
<!ATTLIST model  
extensionName CDATA #REQUIRED>
```

- **extensionName** - The ROM Report Item Extension name that maps to this UI

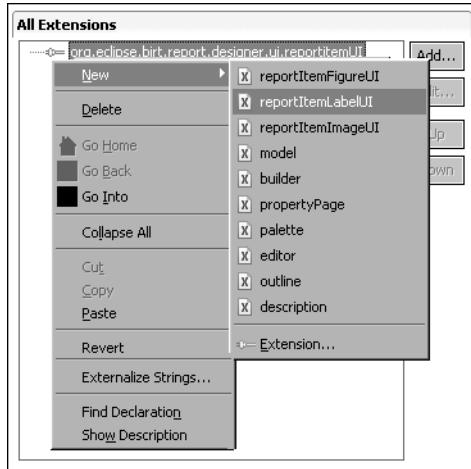
**Figure 16-12** Extension point description

In the HTML document, Configuration Markup displays the attribute list for the extension point. Scroll down to view all the contents of the HTML document, including the optional set of user interface elements for the report item extension, such as builder, property page, palette, editor, outline, and description.

#### How to specify plug-in extension content

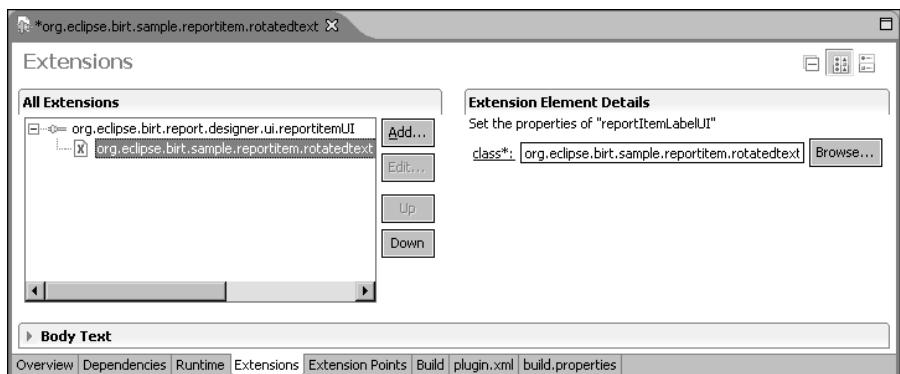
- 1 In PDE Manifest Editor, choose Extensions.
- 2 In All Extensions, right-click on an extension point such as org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui.reportItemLabelUI, and choose New-><extension point element>.

Figure 16-13 shows how to select the extension point element, reportItemLabelUI.



**Figure 16-13** Context menu for selecting an extension point element

Extensions appears, displaying the extension element and its details, as shown in Figure 16-14.

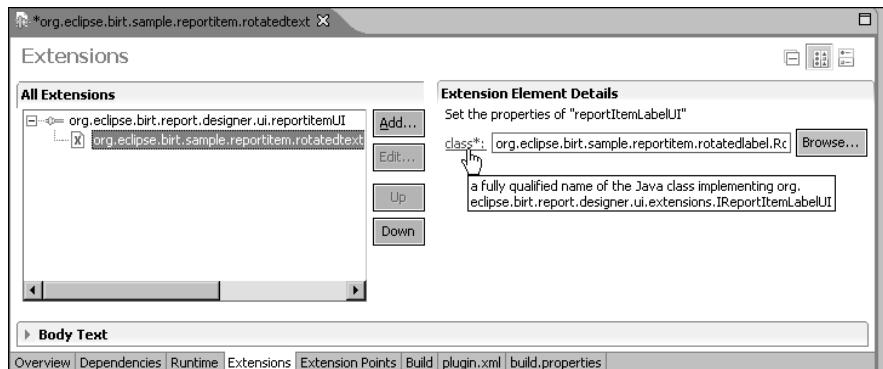


**Figure 16-14** The Extensions page

In this example, All Extensions lists the extension, org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem.rotatedlabel.RotatedLabelUI (rotatedItemLabelUI), and Extension Element Details lists rotatedItemLabelUI properties. In Extension Element Details, the label for a required attribute, such as class, contains an asterisk.

- 3 To view the annotation for a property listed in Extension Element Details, hover the cursor over the property label.

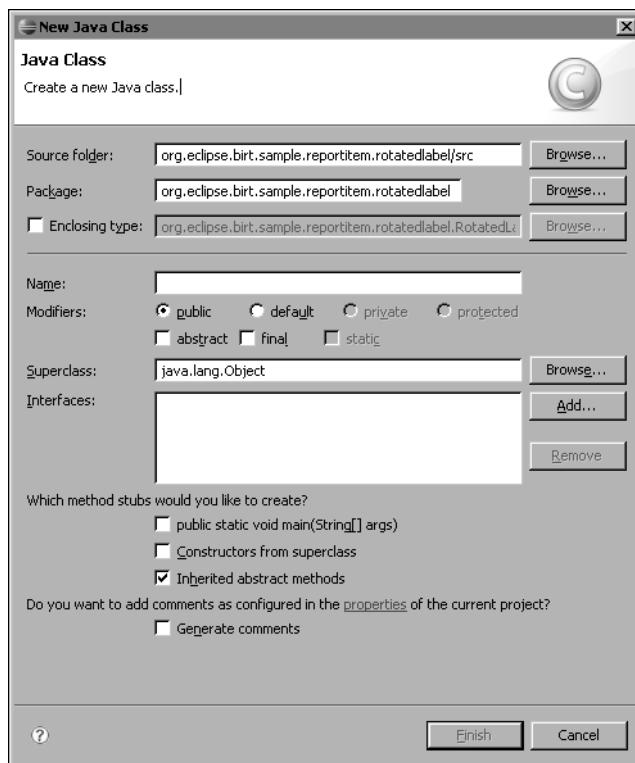
A ToolTip appears, displaying the annotation for the property from the XML schema. Figure 16-15 shows the annotation for the class property for the example extension element, rotatedItemLabelUI.



**Figure 16-15** Annotation for an extension element

- 4 To specify the class attributes for an extension element, choose class in Extension Element Details.

If no class file exists, Java Attribute Editor appears, as shown in Figure 16-16. If the class file exists, the class file opens in PDE Manifest Editor.



**Figure 16-16** Java Attribute Editor

On Java Attribute Editor, you can modify or add to the settings for the following class properties:

- Source folder
- Package
- Enclosing type
- Class name
- Modifiers, such as public, default, private, protected, abstract, final, and static
- Superclass
- Interfaces
- Method stubs, such as main, constructors, and inherited abstract methods
- Comments

Choose Finish.

- 5 To add more elements and attributes to a selected extension point, repeat steps 1 and 2.

Figure 16-17 shows the full list of extension points required for the sample report item extension, org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem.rotatedlabel.

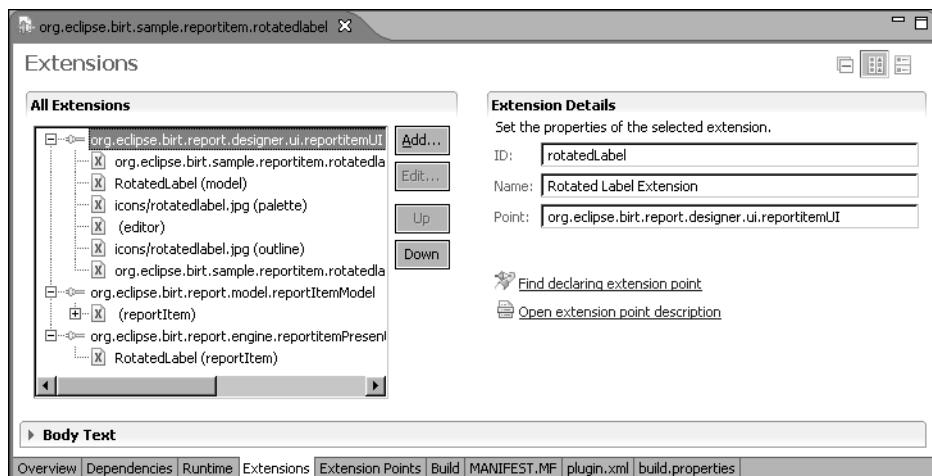


Figure 16-17 List of required extension points

## Building a plug-in extension

In Eclipse PDE Manifest Editor, Build allows you to specify the build configuration, including the following items:

- Runtime Information

Defines the libraries, the source folders to compile into each library, and the compilation order.

- Binary Build

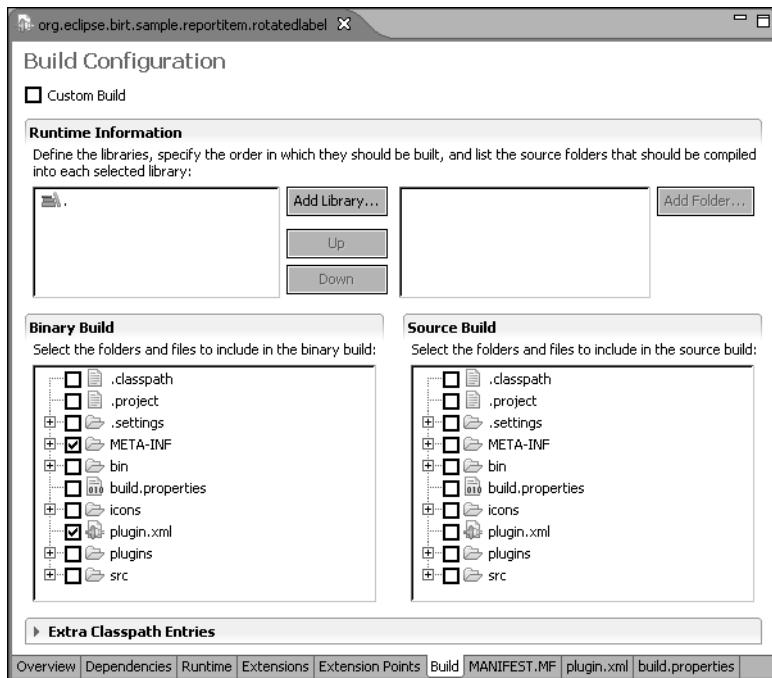
Selects the files and folders to include in the binary build.

- Source Build

Selects the files and folders to include in the source build. Source Build is not typically required. Source Build uses the org.eclipse.pde.core.source extension point that allows the PDE to find source archives for libraries in other Eclipse plug-ins.

### How to specify a build configuration

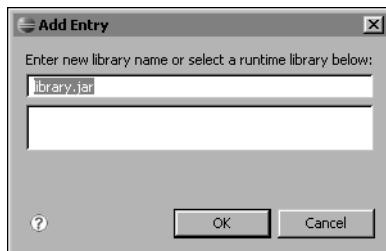
- 1 On PDE Manifest Editor, choose Build. Build Configuration appears. Figure 16-18 shows Build Configuration.



**Figure 16-18** Build Configuration

- 2 In Runtime Information, add a new library by choosing Add Library. Add Entry appears.

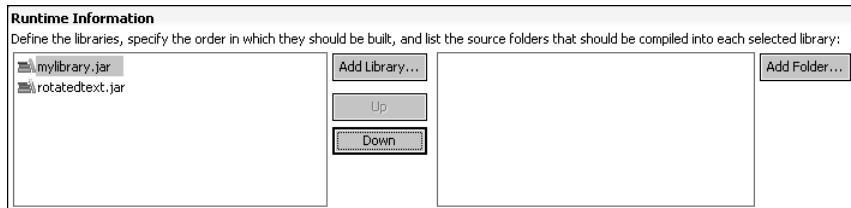
Enter the new library name or select a run-time library from the list, as shown in Figure 16-19. Choose OK.



**Figure 16-19** Add Entry

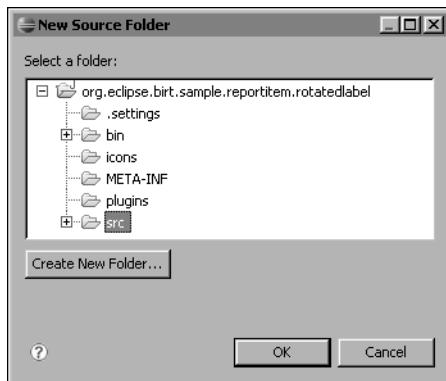
- 3 To change the compilation order of a library, change its position in the list. In Runtime Information, select the library and choose Up or Down.

Figure 16-20 shows Runtime Information with mylibrary.jar selected and Down enabled.



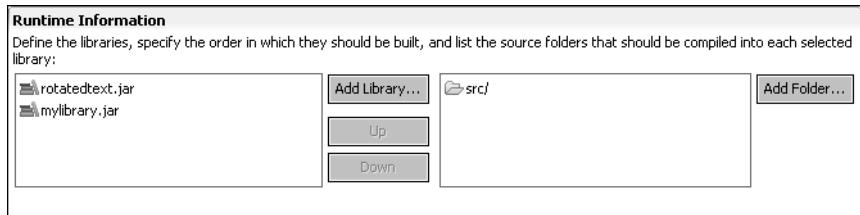
**Figure 16-20** Changing the compilation order of a library

- 4 To add a folder to a library, choose Add Folder. New Source Folder appears, as shown in Figure 16-21.



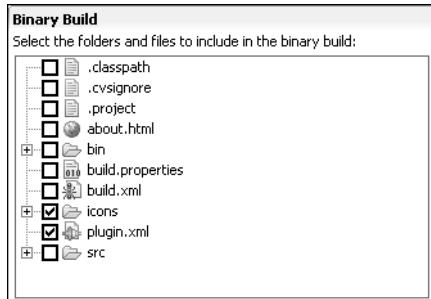
**Figure 16-21** New Source Folder

Select a folder, such as src, and choose OK. Runtime Information appears, as shown in Figure 16-22.



**Figure 16-22** Runtime Information

- 5 In Binary Build, include a folder in the binary build by selecting the folder. Figure 16-23 shows the icons folder selected.



**Figure 16-23** Binary Build

- 6 From the Eclipse menu, choose Project->Build All, to build a project.

Alternatively, you can choose Project->Build Automatically to continually build the project as you make changes to the code.

## Generating an Ant build script

The Eclipse PDE can generate an Ant build script for compiling plug-in code, based on the settings in the build.properties file. The generated script is an XML file in which the elements are the required tasks for the build operation. The Ant build tool compiles the project, using the specified Java compiler.

Ant is an open source Java application available from the Apache Software Foundation. For more information on Ant and the Apache Software Foundation, visit the web site at <http://ant.apache.org>.

### How to generate an Ant build script

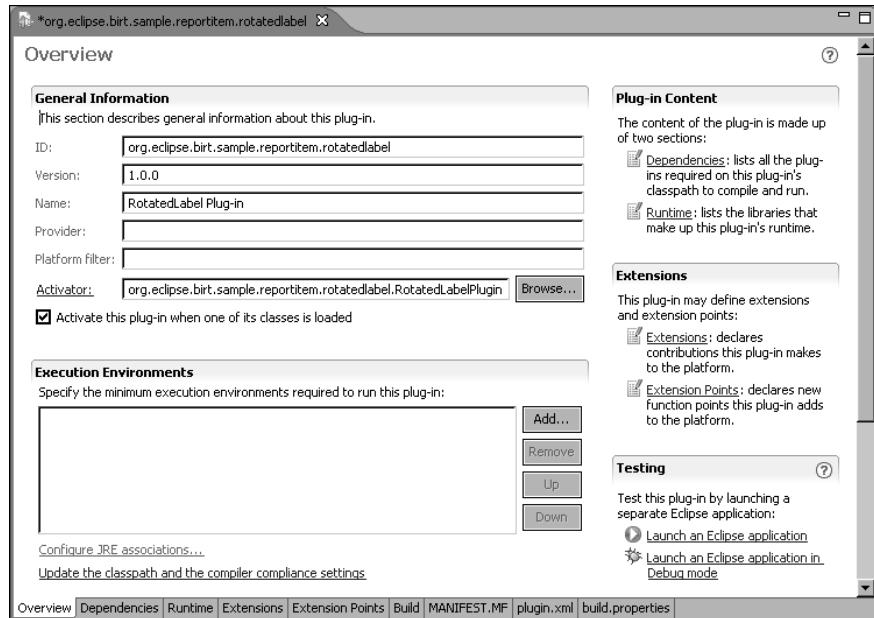
In Package Explorer, right-click the project's plugin.xml file and choose PDE Tools->Create Ant Build File. PDE Tools creates an Ant script file, build.xml, in the project folder.

## Testing a plug-in extension

You can launch an instance of the run-time workbench to test and debug the plug-in extension.

### How to launch a run-time workbench

- 1 On PDE Manifest Editor, choose Overview. Overview appears as shown in Figure 16-24.



**Figure 16-24** Overview, showing testing and debugging options

- 2 In Testing, choose Launch an Eclipse application. Eclipse launches the run-time workbench.

In the report item extension example, Report Design—Eclipse SDK appears. In the run-time workbench, you must create a new report design project to use the report label extension.

## Deploying the extension plug-in

You can use the Export Wizard to produce a distributable archive file that contains the plug-in code and other resources. A user can find a software update and extract the contents of the archive file to an Eclipse installation using the Feature Updates and Product Configuration managers. A plug-in developer can create and manage an update site using the Update Site Editor in the Eclipse PDE.

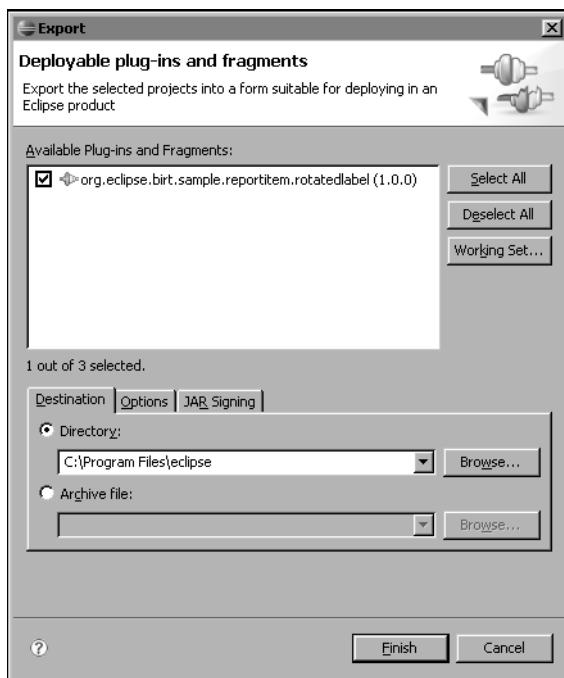
## How to deploy a plug-in extension

- 1 In the Eclipse PDE Manifest Editor, choose Overview.
- 2 In Exporting, choose Export Wizard. Export appears.
- 3 In Available Plug-ins and Fragments, select the plug-in to export. For example, select org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem.rotatedlabel.
- 4 In Export Destination, specify Archive file or Directory. For example, in Directory, type:

```
C:\Program Files\eclipse
```

- 5 In Export Options, select one of the following options, if necessary:
  - Include source code
  - Package plug-ins as individual JAR archives
  - Save as Ant script

Export appears as shown in Figure 16-25. Choose Finish to export the plug-in to the specified destination.



**Figure 16-25** Exporting a plug-in

# Installing feature updates and managing the Eclipse configuration

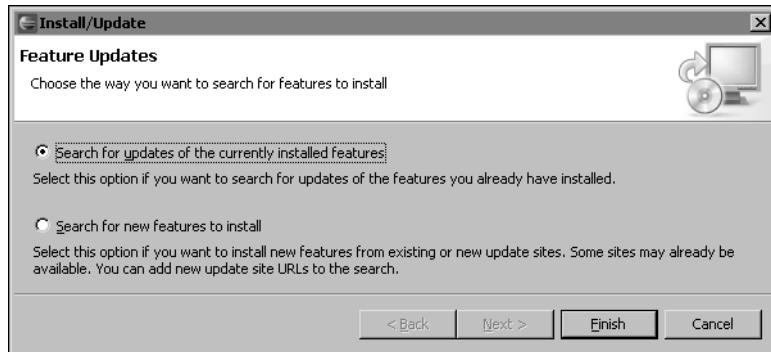
If all the dependent resources are available in the new environment, Eclipse can discover and activate the plug-in in the run-time environment. In this type of unmanaged distribution and installation, the user must find and install updates to the plug-in if a release occurs in the future.

A plug-in developer can also use a more structured approach and group plug-ins into features. A feature is a set of plug-ins that you install and manage together.

Features contain information that allow the Feature Updates and Product Configuration managers to locate published updates and discover new related features. Updates are typically published in a special internet directory called an update site, created and managed by a plug-in developer using the Update Site Editor.

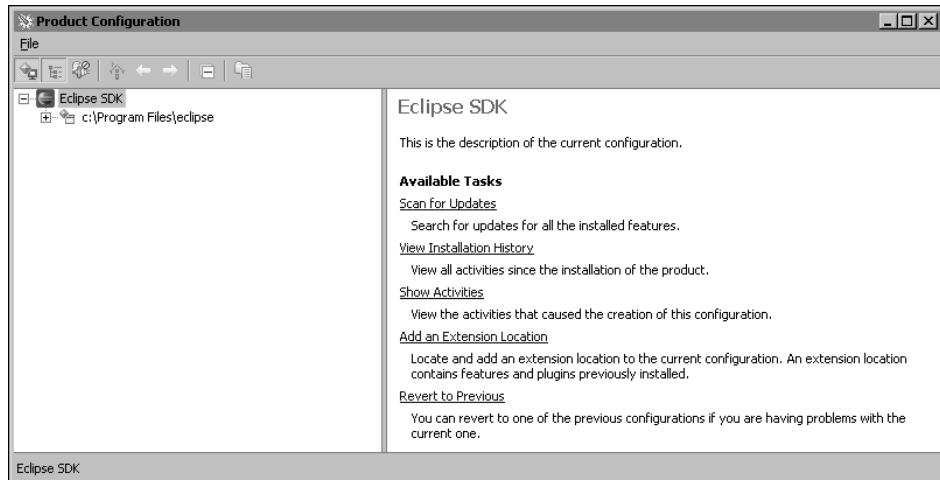
## How to install feature updates and manage the Eclipse configuration

The Eclipse PDE provides wizards and editors that support the use of features and update sites. Choose Help→Software Updates→Find and Install to access Feature Updates. Feature Updates allows you to search for updates and new features, as shown in Figure 16-26.



**Figure 16-26** Searching for feature updates

Choose Help→Software Updates→Manage Configuration to access Product Configuration. Figure 16-27 shows Product Configuration.



**Figure 16-27** Product Configuration

Product Configuration allows you to perform the following tasks:

- Scan for updates.
- View installation history.
- Show activities that created the current configuration.
- Add an extension location that contains features and plug-ins previously installed.
- Revert to a previous configuration.

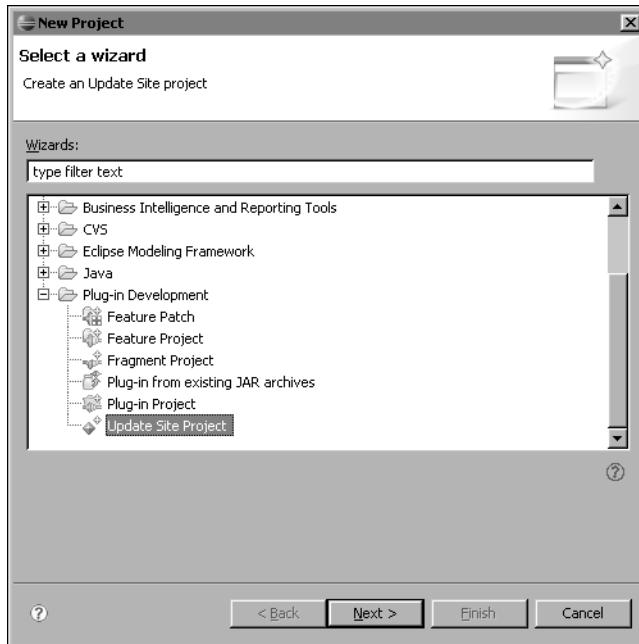
## Creating an update site project

You create an update site by building an update site project in the Eclipse PDE workspace. The update site project contains a manifest file, `site.xml`, that lists the features and plug-ins packages.

The build operation for an update site puts the JAR files for features in a features folder and the JAR files for plug-ins in a plug-ins folder. The Eclipse PDE also provides support for uploading an update site to a remote server or local file system for distribution.

## How to create an update site project

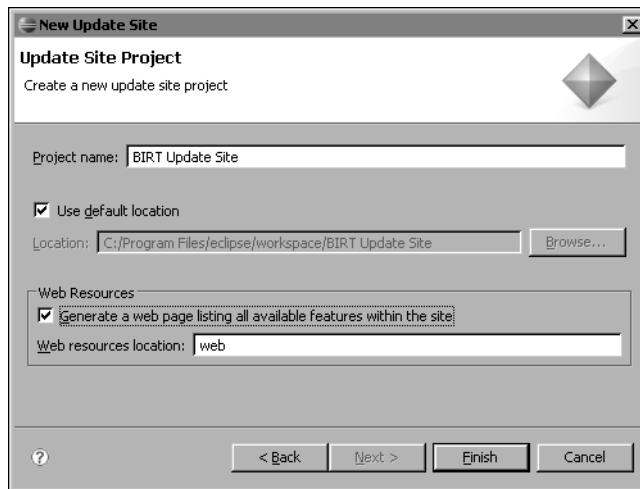
- 1 From the Eclipse menu, choose File->New->Project. New Project appears.
- 2 In Wizards, open Plug-in Development and select Update Site Project, as shown in Figure 16-28. Choose Next. Update Site Project appears.



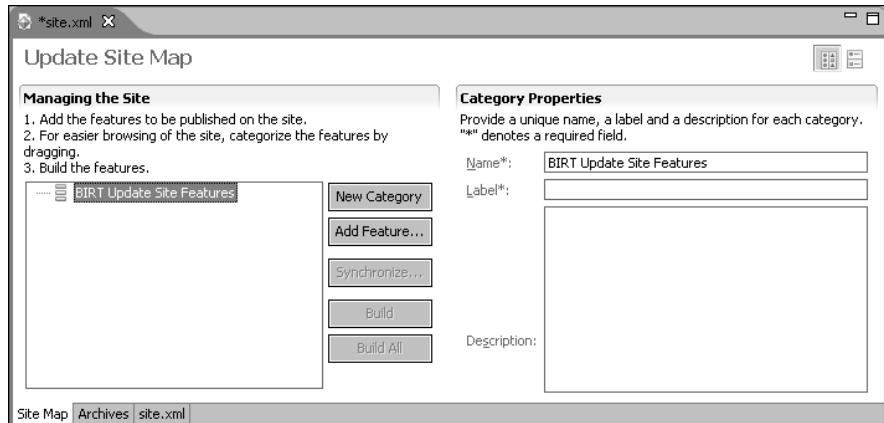
**Figure 16-28** Selecting Update Site Project wizard

- 3 On Update Site Project, specify the following items:
  - Project name
  - Project contents directory, such as C:\Program Files\eclipse\workspace\ BIRT Update Site
  - Web resources
    - Select Generate web page listing of all available features within the site  
Creates index.html, site.css, and site.xls files for displaying the contents of the update site.
    - Web resources location  
Change this setting to the web resources location. The default value is web.

Update Site Project appears as shown in Figure 16-29. Choose Finish. Update Site Map appears as shown in Figure 16-30.



**Figure 16-29** Creating a new update site project



**Figure 16-30** Update Site Map

**4** Choose New Category to create a feature category.

**5** Choose Add Feature to add a feature to a selected category.

For more information about deploying a plug-in, installing features, managing a product configuration, and building an update site, see the documentation for the Platform Plug-in Developer Guide in Eclipse Help.

---

## Downloading the code for the extension examples

This book provides examples for the following types of BIRT extensions:

- Report item

The example shows how to build a rotated label report item plug-in and add the report item to the BIRT Report Designer using the defined extension points. This plug-in renders the label of a report item as an image. The extension rotates the image in a report design to display the label at a specified angle.

- Report rendering

The example shows how to extend the emitter interfaces to build and deploy a report rendering plug-in that runs in the BIRT Report Engine environment. The CSV extension example is a plug-in that writes the table data in a report to a file in CSV format.

- ODA drivers

The CSV ODA driver example is a plug-in that reads data from a CSV file. The Hibernate ODA driver example uses HQL to provide a SQL-transparent extension that makes the ODA extension portable to all relational databases.

These examples also show how to develop an ODA extension to the BIRT Report Designer 2.1 user interface so that a report developer can select an extended ODA driver.

You can download the source code for these extension examples at  
<http://www.actuate.com/birt/contributions>.

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# 17

## Developing a Report Item Extension

This chapter describes how to create a BIRT extension in the Eclipse PDE using the sample report item extension, rotated label. You learn about creating a BIRT report item extension in the following sections:

- Understanding a report item extension
- Developing the sample report item extension
- Understanding the sample report item extension
- Building, deploying, and testing the rotated label report item plug-in

---

### Understanding a report item extension

A report item extension adds a new type of report item to the BIRT framework by implementing multiple extension points. A plug-in that defines an extension point typically contains an XML extension point schema definition (.exsd) file in a schema subdirectory. This XML schema describes the elements, attributes, and types used by the extension point to the Eclipse PDE environment.

To add a new report item, a report item extension implements the following extension points:

- Report item model

`org.eclipse.birt.report.model.reportItemModel` specifies the report item extension point for the ROM. The XML schema file, `org.eclipse.birt.report.model/schema/reportItemModel.exsd`, describes this extension point.

- Report item user interface

`org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui.reportitemUI` specifies the report item extension point for the user interface in the report layout editor and report item palette. The XML schema file, `org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui/schema/reportitemUI.exsd`, describes this extension point.

- Report item query (optional)

`org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.reportitemQuery` specifies the extension point for query preparation support in the BIRT designer and report engine. A query preparation extension is optional. If the report item does not require query preparation, you can omit the query extension. The XML schema file, `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine/schema/reportitemQuery.exsd`, describes this extension point.

- Report item run time

`org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.reportitemGeneration` specifies the extension point for instantiating, processing, and persisting a new report item at report generation time. The XML schema file, `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine/schema/reportitemGeneration.exsd`, describes this extension point.

`org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.reportitemPresentation` specifies the extension point for instantiating, processing, and rendering a new report item at report presentation time. The XML schema file, `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine/schema/reportitemPresentation.exsd`, describes this extension point.

- Report item emitter (optional)

`org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitters` specifies the extension point for support of a new output format in the presentation engine. The XML schema file, `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine/schema/emitters.exsd`, describes this extension point.

At run time, the BIRT Report Engine performs the following processing on a report item before rendering the final output:

- Query preparation

Gathers the data binding information and expressions defined for the report, passing the information to the report engine. The data engine prepares the data access strategy based on this information.

- Generation

Creates the instances of report items and fetches the data.

- Presentation

Renders the report item to a supported data primitive, such as an image, string, HTML segment, or custom data component.

- Emitter

Converts the output to a specified format, such as HTML or PDF.

This chapter provides an example of a custom report item extension, `org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem.rotatedlabel`. The sample code for the rotated label report item extension creates a text element that renders label text at a specified angle.

The standard report item plug-in, chart, is a more complex example of a report item extension. The BIRT chart plug-in implements user interface and report engine extensions that support a report design using any of the following chart types:

- Bar
- Line
- Pie
- Scatter
- Stock

For reference documentation for the report item API, see the Javadoc for the `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.extension` package in BIRT Programmer Reference in Eclipse Help.

---

## Developing the sample report item extension

The Report Item extension framework allows a report developer to create a customized report item in the palette of BIRT Report Designer. You can use a report item extension in a report design in the same way as a standard report item, such as Label, Text, Grid, Table, or Chart.

The sample code for the rotated label report item extension creates a label element that renders text at a specified angle. This section describes the steps required to implement the `org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem.rotatedlabel` sample. To implement the rotated label report item extension, perform the following tasks:

- Configure the plug-in project.

You can build the rotated label report item plug-in manually by following the instructions in this chapter.

- Add the report item to the Report Designer UI.

Extend the Report Item UI extension point, `org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui.reportItemUI`.

- Add the report item definition to the ROM.

Extend the Report Item Model extension point, `org.eclipse.birt.report.model.reportItemModel`.

- Add rendering behavior to the report item.

Extend the Report Item Presentation extension point, org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.reportItemPresentation.

- Deploy the report item extension.

Export the rotated label report item plug-in folder from your workspace to the eclipse\plugins folder. You do not need to export the plug-in folder to test the extension when you launch it as an Eclipse application in the PDE.

You can download the source code for the rotated label report item extension example at <http://www.actuate.com/birt/contributions>.

## Downloading BIRT source code from the CVS repository

Eclipse makes BIRT source code available to the developer community in the CVS repository. You work only with the Java classes in the org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem.rotatedlabel plug-in.

To compile, you do not need the source code for any required plug-ins. You can configure the system to use the JAR files in the \$INSTALL\_DIR\eclipse\plugin folder.

These plug-ins must be in the classpath to compile successfully. To debug, you may need the source code for all the required BIRT plug-ins.

The rotated label report item extension depends on the following Eclipse plug-ins:

- org.eclipse.emf.ecore
- org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui
- org.eclipse.birt.report.model
- org.eclipse.draw2d
- org.eclipse.birt.report.engine
- org.eclipse.jface.text
- org.eclipse.core.runtime
- org.eclipse.birt.core
- org.eclipse.ui
- org.eclipse.birt.core.ui

## Creating a rotated label report item plug-in project

Create a new plug-in project for the rotated label report item extension in the Eclipse PDE.

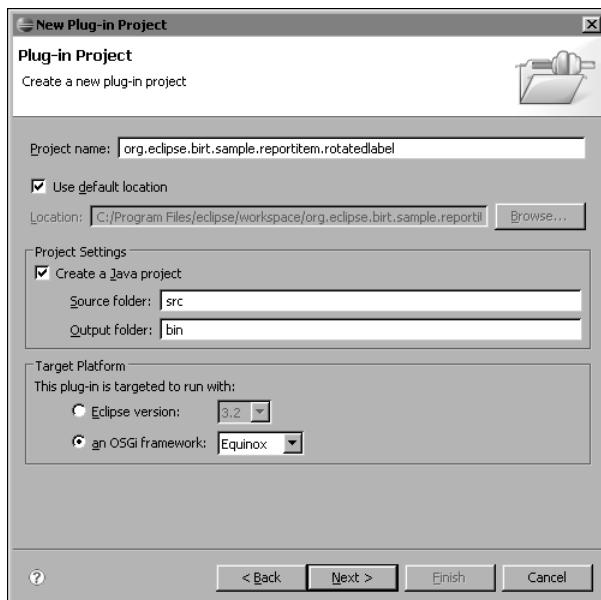
## How to create the plug-in project

- 1 In the Eclipse PDE, choose File→New→Project. New Project appears.
- 2 In Select a wizard, select Plug-in Project. Choose Next. New Plug-in Project appears.
- 3 In Plug-in Project, modify the settings, as shown in Table 17-1.

**Table 17-1** Settings for Plug-in Project fields

Section	Option	Value
Plug-in Project	Project name	org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem.rotatedlabel
	Use default location	Selected
	Location	Not available when you select Use default location.
Project Settings	Create a Java project	Selected
	Source folder	src
	Output folder	bin
Target Platform	Eclipse version	3.2
	OSGi framework	Selected Equinox

Plug-in Project appears, as shown in Figure 17-1.



**Figure 17-1** Plug-in Project settings

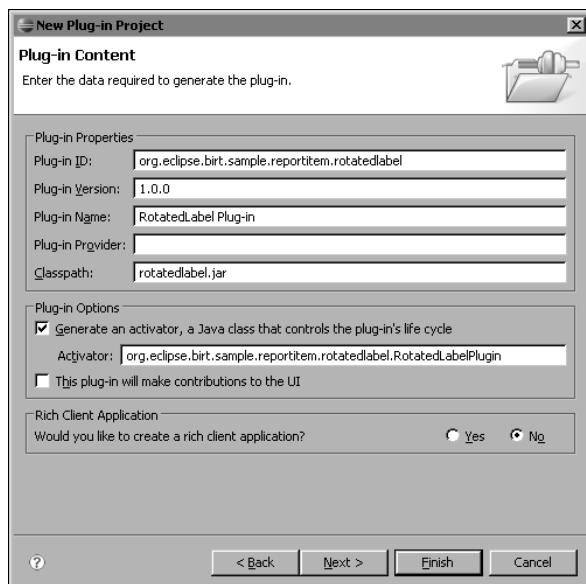
Choose Next. Plug-in Content appears.

**4** In Plug-in Content, modify the settings as shown in Table 17-2.

**Table 17-2** Plug-in Content settings

Section	Option	Value
Plug-in Properties	Plug-in ID	org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem.rotatedlabel
	Plug-in Version	1.0.0
	Plug-in Name	RotatedLabel Plug-in
	Plug-in Provider	yourCompany.com or leave blank
	Classpath	rotatedLabel.jar or leave blank
Plug-in Options	Generate an activator, a Java class that controls the plug-in's life cycle	Selected
	Activator	org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem.rotatedlabel.RotatedLabelPlugin
	This plug-in will make contributions to the UI	Deselected
Rich Client Application	Would you like to create a rich client application?	No

New Plug-in Content appears, as shown in Figure 17-2. Choose Finish.



**Figure 17-2** Plug-in Content, showing settings for a new plug-in project

The rotated label report item extension project appears in the Eclipse PDE Workbench, as shown in Figure 17-3.

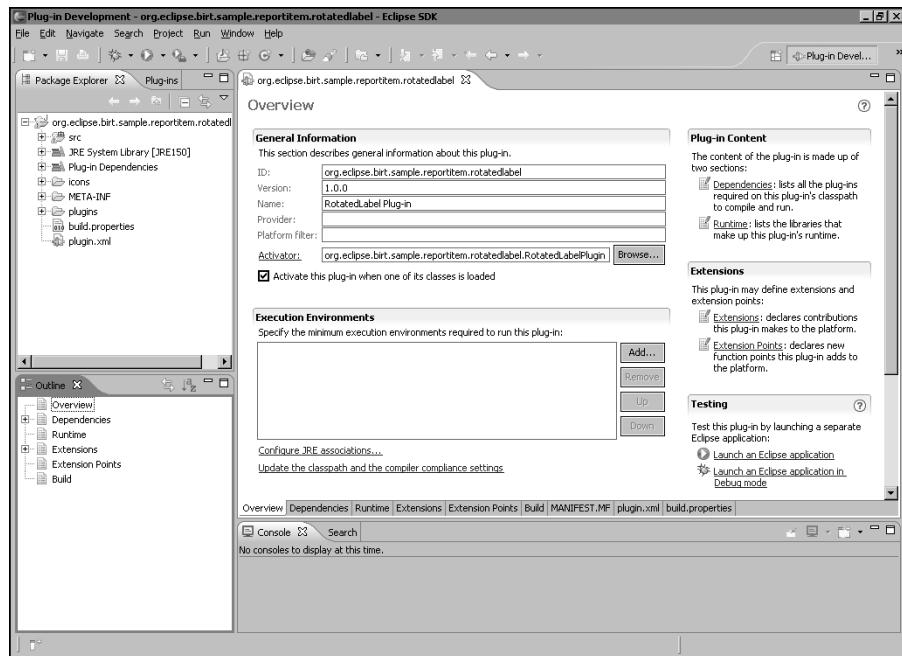


Figure 17-3     Plug-in project in the Eclipse PDE Workbench

## Defining the dependencies for the rotated label report item extension

In this task, you specify the list of plug-ins that must be available on the classpath of the rotated label report item extension to compile and run.

### How to specify the dependencies

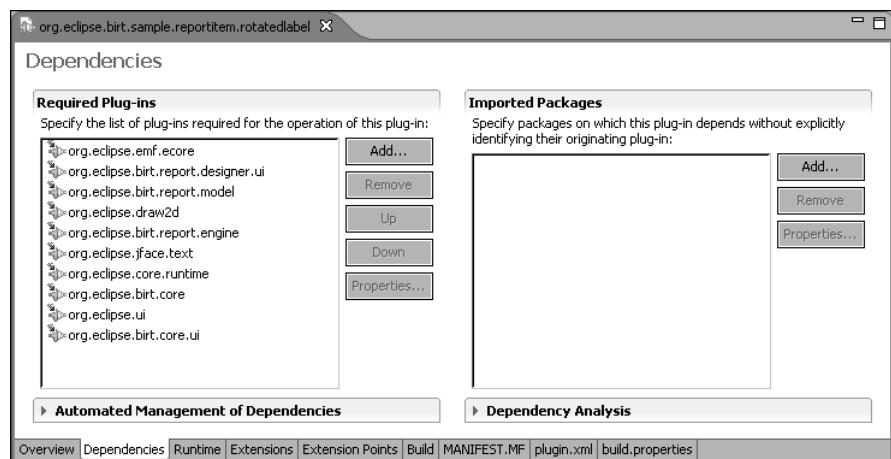
- 1 On PDE Manifest Editor, choose Overview.
- 2 In Plug-in Content, choose Dependencies. Required Plug-ins contains the following plug-ins:

```
org.eclipse.ui  
org.eclipse.core.runtime
```

- 3 In Required Plug-ins, perform the following tasks:
  - 1 Select org.eclipse.ui and choose Remove.
  - 2 Select org.eclipse.core.runtime and choose Remove.org.eclipse.core.runtime and org.eclipse.ui no longer appear in Required Plug-ins.

- 4 In Required Plug-ins, choose Add. Plug-in Selection appears.
- 5 In Plug-in Selection, hold down CTRL and select the following plug-ins:
  - org.eclipse.emf.ecore
  - org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui
  - org.eclipse.birt.report.model
  - org.eclipse.draw2d
  - org.eclipse.birt.report.engine
  - org.eclipse.jface.text
  - org.eclipse.core.runtime
  - org.eclipse.birt.core
  - org.eclipse.ui
  - org.eclipse.birt.core.ui

Choose OK. Dependencies appears, as shown in Figure 17-4.



**Figure 17-4** Dependencies, showing required plug-ins

The order of the list determines the sequence in which a plug-in loads at run time. Use Up and Down to change the loading order as necessary, as shown in Figure 17-4. The rotated label report item extension does not require any changes to the loading order if you selected the required plug-ins in the order listed in step 5.

## Specifying the run-time package for the rotated label report item extension

On Runtime, you specify exported packages, package visibility, the libraries, and folders on the plug-in classpath. In the rotated label report item plug-in, the only package that you must make visible to other plug-ins is org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem.rotatedlabel.

On PDE Manifest Editor, choose Runtime. On Runtime, in Exported Packages, verify that the org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem.rotatedlabel package appears in the list.

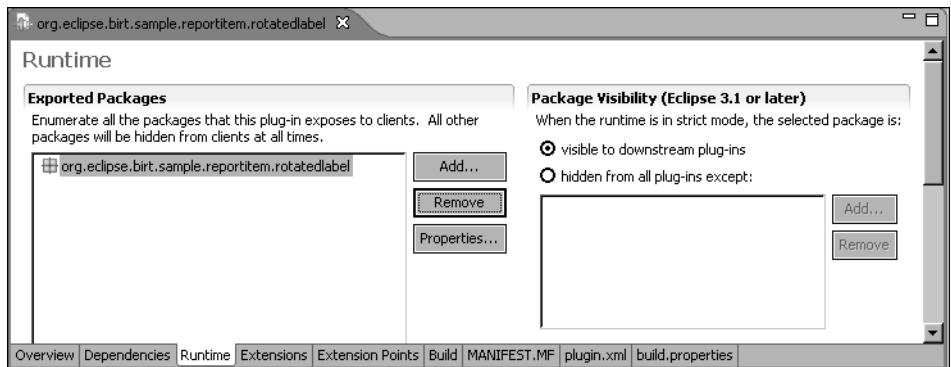


Figure 17-5 The Runtime page

## Declaring the report item extension points

In this next step, you specify the extension points required to implement the rotated label report item extension and add the extension element details. The Eclipse PDE uses the XML schema defined for each extension point to provide the list of valid attributes and values specified for the extension elements.

The rotated label report item extension implements the following extension points:

- org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui.reportitemUI

Registers the graphical user interface (GUI) to use for the report item extension

- org.eclipse.birt.report.model.reportItemModel

Specifies how to represent and persist the report item extension in the ROM

- org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.reportitemPresentation

Specifies how to instantiate, process, and render the report item extension

The XML schema specifies the following properties that identify each extension point in the run-time environment:

- ID  
Optional identifier of the extension instance
- Name  
Optional name of the extension instance
- Point  
Fully qualified identifier of the extension point

The extension point, `org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui.reportItemUI`, specifies the following extension elements:

- `reportItemLabelUI`  
Fully qualified name of the Java class that gets the display text for the report item component in BIRT Report Designer
- `model`  
ROM report item extension name that maps to this UI component
- `palette`  
Icon to show and the category in which the icon appears in the Palette
- `editor`  
Flags indicating whether the editor shows in the MasterPage and Designer UI and is resizable in the Editor
- `outline`  
Icon to show in the Outline View
- `propertyPage`  
Optional Property Edit Page to use for the report item extension in the Property Edit View

The extension point, `org.eclipse.birt.report.model.reportItemModel`, specifies `reportItem` and the following extension element properties:

- `extensionName`  
Internal unique name of the report item extension
- `class`  
Fully qualified name of the Java class that implements the `org.eclipse.birt.report.model.api.extension.IReportItemFactory` interface
- `defaultStyle`  
Predefined style to use for the report item extension
- `isNameRequired`

Field indicating whether the report item instance name is required

- `displayNameID`

Resource key for the display name

`reportItem` also specifies the following property extension elements:

- `rotationAngle`
- `displayText`

`rotationAngle` and `displayText` each specify the following properties:

- `name`

Internal unique name of the property extension element

- `type`

Data type, such as integer or string

- `displayNameID`

Resource key for the display name

- `canInherit`

Flag indicating whether the property extension element can inherit properties

- `detailType`

Detail data type, such as Boolean or string

- `defaultValue`

Default value of the property extension element

- `isEncryptable`

Flag indicating whether the property is encrypted

- `defaultDisplayName`

Display name to use if no localized I18N display name exists

The extension point, `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.reportItemPresentation`, specifies the following `reportItem` extension elements:

- `name`

Unique name of the report item extension

- `class`

Fully qualified name of the Java class that implements the `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.extension.IReportItemPresentation` interface

- `supportedFormats`

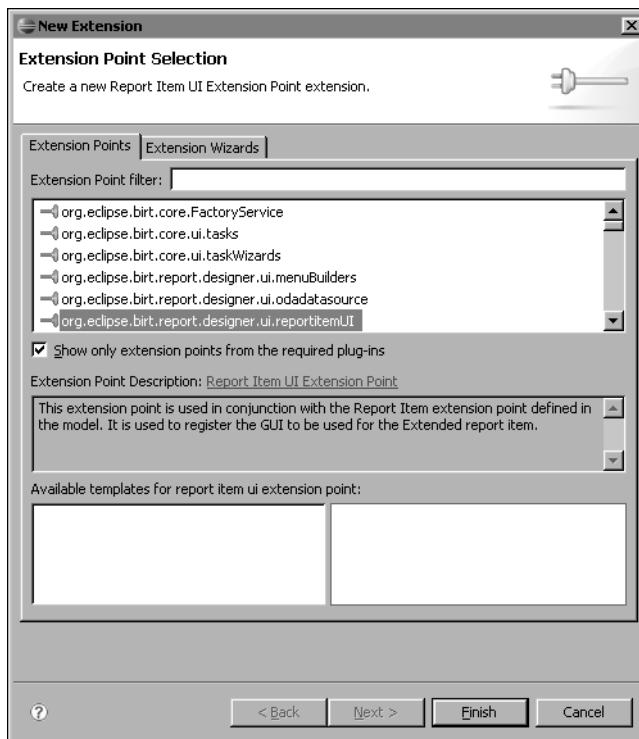
Supported rendering formats for this extended item. The value for this attribute is a comma-separated string, such as "HTML,PDF". The string is case-insensitive.

### How to specify the extension points

- 1 On PDE Manifest Editor, choose Extensions.
- 2 In All Extensions, choose Add. New Extension appears.
- 3 On New Extension—Extension Points, in Available extension points, select the following plug-in:

`org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui.reportitemUI`

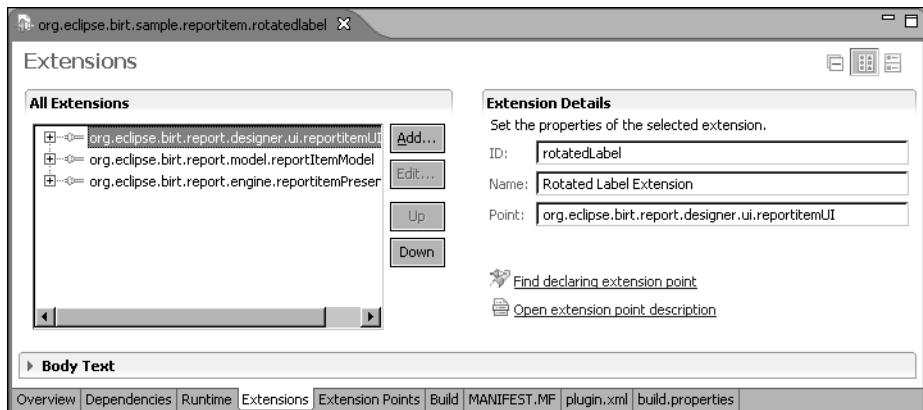
New Extension—Extension Points appears, as shown in Figure 17-6. Choose Finish.



**Figure 17-6** Extension points in New Extension

- 4 Repeat steps 2 and 3 to add the following extension points to the list of required extension points in the Extensions page:
  - `org.eclipse.birt.report.model.reportItemModel`
  - `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.reportitemPresentation`

Figure 17-7 shows the list of extension points required for the report item extension example.



**Figure 17-7** Required extension points for a report item extension

### How to add the extension details

Perform the following tasks:

- 1 On Extensions, in All Extensions, select `org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui.reportitemUI`.
- 2 In Extension Details, set the following property values as shown in Table 17-3.

**Table 17-3** Properties for `reportItemUI` extension

Property	Value
ID	<code>rotatedLabel</code>
Name	Rotated Label Extension
Point	<code>org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui.reportitemUI</code>

- 3 In All Extensions, select `org.eclipse.birt.report.model.reportItemModel`
- 4 In Extension Details, set the following property values as shown in Table 17-4.

**Table 17-4** Properties for `reportItemModel` extension

Property	Value
ID	<code>rotatedLabel</code>
Name	Rotated Label Extension
Point	<code>org.eclipse.birt.report.model.reportItemModel</code>

- 5 In All Extensions, select org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.reportitemPresentation
- 6 In Extension Details, set the following property values as shown in Table 17-5.

**Table 17-5** Properties for reportitemPresentation extension

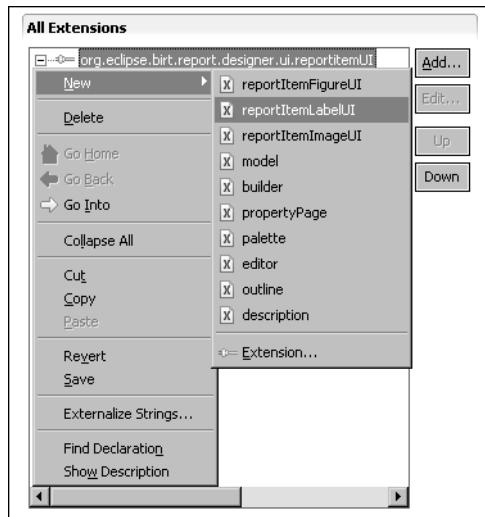
Property	Value
ID	rotatedLabel
Name	Rotated Label Extension
Point	org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.reportitemPresentation

## Creating the plug-in extension content

The XML schema specifies a grammar that you must follow when creating an extension in the Eclipse PDE. When you select an element of an extension in the Extensions page of the PDE, Eclipse uses the XML schema to populate the Extension Element Details section with the list of valid attributes and values for the element.

### How to specify the plug-in extension content

- 1 In PDE Manifest Editor, choose Extensions.
- 2 In All Extensions, right-click org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui.reportItemUI and choose New→reportItemLabelUI, as shown in Figure 17-8.



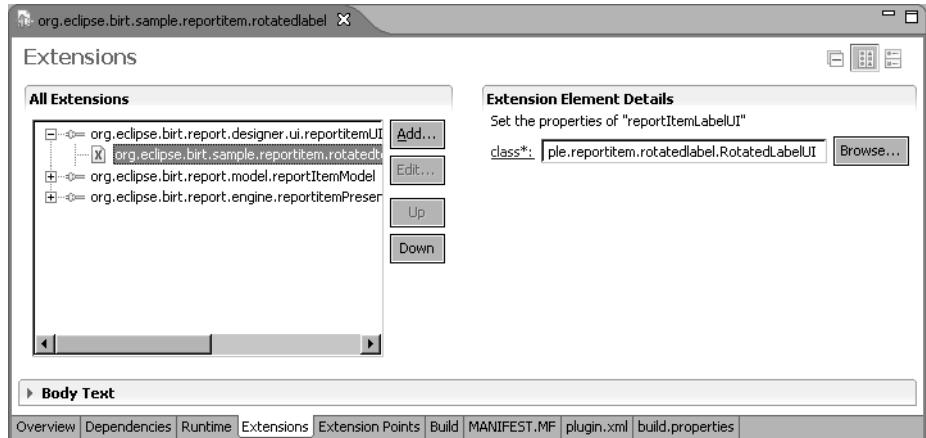
**Figure 17-8** Selecting an extension element

All Extensions lists the extension, org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem.rotatedlabel.ReportItemLabelUI (rotatedItemLabelUI), and Extension Element Details lists rotatedItemLabelUI properties.

- 3 In Extension Element Details, type the following fully qualified class name:

```
org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem.rotatedlabel  
    .RotatedLabelUI
```

Extensions appears, as shown in Figure 17-9.



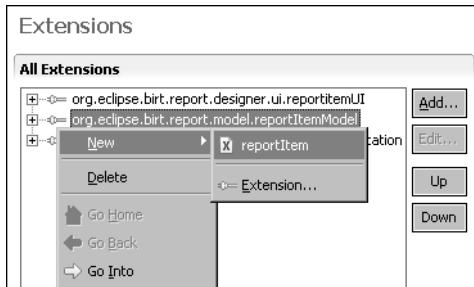
**Figure 17-9** Properties for rotatedItemLabelUI

- 4 In All Extensions, right-click org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui.reportitemUI again and repeatedly choose New-><extension element> to add the following extension elements, corresponding extension element properties, and values, as shown in Table 17-6.

**Table 17-6** Properties for other reportitemUI extension elements

Extension element	Property	Value
model	extensionName	RotatedLabel
palette	icon	icons/rotatedlabel.jpg
editor	showInMasterPage	true
	showInDesigner	true
	canResize	true
outline	icon	icons/rotatedlabel.jpg
propertyPage	class	org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem.rotatedlabel.RotatedLabelPropertyEditUIImpl

- 5 In All Extensions, right-click org.eclipse.birt.report.model.reportItemModel and choose New→reportItem, as shown in Figure 17-10.



**Figure 17-10** Choosing a new report item

- 6 In Extension Element Details, add the reportItem properties shown in Table 17-7.

**Table 17-7** Property values for reportItem

Extension element	Property	Value
reportItem	extensionName	RotatedLabel
	class	org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem.rotatedlabel.RotatedLabelItemFactoryImpl

- 7 In All Extensions, in org.eclipse.birt.report.model.reportItemModel, perform the following tasks:

- 1 Right-click reportItem and choose New→property to add the extension element properties shown in Table 17-8.

**Table 17-8** Property values for rotationAngle

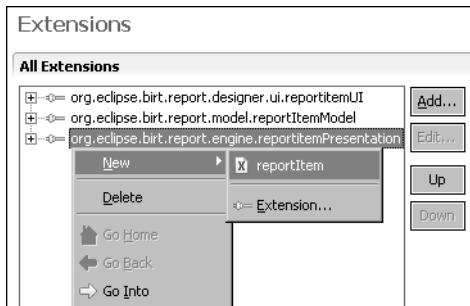
Extension element	Property	Value
property	name	rotationAngle
	type	integer
	defaultValue	-45
	defaultDisplayName	Rotation Angle

- 2 Right-click reportItem again and choose New→property to add the extension element properties shown in Table 17-9.

**Table 17-9** Property values for displayText

Extension element	Property	Value
property	name	displayText
	type	string
	defaultValue	Rotated Label
	defaultDisplayName	Display Text

- 8 In All Extensions, right-click org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.reportItemPresentation and choose New→reportItem, as shown in Figure 17-11.

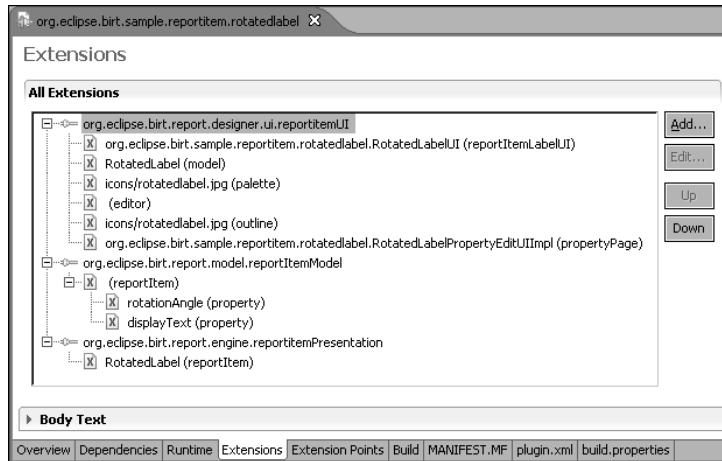
**Figure 17-11** Choosing reportItem

- 9 In Extension Element Details, add the reportItem properties shown in Table 17-10.

**Table 17-10** Property values for reportItem

Extension element	Property	Value
reportItem	name	RotatedLabel
	class	org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem.rotatedlabel.RotatedLabelPresentationImpl

Figure 17-12 shows the full list of extension points and elements required for the example, org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem.rotatedlabel.



**Figure 17-12** Extension points for rotated label report item extension

## Understanding the rotated label report item extension

The rotated label report item plug-in provides the functionality required at run time to render the label of a report item as an image and rotate the image in the report design to display the label at the specified angle. The following sections provide a general description of the code-based extensions a developer must make to complete the development of the rotated report item extension after defining the plug-in framework in the Eclipse PDE.

The rotated label report item extension implements the following interfaces and classes:

- `org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui.extensions`

Specifies the following interfaces:

- `IPropertyTabUI`

Represents a new tab in the Property Editor view, creating the UI, updating property values on request, and notifying the BIRT framework of any UI-based property change. `PropertyTabUIAdapter` is the adapter class that implements this interface.

- `IReportItemLabelProvider`

Defines the interface for the accessor method that provides the label text. `ReportItemLabelProvider` is the adapter class that implements this interface.

- `IReportItemPropertyEditUI`

Provides the interface for defining tabs in the Property Editor. No default adapter class exists for this interface in BIRT release 2.1.

- `org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui.views.attributes.providers.PropertyProcessor`

Provides accessor methods for processing general property information.
- `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.extension`
  - `IRowSet`

Defines the interface to a row set. Provides metadata, grouping level, and row navigation methods.
  - `IReportItemPresentation`

Defines the interface for presentation of a report item extension. `IReportItemPresentation` sets the locale, resolution, output, and image formats, and processes the extended item in the report presentation environment. `ReportItemPresentationBase` is the adapter class that implements this interface.
- `org.eclipse.birt.report.model.api`
  - `DesignElementHandle`

Functions as the base class for all report elements. `DesignElementHandle` provides a high-level interface to the BIRT report model. The class provides the generic services for all elements. Derived classes provide specialized methods for each element type. `DesignElementHandle` implements the interface, `org.eclipse.birt.report.model.elements.interfaces.IDesignElementModel`.
  - `DesignEngine`

Provides an interface to the BIRT design engine. `DesignEngine` instantiates a session handle to use when creating a new design, opening an existing design, and managing design processing. The session handle contains the report design's state. `DesignEngine` implements the interface, `IDesignEngine` interface.
  - `ExtendedItemHandle`

Provides a handle to an extended item that appears in a section of a report. The extended report item can have properties such as size, position, style, visibility rules, or a binding to a data source. `ExtendedItemHandle` extends `ReportItemHandle`, an abstract base class that extends `DesignElementHandle`.
- `org.eclipse.birt.report.model.elements.Style`

Extends `org.eclipse.birt.report.model.core.StyleElement`, the base class for report elements with a style, and implements `org.eclipse.birt.report.model.elements.interfaces.IStyleModel`, the interface for storing style element constants.

- `org.eclipse.birt.report.model.api.extension`  
Specifies the following interfaces:
  - `IMessages`  
Defines the interface for getting a localized message from a message file using a resource key.
  - `IPropertyDefinition`  
Defines the interface for the accessor methods that describe a property. `PropertyDefinition` is the adapter class that implements this interface.
  - `IReportItem`  
Defines the interface for an instance of an extended report element. There is a one-to-one correspondence between the BIRT report item and this implementation. `ReportItem` is the adapter class that implements this interface.
  - `IReportItemFactory`  
Defines the interface for the factory that creates an instance of the extended element, `IReportItem`. `IReportItem` stores the model data and serializes the model state. `ReportItemFactory` is the adapter class that implements this interface.
- `org.eclipse.birt.report.model.metadata.PropertyType`  
Functions as the base class for the meta-data of a property type. A property type provides the display name, data validation and conversion methods, XML name, and other processing. `.PropertyType` implements the interface, `org.eclipse.birt.report.model.api.metadata.IPropertyType`.
- `org.eclipse.core.runtime.Plugin`  
Defines the basic methods for starting, managing, and stopping the plug-in instance.

The following sections contain implementation details for the most important classes in the rotated label report item extension.

## **Understanding RotatedLabelItemFactoryImpl**

The `RotatedLabelItemFactoryImpl` class instantiates a new report item when the user drags a rotated label report item from the Palette and drops the report item in the BIRT Report Designer Editor. `RotatedLabelItemFactoryImpl` extends the adapter class, `org.eclipse.birt.report.model.api.extension.ReportItemFactory`.

The `newReportItem( )` method receives a reference to `DesignElementHandle`, which provides the interface to the BIRT report model. The `newReportItem( )` method instantiates the new report item, as shown in Listing 17-1.

---

**Listing 17-1** The newReportItem( ) method

```
public class RotatedTextItemFactoryImpl  
    extends ReportItemFactory implements IMessages  
{  
    public IReportItem newReportItem( DesignElementHandle deh )  
    {  
        return new RotatedTextReportItemImpl( deh );  
    }  
    ...  
}
```

## Understanding RotatedLabelUI

In the RotatedLabelUI class, the RotatedLabelUI.getLabel( ) method provides the text representation for the label to BIRT Report Designer. RotatedLabelUI extends the adapter class, org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui.extensions.ReportItemLabelProvider. Listing 17-2 shows the code for the getLabel( ) method.

**Listing 17-2** The getLabel( ) method

```
public class RotatedLabelUI extends ReportItemLabelProvider  
{  
    public String getLabel( ExtendedItemHandle handle )  
    {  
        if ( handle.getProperty( "displayText" ) != null ) {  
            return ( String ) handle.getProperty( "displayText" );  
        } else {  
            return "Rotated Label";  
        }  
    }  
}
```

## Understanding RotatedLabelPresentationImpl

The RotatedLabelPresentationImpl class specifies how to process and render the report item at presentation time. RotatedLabelPresentationImpl extends the org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.extension.ReportItemPresentationBase class.

The method, onRowSets( ), renders the rotated label report item as an image, rotated by the angle specified in the report design, as shown in Listing 17-3.

**Listing 17-3** The onRowSets( ) method

```
public Object onRowSets( IRowSet[ ] rowSets) throws  
    BirtException  
{  
    if ( modelHandle == null )  
    {  
        return null;  
    }
```

```

graphicsUtil = new GraphicsUtil( );
org.eclipse.swt.graphics.Image rotatedImage =
    graphicsUtil.createRotatedText( modelHandle );
ImageLoader imageLoader = new ImageLoader( );
imageLoader.data = new ImageData[ ]
    { rotatedImage.getImageData() };
ByteArrayOutputStream baos =
    new ByteArrayOutputStream();
imageLoader.save( baos, SWT.IMAGE_JPEG );
return baos.toByteArray();
}

```

## Understanding RotatedLabelReportItemImpl

In the RotatedLabelReportItemImpl class, the method, `getPropertyDefinitions()`, instantiates RotatedLabelPropertyDefinitionImpl objects for the `displayText` and `rotationAngle` properties.

`RotatedLabelReportItemImpl` extends the adapter class, `org.eclipse.birt.report.model.api.extension.ReportItem`. Listing 17-4 shows the code for the `getPropertyDefinitions()` method.

**Listing 17-4** The `getPropertyDefinitions()` method

---

```

public IPropertyDefinition[ ] getPropertyDefinitions( )
{
    if ( rt == null )
    {
        return null;
    }
    return new IPropertyDefinition[ ]{
        new RotatedLabelPropertyDefinitionImpl( null,
            "displayText", "property.label.displayText",
            false,
            PropertyType.STRING_TYPE,
            null,null,null,true),
        new RotatedLabelPropertyDefinitionImpl( null,
            "rotationAngle",
            "property.label.rotationAngle",
            false,
            PropertyType.INTEGER_TYPE,
            null,null,null,true),
    }
}

```

## Understanding RotatedLabelPropertyEditUIImpl

The `RotatedLabelPropertyEditUIImpl` class builds the UI using the `RotatedLabelGeneralTabUIImpl` class to set up the controls for the UI. `RotatedLabelPropertyEditUIImpl` implements the `org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui.extensions.IReportItemPropertyEditUI` interface.

In the RotatedLabelPropertyEditUIImpl class, the getCategoryTabs( ) method instantiates the RotatedLabelGeneralTabUIImpl class, as shown in Listing 17-5.

#### **Listing 17-5** The getCategoryTabs( ) method

---

```
public class RotatedLabelGeneralTabUIImpl implements  
    IReportItemPropertyEditUI {  
    public IPropertyTabUI[ ] getCategoryTabs( ) {  
        return new IPropertyTabUI[ ]{  
            new RotatedLabelGeneralTabUIImpl( ),  
        };  
    }  
}
```

The RotatedLabelGeneralTabUIImpl class contains an internal class, GeneralCategoryWrapper, which creates the UI contents, as shown in Listing 17-6.

#### **Listing 17-6** The GeneralCategoryWrapper class

---

```
static class GeneralCategoryWrapper  
    extends AttributesUtil.PageWrapper {  
    static String CATEGORY_NAME = "General";  
  
    public void buildContent( Composite parent,  
        Map propertyMap ) {  
        parent.setLayout( createGridLayout( 2 ) );  
        buildGridControl( parent,  
            propertyMap,  
            ReportDesignConstants.EXTENDED_ITEM,  
            ReportItemHandle.NAME_PROP,  
            1,  
            false,  
            new TextPropertyDescriptor  
                ( new PropertyProcessor  
                    ( ReportDesignConstants.EXTENDED_ITEM,  
                        ReportItemHandle.NAME_PROP ) ),  
            true,  
            150);  
        ...  
    }  
}
```

## **Understanding GraphicsUtil**

The GraphicsUtil class creates the image containing the specified text and rotates the text image to the specified angle, using the following methods:

- `createRotatedText()`

This method performs the following operations:

- Gets the display text and rotation angle properties

- Sets the display text font and determines the font metrics
- Creates an image the same size as the display text String
- Draws the display text as an image
- Calls the rotateImage( ) method to rotate the image at the specified angle
- Disposes of the operating system resources used to render the image
- Returns the image object

Listing 17-7 shows the code for createRotatedText( ) method.

**Listing 17-7**    The createRotatedText( ) method

---

```

public Image createRotatedText( ExtendedItemHandle
    modelHandle )
{
    Image stringImage;
    Image image;
    GC gc;
    String text = "";
    if ( modelHandle.getProperty( "displayText" ) != null ) {
        text = ( String ) modelHandle.getProperty
            ( "displayText" );
    }
    Integer angle = null;
    if ( modelHandle.getProperty( "rotationAngle" ) != null ) {
        angle = ( Integer ) modelHandle.getProperty
            ( "rotationAngle" );
    }
    String fontFamily = "Arial";
    if ( modelHandle.getProperty(Style.FONT_FAMILY_PROP) != null ) {
        fontFamily = ( String ) modelHandle.getProperty
            ( Style.FONT_FAMILY_PROP );
    }
    if ( display == null ) SWT.error
        ( SWT.ERROR_THREAD_INVALID_ACCESS );

    FontData fontData = new FontData( fontFamily, 14, 0 );
    Font font = new Font( display, fontData );
    try
    {
        gc = new GC( display );
        gc.setFont( font );
        gc.getFontMetrics();
        Point pt = gc.textExtent( text );
        gc.dispose();
        stringImage = new Image( display, pt.x, pt.y );
        gc = new GC( stringImage );
    }
}
```

```

        gc.setFont( font );
        gc.drawText( text, 0, 0 );
        image = rotateImage( stringImage, angle.doubleValue( ) );
        gc.dispose( );
        stringImage.dispose( );
        return image;
    }
    catch( Exception e )
    {
        e.printStackTrace( );
    }
    return null;
}

```

■ **rotateImage()**

This method rotates the image and determines the width, height, and point of origin for the image, as shown in Listing 17-8.

**Listing 17-8** The rotateImage() method

---

```

private Image rotateImage ( Image img, double degrees )
{
    double positiveDegrees = ( degrees % 360 ) +
        ( ( degrees < 0 ) ? 360 : 0 );
    double degreesMod90 = positiveDegrees % 90;
    double radians = Math.toRadians( positiveDegrees );
    double radiansMod90 = Math.toRadians( degreesMod90 );
    if ( positiveDegrees == 0 )
        return img;
    int quadrant = 0;
    if ( positiveDegrees < 90 )
        quadrant = 1;
    else if ( ( positiveDegrees >= 90 ) &&
        ( positiveDegrees < 180 ) )
        quadrant = 2;
    else if ( ( positiveDegrees >= 180 ) &&
        ( positiveDegrees < 270 ) )
        quadrant = 3;
    else if ( positiveDegrees >= 270 )
        quadrant = 4;
    int height = img.getBounds().height;
    int width = img.getBounds().width;
    double side1 = ( Math.sin( radiansMod90 ) * height ) +
        ( Math.cos( radiansMod90 ) * width );
    double side2 = ( Math.cos( radiansMod90 ) * height ) +
        ( Math.sin( radiansMod90 ) * width );
    double h = 0;
    int newWidth = 0, newHeight = 0;
    if ( ( quadrant == 1 ) || ( quadrant == 3 ) ) {

```

```

        h = ( Math.sin( radiansMod90 ) * height );
        newWidth = ( int )side1;
        newHeight = ( int )side2;
    } else {
        h = ( Math.sin( radiansMod90 ) * width );
        newWidth = ( int )side2;
        newHeight = ( int )side1;
    }
    int shiftX = ( int )( Math.cos( radians ) * h ) -
        ( ( quadrant == 3 ) || ( quadrant == 4 )
        ? width : 0 );
    int shiftY = ( int )( Math.sin( radians ) * h ) +
        ( ( quadrant == 2 ) || ( quadrant == 3 )
        ? height : 0 );
    Image newImg = new Image( display, newWidth, newHeight );
    GC newGC = new GC( newImg );
    Transform tr = new Transform( display );
    tr.rotate( ( float )positiveDegrees );
    newGC.setTransform( tr );
    newGC.setBackground( display.getSystemColor(
        ( SWT.COLOR_WHITE ) ) );
    newGC.drawImage( img, shiftX, -shiftY );
    newGC.dispose( );
    return newImg;
}

```

## Deploying and testing the rotated label report item plug-in

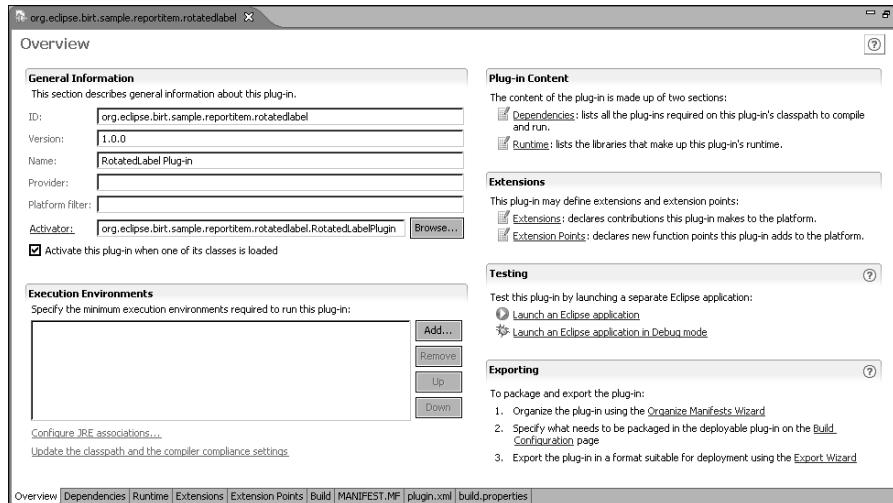
After building the plug-in, the Eclipse PDE provides support for deploying and testing the plug-in in a run-time environment. The following sections describe the steps to deploy and test the rotated label report item plug-in example.

### Deploying a report item extension

To deploy the rotated label report item plug-in and integrate the extension with the BIRT Report Designer, use the Export wizard or manually copy the org.eclipse.birt.sample.reportitem.rotatedtext plug-in from your workspace to the eclipse\plugins folder.

### Launching the rotated label report item plug-in

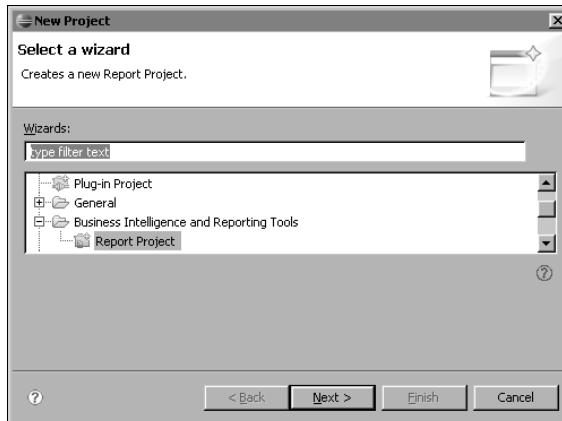
On PDE Manifest Editor, in Overview, the Testing section contains links to launch a plug-in as a separate Eclipse application in either Run or Debug mode. Figure 17-13 shows Overview for the rotated label report item extension example in the host instance of the PDE Workbench.



**Figure 17-13** Overview information for the rotated label report item extension

### How to launch a run-time workbench

- 1 On PDE Manifest Editor, choose Overview. In Testing, choose Launch an Eclipse application. Eclipse launches the run-time workbench.
- 2 In Report Design, choose File->New->Project. New Project appears. In Wizards, choose Report Project, as shown in Figure 17-14.



**Figure 17-14** Selecting Report Project in New Project

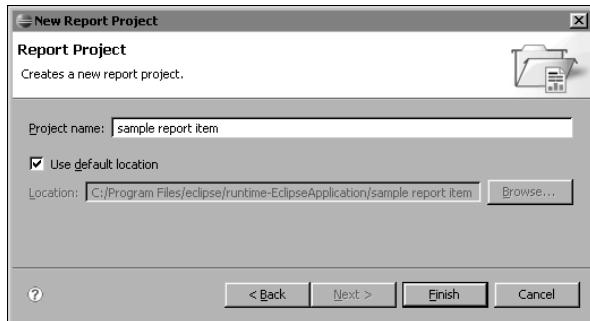
Choose Next. New Report Project appears.

- 3 In Project name, type:

sample report item

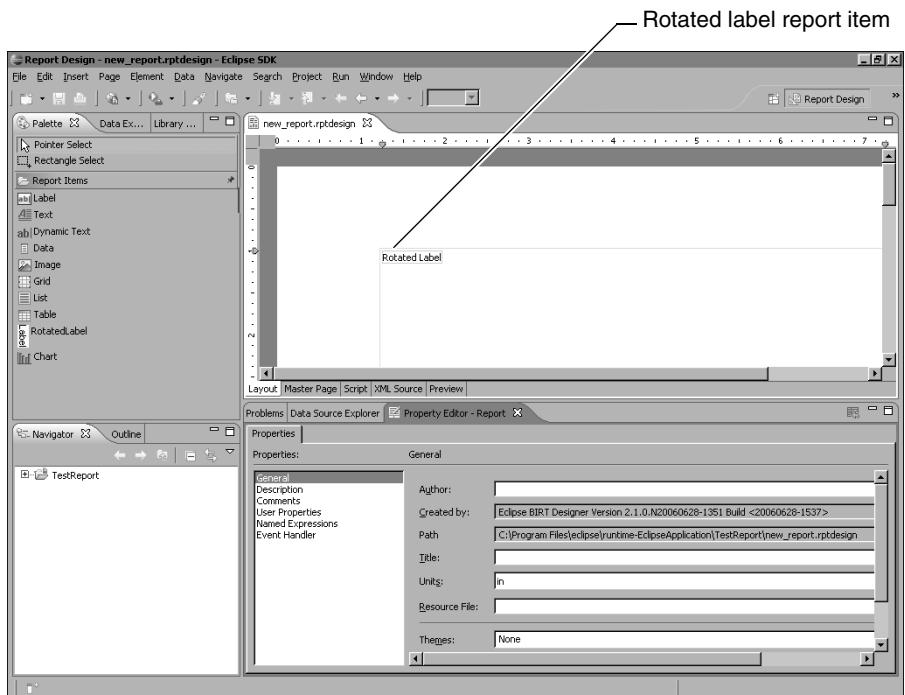
Choose Finish. Sample report item appears in the Navigator.

- 4** In Report Design—Eclipse Platform, choose File>New>Report. New Report appears, as shown in Figure 17-15.



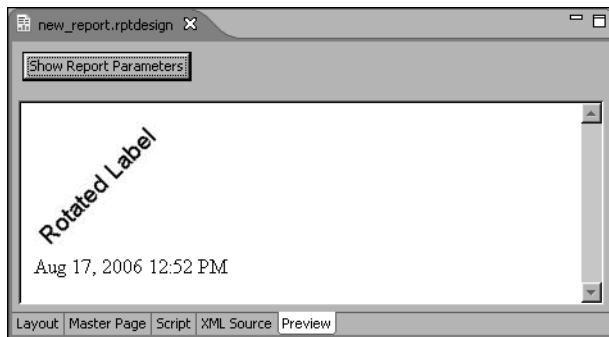
**Figure 17-15** New Report

- 5** In File name, type a file name if you want to change the default file name. Choose Next. New Report displays the report templates.
- 6** In Report templates, choose Blank Report. Choose Finish. The layout editor displays the report design, new\_report.rptdesign. Palette contains the RotatedText report item.
- 7** From Palette, drag RotatedLabel to Layout, as shown in Figure 17-16.



**Figure 17-16** Rotated label report item in the report design

- 8** In new\_report.rptdesign, choose Preview. The preview appears, displaying the rotated label report item, as shown in Figure 17-17.



**Figure 17-17** The rotated label in the report preview

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# 18

## Developing a Report Rendering Extension

This chapter describes how to develop a report rendering extension using the Eclipse PDE with a sample CSV report rendering extension as the example. You learn how to develop a BIRT report rendering extension in the following sections:

- Understanding a report rendering extension
- Developing the CSV report rendering extension
- Understanding the sample CSV report rendering extension
- Testing the CSV report rendering plug-in

---

### Understanding a report rendering extension

BIRT Report Engine provides report rendering extensions that render a report in HTML and PDF. In BIRT release 2.1, the BIRT report rendering extension API supports rendering a report in a customized format, such as CSV.

This chapter provides a sample implementation of a customized CSV report rendering extension, `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitter.csv`. The sample code creates a BIRT plug-in that writes the data contents of a report to a file. For reference documentation on the BIRT report rendering API, see the Javadoc for the `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitter` and `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.content` packages in BIRT Programmer Reference in Eclipse Help.

The BIRT Report Engine does not run as an Eclipse plug-in. BIRT implements a separate plug-in loading framework in the report engine environment. This framework runs independently of the Eclipse run-time environment, giving the BIRT Report Engine complete control of report execution.

A BIRT engine plug-in typically loads and runs in the BIRT Report Engine environment rather than the Eclipse run-time environment. A BIRT engine plug-in extension is functionally similar to an Eclipse plug-in extension.

A rendering extension adds an emitter to the BIRT framework by implementing the extension point, `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitters`. This extension point enables support for a new output format in the presentation engine. The BIRT plug-in registry uses this extension point to discover all supported output formats specified in the report engine environment. The XML schema file, `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine/schema/emitters.exsd`, describes the extension point.

---

## Developing the CSV report rendering extension

The CSV report rendering extension extends the functionality defined by the `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitter` package. This package is part of the `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine` plug-in. In developing the CSV report rendering extension, you perform the following tasks:

- Download the required BIRT source code from the Eclipse CVS repository.
- Create a CSV report rendering extension project in the Eclipse PDE.
- Define the dependencies.
- Declare the emitters extension point.
- Implement the emitter interfaces.
- Test the extension in the run-time environment.

You can download the source code for the CSV report rendering extension example at <http://www.actuate.com/birt/contributions>.

### Downloading BIRT source code from the CVS repository

The CSV report rendering extension depends on the following BIRT plug-ins:

- `org.eclipse.birt.core`
- `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine`
- `org.eclipse.birt.report.model`

The CSV report rendering extension requires changes to the org.eclipse.birt.report.engine plug-in, so you must download the source code for this plug-in from the CVS repository.

To compile, you do not need the source code for the other required plug-ins. You can configure the system to use the JAR files in the \$INSTALL\_DIR\ eclipse\plugins folder.

These plug-ins must be in the classpath to compile successfully. To debug, you may need the source code for all required BIRT plug-ins.

## Creating a CSV report rendering plug-in project

Create a new plug-in project for the CSV report rendering extension using the Eclipse PDE.

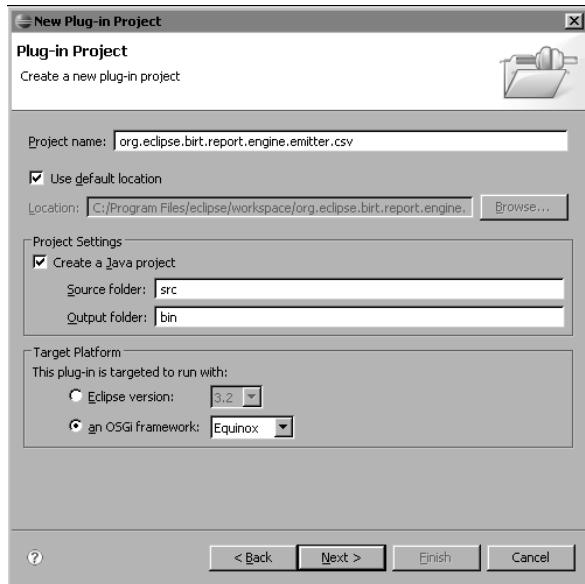
### How to create the CSV report rendering plug-in project

- 1 From the Eclipse PDE menu, choose File→New→Project. New Project appears.
- 2 On New Project, select Plug-in Project. Choose Next. New Plug-in Project appears.
- 3 In Plug-in Project, modify the settings, as shown in Table 18-1.

**Table 18-1** Values for Plug-in Project fields

Section	Option	Value
Plug-in Project	Project name	org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitter.csv
	Use default location	Selected
	Location	Not available when you select Use default location
Project Settings	Create a Java project	Selected
	Source folder	src
	Output folder	bin
Target Platform	Eclipse version	3.2
	an OSGi framework	Selected Equinox

Plug-in Project appears as shown in Figure 18-1. Choose Next. Plug-in Content appears.



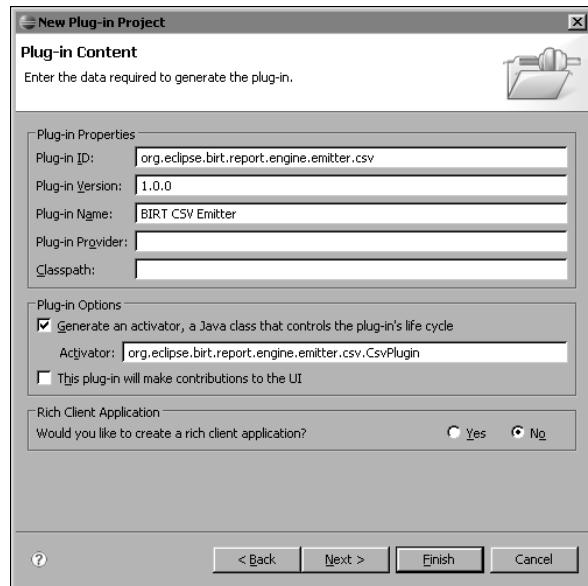
**Figure 18-1** Values for Plug-in Project

- 4 In Plug-in Content, modify the settings, as shown in Table 18-2.

**Table 18-2** Values for Plug-in Content fields

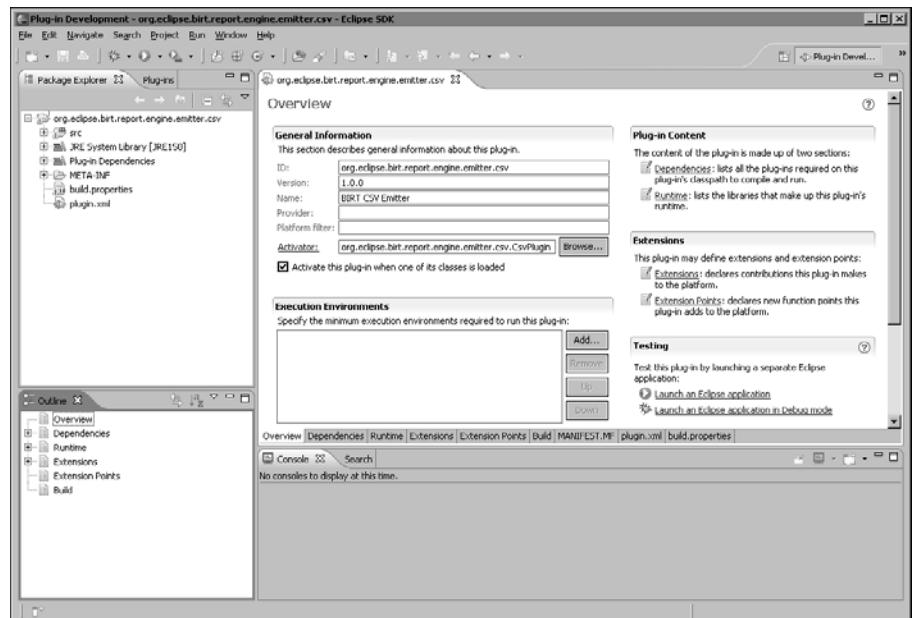
Section	Option	Value
Plug-in Properties	Plug-in ID	org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitter.csv
	Plug-in Version	1.0.0
	Plug-in Name	BIRT CSV Emitter
	Plug-in Provider	yourCompany.com or leave blank
	Classpath	csvEmitter.jar or leave blank
Plug-in Options	Generate an activator, a Java class that controls the plug-in's life cycle	Selected
	Activator	org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitter.csv.CsvPlugin
	This plug-in will make contributions to the UI	Deselected
Rich Client Application	Would you like to create a rich client application?	No

Plug-in Content appears as shown in Figure 18-2. Choose Finish.



**Figure 18-2** Values for Plug-in Content

The CSV report rendering extension project appears in the Eclipse PDE workbench, as shown in Figure 18-3.



**Figure 18-3** CSV report rendering extension project

# Defining the dependencies for the CSV report rendering extension

To compile and run the CSV report rendering example, you need to specify the list of plug-ins that must be available on the classpath of the extension.

## How to specify the dependencies

- 1 On PDE Manifest Editor, choose Overview.
- 2 In Plug-in Content, choose Dependencies. Required Plug-ins contains the following plug-in:  
`org.eclipse.core.runtime`
- 3 In Required Plug-ins, perform the following tasks:
  - 1 Select `org.eclipse.core.runtime` and choose Remove.  
`org.eclipse.core.runtime` no longer appears in Required Plug-ins.
  - 2 Choose Add. Plug-in Selection appears.
  - 3 In Plug-in Selection, hold down CTRL and select the following plug-ins:
    - `org.eclipse.birt.core`
    - `org.eclipse.birt.report.model`
    - `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine`

Choose OK. Dependencies appears as shown in Figure 18-4.

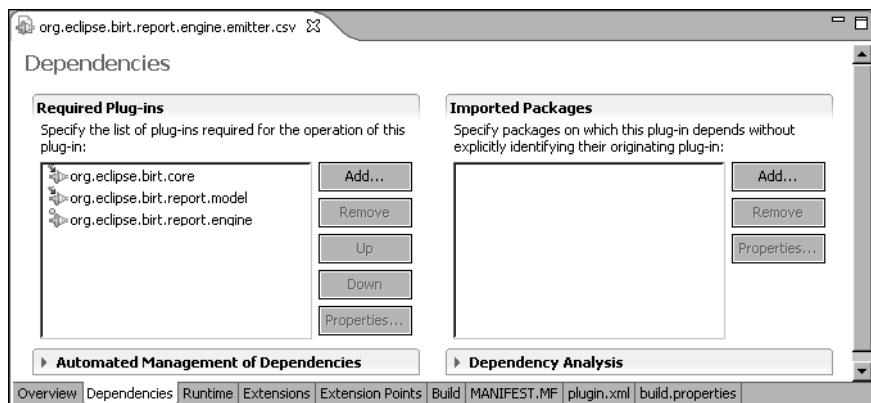


Figure 18-4 The Dependencies page

The order of the list determines the sequence in which a plug-in loads at run time. Use Up and Down to change the loading order as necessary, as shown in Figure 18-4. The CSV report rendering extension does not require any changes to the loading order if you selected the required plug-ins in the order listed in step 3.

## Declaring the emitters extension point

In this step, you specify the extension point required to implement the CSV report rendering extension and add the extension element details. The extension point, `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitters`, specifies the following properties that identify the extension point:

- ID  
Optional identifier of the extension instance
- Name  
Optional name of the extension instance
- Point  
Fully qualified identifier of the extension point

The extension point defines an emitter that specifies the output format for the plug-in, requiring you to define the following extension element properties:

- class  
Java class that implements the `IContentEmitter` interface
- format  
Output format that the emitter supports, such as `csv`
- mimeType  
MIME type for the supported output format, such as `text/csv`
- id  
Optional identifier of the emitter extension

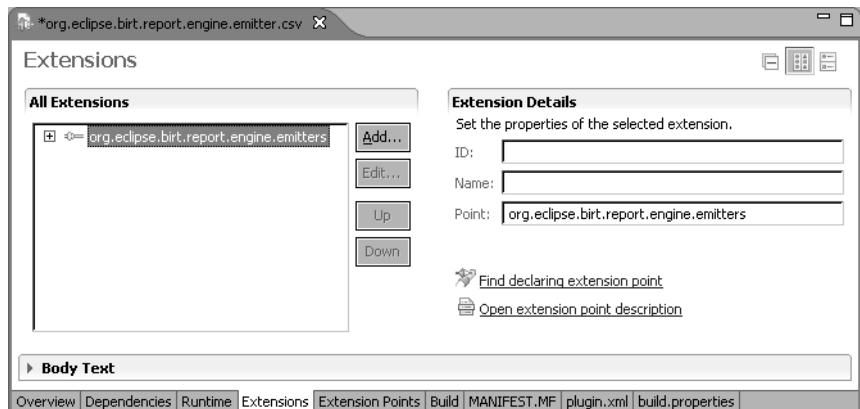
You specify the extension point and extension element details using the Eclipse PDE.

### How to specify the extension point

- 1 On PDE Manifest Editor, choose Extensions.
- 2 In All Extensions, choose Add. New Extension—Extension Point Selection appears.
- 3 In Available extension points, select the following plug-in:

```
org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitters
```

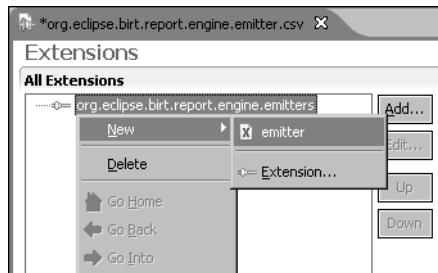
Choose Finish. Extensions appears, as shown in Figure 18-5.



**Figure 18-5** Emitter plug-in extension on the Extensions page

All Extensions lists the extension point, org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitters. Extension Details contains the list of extension details specified in the XML schema file, emitters.exsd.

- 4 In All Extensions, right-click the extension point, org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitters, and choose the extension element, emitter, as shown in Figure 18-6.



**Figure 18-6** Selecting the emitter extension element

Extension element, emitter, appears in All Extensions.

- 5 In Extension Element Details, specify the properties for the emitter extension element, emitter, as shown in Table 18-3.

**Table 18-3** Property values for the emitter extension element

Property	Value
class	org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitter.csv.CSVReportEmitter
format	csv
mimeMimeType	text/csv
id	org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitter.csv

Extensions appears as shown in Figure 18-7. PDE Manifest Editor automatically updates plugin.xml.

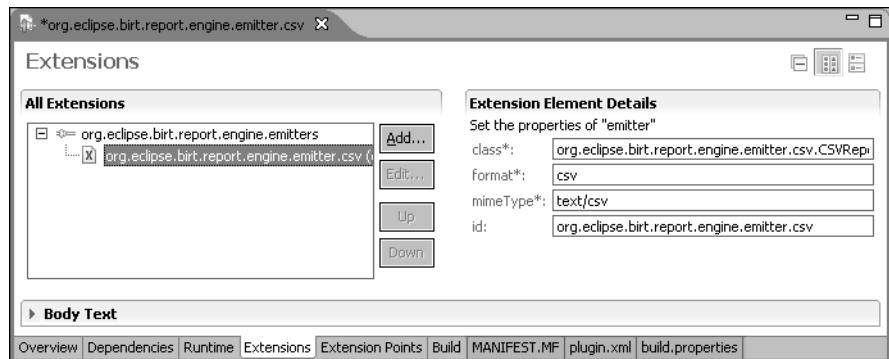


Figure 18-7 Property values for the emitter extension

## Understanding the sample CSV report rendering extension

The CSV report rendering extension described in this chapter is a simplified example that illustrates how to create a report rendering plug-in using the Eclipse PDE. The extension extends the report emitter interfaces and XML writer in org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitter. The example is based on the plug-in, org.eclipse.report.engine.emitter.html, which is part of the BIRT framework. BIRT release 2.1 also provides a data extraction feature built into the UI that can export data from a report document in CSV, tab-separated values (TSV), and Extensible Markup Language (XML) formats.

The CSV report rendering extension example exports only the data in the table controls to the CSV output file. The lines of the CSV output file contain only column data separated by commas. The sample CSV report design cannot contain images, charts, or hyperlinks.

The extension example creates the CSV output file in the same folder as the exported report. The output file name is the name of the report with a .csv extension. The extension provides only limited error checking.

The following section provides a general description of the code-based extensions a developer must make to complete the development of the CSV report rendering extension after defining the plug-in framework in the Eclipse PDE.

### Implementing the emitter interfaces

The org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitter plug-in defines the report emitter interfaces that XML writer uses to render the elements of the report items in a

report container, such as a page, table, row, column, cell, label, image, or extended item. The CSV report rendering extension implements parts of the following interfaces and classes in the emitter plug-in:

- **IContentEmitter**

Defines the interface for the start and end processing that renders the report items. ContentEmitterAdapter is the adapter class that implements this interface.

- **IEmitterServices**

Defines the interface an emitter uses to access the following items:

- Emitter configuration

Provides information on the engine emitter configuration

- Rendering context

Provides information on the engine rendering context

- Rendering options

Implements the `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api.IRenderOption` interface, specifying the following output items:

- Format, such as PDF or HTML

- File name to use for output

- Stream for writing to the output file

- Miscellaneous settings

- Runnable report design

Defines the methods that get the report design handle, images, and property values, such as report name, title, and description. Specified by an implementation of the interface, `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api.IReportRunnable`.

- Engine task

Defines the set of operations specified for a unit of work. Implements the `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api` interface, providing access to the following items:

- Task identifier

- Locale

- Application context

- Parameters

- Report engine

- Scriptable Java object

EngineEmitterServices is the adapter class that implements this interface.

- **XMLWriter**

Outputs content in XML format. CSV report rendering extension extends XMLWriter to write in CSV format. Performs the following operations:

- Opens and closes the output stream, using an instance of java.io.PrintWriter class
- Starts and finishes the java.io.PrintWriter processing
- Returns encoding information
- Opens and closes the printing of an XML tag, including any attributes and encoded content
- Sets up the java.util.logging.Logger object and logs messages at the specified logging levels

As a best practice, Eclipse recommends extending the adapter class rather than implementing an interface directly. An adapter class provides stub implementations of all the methods in the interface. If you implement an interface directly and the interface changes, you must add any new methods to the code to avoid compiler errors even if you do not plan to use the methods. Extending the adapter class insulates the developer from this problem. A class that extends an adapter compiles, but does not provide the new behavior automatically. You must be aware of the changes to the interface to take advantage of the new functionality and extend the code.

## Implementing the content interfaces

The package, org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.content, defines the interfaces for BIRT report items that BIRT Report Engine uses to pass content to an emitter. These content interfaces provide a common protocol for rendering an instance of a content object.

The CSV report rendering extension implements some of these interfaces. Each interface defines accessor methods for properties depending on the type of the content object, as shown in Table 18-4.

**Table 18-4** Interfaces that pass content to an emitter

Interface	Properties
IBandContent	Header and footer content in a table or group.
ICellContent	Row and column spans.
IContainerContent	No defined fields or methods. Inherits fields and methods from the superinterfaces, IContent, IElememt, and CSSStylableElement.
IDataContent	Label and help keys, text, and values.

(continues)

**Table 18-4** Interfaces that pass content to an emitter (*continued*)

Interface	Properties
IElement	Parent or children of a content element.
IForeignContent	Raw types and values not handled by BIRT Report Engine.
IIImageContent	URI, MIME type, image source, image map, help key, extension, alternative key and text.
ILabelContent	Label and help keys and text.
IPageContent	Page number, dimensions, orientation, and content style.
IRowContent	Table, group, band, and row.
ITableBandContent	Table and group headers and footers, and band detail.
ITableContent	Table band content, caption, column, and column count.
ITextContent	Text.

Most of the interfaces in the `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.content` package, with the exception of interfaces such as `IContentVisitor`, `IElement`, and `IReportContent`, inherit from the superinterface, `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.content.IContent`. `IContent` specifies methods that provide access to the following additional interfaces and properties in the package:

- `IContentVisitor`  
Defines a visitor interface, typically used by a buffered emitter. The visitor design pattern separates content objects and their operations into different classes. Implementing a visitor design pattern allows a developer to change the operations performed on a collection of objects without changing the structure of the objects and recompiling the object code.

- `IBounds`

Describes the geometric properties of the content.

- `ContentType`

Lists the constant field values used to identify content types.

- `IHyperlinkAction`

Defines the interface that allows BIRT Report Engine to pass hyperlink information to an emitter.

The following interfaces define additional functionality in the `org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.content` package:

- `IStyle`

Defines the accessor methods for ROM style properties

- **IReportContent**

Creates report item content, using the following components:

- Report design
  - An instance of org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.ir.Report
- Table of contents (TOC) node
  - An instance of org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api.TOCNode
- CSS engine
  - An instance of org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.css.engine.CSSEngine

## **Understanding the CSV report rendering extension package**

The implementation package for the CSV report rendering extension example, org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitter.csv, contains the following classes:

- **CSVReportEmitter**

Extends org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitter.ContentEmitterAdapter. CSVReportEmitter handles the start and end processing that renders the report container.

- **CSVTags.java**

Defines the comma and new line Strings used when writing to the CSV file.

- **CSVWriter**

Extends org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitter.XMLWriter. CSVWriter performs the following operations:

- Overrides XMLWriter.closeTag( ) to set up for CSV output processing
- Prints CSV content, using a call to java.io.PrintWriter.print( )

- **CSVPlugin**

Defines the methods for starting, managing, and stopping a plug-in instance.

The following section contains more specific information about the implementation details for the classes in the CSV report rendering extension package.

## **Understanding CSVReportEmitter**

CSVReportEmitter is the class that extends ContentEmitterAdapter to output the text content of the report items to a CSV file. CSVReportEmitter instantiates the writer and emitter objects.

CSVReportEmitter implements the following methods:

- CSVReportEmitter( ) instantiates the CSV report emitter class as an org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.presentation.ContentEmitterVisitor object, to perform emitter operations, as shown in Listing 18-1.

#### **Listing 18-1** The CSVReportEmitter( ) constructor

---

```
public CSVReportEmitter( )
{
    contentVisitor = new ContentEmitterVisitor( this );
}
```

- initialize( ) performs the following operations required to create an output stream that writes the text contents of the report to the CSV file:
  - Obtains a reference to the IEmitterServices interface. Instantiates the file and output stream objects, using the specified settings.
  - Instantiates the CSV writer object.

Listing 18-2 shows the initialize( ) method.

#### **Listing 18-2** The initialize( ) method

---

```
public void initialize( IEmitterServices services )
{
    this.services = services;
    Object fd = services.getOption
        ( RenderOptionBase.OUTPUT_FILE_NAME );
    File file = null;
    try
    {
        if ( fd != null )
        {
            file = new File( fd.toString( ) );
            File parent = file.getParentFile( );
            if ( parent != null && !parent.exists( ) )
            {
                parent.mkdirs( );
            }
            out = new BufferedOutputStream( new
                FileOutputStream( file ) );
        }
    }
    catch ( FileNotFoundException e )
    {
        logger.log( Level.WARNING, e.getMessage( ), e );
    }
    if ( out == null )
    {
```

```

Object value = services.getOption
    ( RenderOptionBase.OUTPUT_STREAM );
if ( value != null && value instanceof OutputStream )
{
    out = (OutputStream) value;
}
else
{
    try
    {
        file = new File( REPORT_FILE );
        out =
            new BufferedOutputStream
                ( new FileOutputStream( file ) );
    }
    catch ( FileNotFoundException e )
    {
        logger.log( Level.SEVERE, e.getMessage( ), e );
    }
}
writer = new CSVWriter( );
}

```

- start( ) performs the following operations:

- Obtains a reference to the IReportContent interface, containing accessor methods that get the interfaces to the report content emitters
- Sets a logging level and writes to the log file
- Opens the output file and specifies the encoding scheme as UTF-8
- Starts the CSV writer

Listing 18-3 shows the start( ) method.

### **Listing 18-3    The start( ) method**

---

```

public void start( IReportContent report )
{
    logger.log( Level.FINE,
        "[CSVReportEmitter] Start emitter." );
    this.report = report;
    writer.open( out, "UTF-8" );
    writer.startWriter( );
}

```

- end( ) performs the following operations:
- Sets a logging level and writes to the log file
- Ends the write process and closes the CSV writer

- Closes the output file

Listing 18-4 shows the end( ) method.

#### **Listing 18-4** The end( ) method

---

```
public void end( IReportContent report )
{
    logger.log( Level.FINE,
        "[CSVReportEmitter] End report." );
    writer.endWriter( );
    writer.close( );
    if( out != null )
    {
        try
        {
            out.close( );
        }
        catch ( IOException e )
        {
            logger.log( Level.WARNING, e.getMessage( ), e );
        }
    }
}
```

#### **Understanding the other CSVReportEmitter methods**

The CSVReportEmitter class defines the following additional methods, called at different phases of the report generation process, that identify hidden content and provide access to emitters, render options, and style information to facilitate BIRT Report Engine processing:

- push( ), pop( ), and peek( )

The CSV plug-in does not export hidden report elements. You can use the IStyle interface to obtain information about the visible format of a content object by pushing and popping this object on and off a stack.

In Listing 18-5, while the IStyle object is on the stack, peek( ) uses IStyle.getVisibleFormat( ) to examine the visible format property. peek( ) determines if the current content object is visible and returns the Boolean variable, isHidden, to indicate the status of the item.

#### **Listing 18-5** The peek( ) method

---

```
public boolean peek( IStyle style )
{
    boolean isHidden = false;
    if ( !stack.empty( ) )
    {
        isHidden =
            ( Boolean ) stack.peek( ) .booleanValue( );
```

```

    }
    if ( !isHidden )
    {
        String formats = style.getVisibleFormat( );
        if ( formats != null
            && ( formats.indexOf(
                ( EngineIRConstants.FORMAT_TYPE_VIEWER ) >=
                0 || formats.indexOf(
                    ( BIRTConstants.BIRT_ALL_VALUE ) >= 0 ) ) )
        {
            isHidden = true;
        }
    }
    return isHidden;
}

```

■ **startTable( )**

When writing to the CSV file, the CSV rendering extension must consider the cell position in the row because all the cells end with a comma except the last cell in the row.

`startTable( )` uses `ITableContent.getColumnCount( )` to get information about table column numbers and to initialize the protected `columnNumbers` variable, as shown in Listing 18-6.

---

**Listing 18-6**    The `startTable( )` method

```

public void startTable( ITableContent table )
{
    assert table != null;
    columnNumbers = table.getColumnCount();
    ...
}

```

■ **startRow( )**

At the start of each row, `startRow( )` performs the following operations:

- Calls `isRowInFooterBand( )` to determine if the row is in the header or footer band of a table or group
- Sets the `currentColumn` indicator to 0

Listing 18-7 shows the `startRow( )` code.

---

**Listing 18-7**    The `startRow( )` method

```

public void startRow( IRowContent row )
{
    assert row != null;
    if ( isRowInFooterBand( row ) )
        exportTableElement = false;
}

```

```

IStyle mergedStyle = row.getStyle( );
push( mergedStyle );
if ( isHidden( ) )
{
    return;
}
currentColumn = 0;
}

```

- **isRowInFooterBand()**

If the row is an instance of band content, `isRowInFooterBand()` checks the band type. If the band type is a footer, the method returns true, as shown in Listing 18-8.

**Listing 18-8** The `isRowInFooterBand()` method

---

```

boolean isRowInFooterBand( IRowContent row )
{
    IELEMENT parent = row.getParent( );
    if ( !( parent instanceof IBandContent ) )
    {
        return false;
    }
    IBandContent band = ( IBandContent )parent;
    if ( band.getBandType( ) == IBandContent.BAND_FOOTER )
    {
        return true;
    }
    return false;
}

```

- **startText()**

If the element is exportable and not hidden, `startText()` writes the text value to the CSV output file, as shown in Listing 18-9.

**Listing 18-9** The `startText()` method

---

```

public void startText( ITextContent text )
{
    IStyle mergedStyle = text.getStyle( );
    if ( peek( mergedStyle ) )
    {
        return;
    }
    logger.log( Level.FINE,
        "[CSVReportEmitter] Start text" );
}

```

```

String textValue = text.getText( );

if ( exportTableElement )
{
    writer.text( textValue );
}
}

```

- **endCell()**

If the current cell is not the last column in the row and the element is exportable and not hidden, `endCell()` writes a comma to the CSV output file, as shown in Listing 18-10.

**Listing 18-10** The `endCell()` method

---

```

public void endCell( ICellContent cell )
{
    if ( isHidden( ) )
    {
        return;
    }
    logger.log( Level.FINE,
        "[CSVReportEmitter] End cell." );

    if ( ( currentColumn < columnNumbers )
        && exportTableElement )
    {
        writer.closeTag( CSVTags.TAG_COMMA );
    }
}

```

- **endRow()**

At the end of each row, if the element is exportable and not hidden, `endRow()` writes a new line or carriage return to the CSV output file, as shown in Listing 18-11.

**Listing 18-11** The `endRow()` method

---

```

public void endRow( IRowContent row )
{
    if ( pop( ) )
    {
        return;
    }
    if ( exportTableElement )
        writer.closeTag( CSVTags.TAG_CR );
    exportTableElement = true;
}

```

## **Understanding CSVTags**

The CSVTags class defines the contents of the comma and new line tags, as shown in Listing 18-12.

### **Listing 18-12 The CSVTags class**

---

```
public class CSVTags
{
    public static final String TAG_COMMA = ",";
    public static final String TAG_CR = "\n";
}
```

## **Understanding CSVWriter**

The CSVWriter class extends org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitter.XMLWriter, overwriting the closeTag( ) method to write the closing tags defined in CSVTags, as shown in Listing 18-13.

### **Listing 18-13 The closeTag( ) method**

---

```
public void closeTag( String tagName )
{
    super.getWriter.print( tagName );
}
```

## **Understanding the BIRT report engine API package**

In addition to the rendering classes, implementing the CSV report rendering extension requires making changes to the org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api package. The following changes create and expose the API for the CSV rendering option developed in the org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitter.csv package:

- **RenderOptionBase**

Add the CSV output format to the format definitions in RenderOptionBase.

- **CSVRenderOption**

Create the class, org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api.CSVRenderOption, to integrate the plug-in with BIRT Report Engine. This class defines CSV as an option in BIRT Report Engine.

- **EngineConstants**

Add the CSV render context to the list in EngineConstants.

The following section contains more specific information about the implementation details for the classes in the org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api package.

## **Understanding RenderOptionBase**

The org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api.RenderOptionBase class implements the IRenderOption interface, which defines the rendering options for emitters. The accessor methods for this interface provide access to the following output options:

- File name
- Format
- Stream

Add the new CSV format to the format definitions in org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api.RenderOptionBase class, as shown in Listing 18-14.

---

### **Listing 18-14    The RenderOptionBase class**

```
public class RenderOptionBase implements IRenderOption {  
    ...  
    public static final String OUTPUT_FORMAT_HTML = "html";  
    public static final String OUTPUT_FORMAT_PDF = "pdf";  
    public static final String OUTPUT_FORMAT_FO = "fo";  
    public static final String OUTPUT_FORMAT_CSV = "csv";  
    ...
```

## **Understanding CSVRenderOption**

The org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api.CSVRenderOption class extends RenderOptionBase to add the CSV rendering option, as shown in Listing 18-15.

---

### **Listing 18-15    The CSVRenderOption class**

```
package org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api;  
  
public class CSVRenderOption extends RenderOptionBase {  
  
    public static final String CSV = "CSV";  
  
    public CSVRenderOption( ) {  
    }  
}
```

## **Understanding EngineConstants**

The org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api.EngineConstants class defines the CSV rendering context options to add the CSV rendering context option, as shown in Listing 18-16.

---

**Listing 18-16** The EngineConstants class

---

```
public class EngineConstants {  
    public final static String APPCONTEXT_HTML_RENDER_CONTEXT =  
        "HTML_RENDER_CONTEXT";  
    public final static String APPCONTEXT_PDF_RENDER_CONTEXT =  
        "PDF_RENDER_CONTEXT";  
    public final static String APPCONTEXT_CSV_RENDER_CONTEXT =  
        "CSV_RENDER_CONTEXT";  
    ...  
}
```

---

## Testing the CSV report rendering plug-in

To test the CSV report rendering example, you create a Java application that runs a report design in an installation of the BIRT run-time engine. BIRT provides a run-time engine that runs in a stand-alone J2EE application server environment and a preview engine that runs in the BIRT Report Designer.

To test the CSV report rendering plug-in, you perform the following tasks:

- Build the org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitter.csv and org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api plug-ins.
- Deploy the plug-ins to the BIRT run-time engine directory.
- Launch a run-time instance of the Eclipse PDE.
- Create a Java application that runs a report design and writes the report's table data to a CSV file.
- Create a report design containing a table that maps to a data source and data set.
- Run the application and examine the output in the CSV file.

You must have previously installed the BIRT run-time engine in the test environment. For more information about downloading and installing the BIRT run-time engine, see the sections on installing the BIRT system earlier in this book or visit the Eclipse BIRT web site at <http://www.eclipse.org/birt>.

The following sections describe the steps required to build and export the plug-ins, launch the Eclipse PDE run-time environment, create the Java application and report design, and test the plug-in example.

### How to build and export the org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitter.csv plug-in

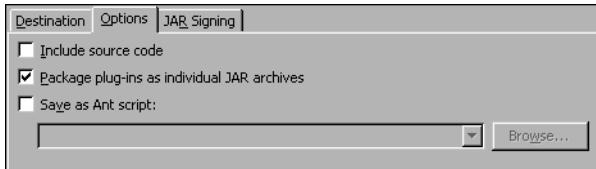
On PDE Manifest Editor, perform the following tasks:

- 1 On Build, specify the binary build configuration for the plug-in for org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitter.csv to include the following items:
  - plugin.xml

- bin\org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitter.csv
- META-INF\MANIFEST.MF

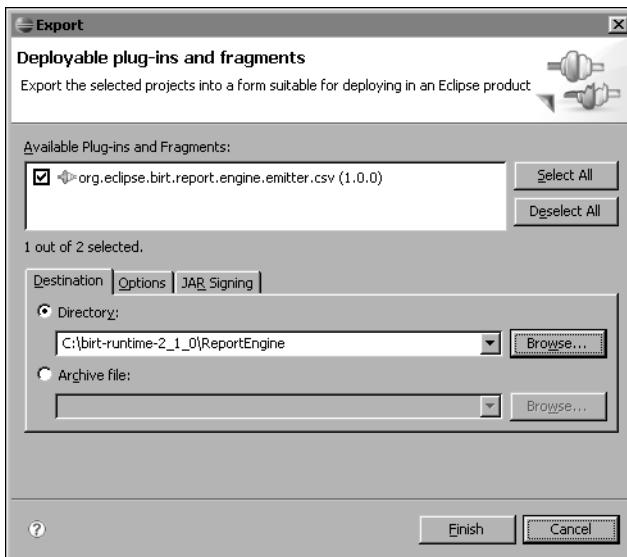
**2** On Overview, in Exporting, choose the Export Wizard and perform the following tasks:

- 1 In Options, choose Package plug-ins as individual JAR archives, as shown in Figure 18-8.



**Figure 18-8** Exporting a plug-in option

- 2 In Destination, choose the directory, \$INSTALL\_DIR\birt-runtime-2\_1\_0\Report Engine, as shown in Figure 18-9. Choose Finish.



**Figure 18-9** Exporting a plug-in to BIRT run-time engine

#### How to build and deploy the org.eclipse.birt.report.engine plug-in

- 1 Using Ant with the following BuildEngineAPI.xml file, create an archive containing the org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api package with the modifications required to run the CSV emitter example.

BuildEngineAPI.xml has two target operations:

- Jar creates the engineapi.jar file from a defined file set.

- Clean removes any objects created by previous build and archive operations, deleting the bin directory and engineapi.jar file.

Listing 18-17 shows the BuildEngineAPI.xml code.

**Listing 18-17** The BuildEngineAPI.xml code

---

```

<project name="BIRT Engine Project" default="Jar"
    basedir=".">
    <description>BIRT Engine Project.</description>

    <property name="bin" location="bin"/>
    <property name="lib" location="lib"/>

    <target name="Jar" description="package engine files">
        <jar destfile="engineapi.jar">
            <fileset dir="${bin}">
                <include
                    name="org/eclipse/birt/report/engine/api/
                    *.class"/>
                <include name="org/eclipse/birt/report/engine/
                    util/
                    *.class"/>
                <include name="org/eclipse/birt/report/engine/
                    i18n/
                    *.class"/>
                <include name="org/eclipse/birt/report/engine/
                    i18n/
                    *.properties"/>
                <include name="org/eclipse/birt/report/engine/
                    api/impl/CascadingParameterGroupDefn.class"/>
                <include name="org/eclipse/birt/report/engine/
                    api/impl/ParameterDefn.class"/>
                <include name="org/eclipse/birt/report/engine/
                    api/impl/ParameterDefnBase.class"/>
                <include name="org/eclipse/birt/report/engine/
                    api/impl/ParameterGroupDefn.class"/>
                <include name="org/eclipse/birt/report/engine/
                    api/impl/ParameterSelectionChoice.class"/>
                <include name="org/eclipse/birt/report/engine/
                    api/impl/ScalarParameterDefn.class"/>
            </fileset>
        </jar>
    </target>

    <!-- Clean removes any objects created by
        previous build and archive operations -->
    <target name="Clean" description="clean up">
        <!-- Delete the ${bin} directory -->
        <delete dir="${bin}"/>
        <!-- Delete the engineapi.jar file -->
    
```

```

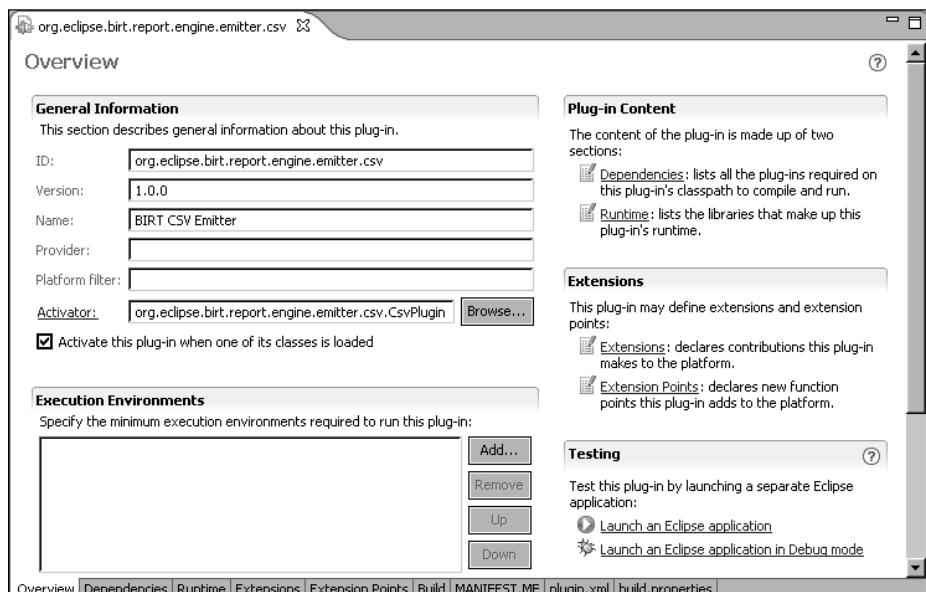
<delete dir="engineapi.jar" />
</target>
</project>

```

- 2** Copy engineapi.jar to \$INSTALL\_DIR\birt-runtime-2\_1\_0\Report Engine\lib.

## Launching the CSV report rendering plug-in

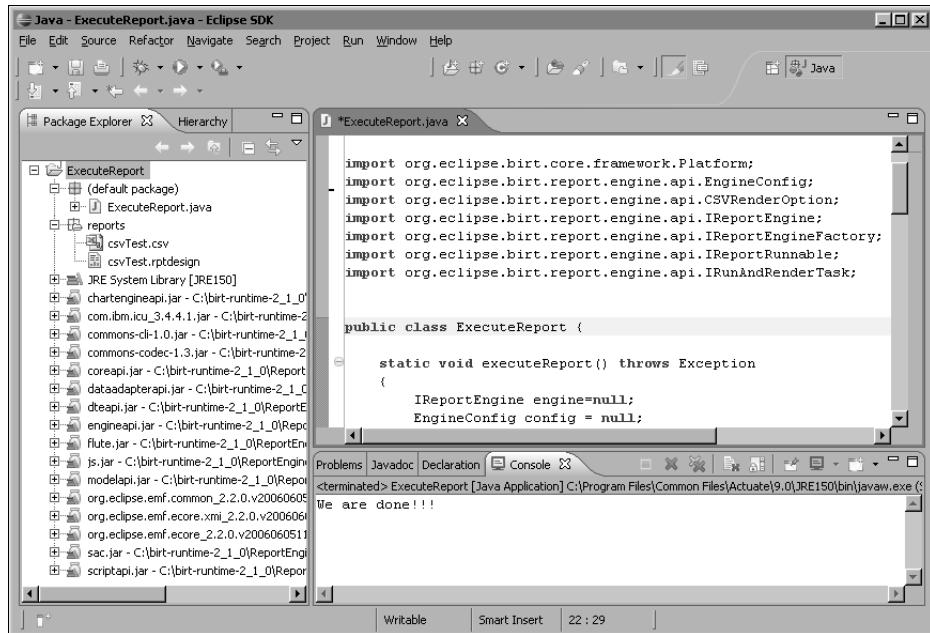
On PDE Manifest Editor, in Overview, the Testing section contains links to launch a plug-in as a separate Eclipse application in either Run or Debug mode. Figure 18-10 shows Overview for the CSV report rendering extension example in the host instance of the PDE workbench.



**Figure 18-10** Overview information for the CSV report rendering extension

When the Eclipse PDE launches an Eclipse application, it creates the working directory, \$INSTALL\_DIR\eclipse\runtime-EclipseApplication, by default if the directory does not exist. For testing purposes, you can create a Java project in this workspace to run and render a report in CSV format. You can change the location of the working directory when you create the launch configuration for the Java application.

To execute, the report execution project must include the archive, org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.emitter.csv in \$INSTALL\_DIR\birt-runtime-2\_1\_0\Report Engine\plugins, and the archive, engineapi.jar, in lib. Figure 18-11 shows the Eclipse run-time workbench with the report execution project completely specified, after a successful execution.



**Figure 18-11** The report execution project in the Eclipse run-time workbench

#### How to launch the CSV report rendering plug-in

- 1 On Eclipse PDE Manifest Editor, in the Testing section of Overview, choose Launch an Eclipse application. The Eclipse PDE launches a run-time instance of the workbench.
- 2 In the run-time instance of the Eclipse PDE workbench, choose Window→Open Perspective→Java. Java opens.

#### How to create the report execution project

- 1 In Eclipse run-time workbench, choose File→New→Project. New Project appears.
- 2 In New Project—Select a wizard, perform the following tasks:
  - 1 In Wizards, choose Java Project. Choose Next. Create a Java Project appears.
  - 2 In Contents, select Create new project in workspace. Choose Next. Java Settings—Source appears.
  - 3 In Java Settings, choose Libraries. Java Settings—Libraries appears.

**4** In Libraries, perform the following tasks:

- 1** Choose Add External JARS. JAR Selection opens.
- 2** On JAR Selection, in Look in, navigate to \$INSTALL\_DIR\birt-runtime-2\_1\_0\Report Engine\lib and, holding down CTRL, select the following libraries:
  - chartengineapi.jar
  - com.ibm.icu\_3.4.4.1.jar
  - commons-cli-1.0.jar
  - commons-codec-1.3.jar
  - coreapi.jar
  - dataadapterapi.jar
  - dteapi.jar
  - engineapi.jar
  - flute.jar
  - js.jar
  - modelapi.jar
  - org.eclipse.emf.common\_2.2.0.jar
  - org.eclipse.emf.ecore.xmi\_2.2.0.jar
  - org.eclipse.emf.ecore\_2.2.0.jar
  - sac.jar
  - scriptapi.jar

Choose Open. Choose Finish. In Package Explorer, the ExecuteReport project appears.

**How to create the Java report execution class**

- 1** In Eclipse run-time workbench, choose File->New->Class. New Java Class appears.
- 2** On New Java Class, perform the following tasks:
  - 1** In Source folder, type:  
`ExecuteReport`
  - 2** In Which method stubs would you like to create?, perform the following tasks:
    - 1** Select Public static void main(Strings[ ] args).
    - 2** Deselect Constructors from superclass.

- 3 Deselect Inherited abstract methods.

Choose Finish.

In Package Explorer, ExecuteReport.java appears in the ExecuteReport project.

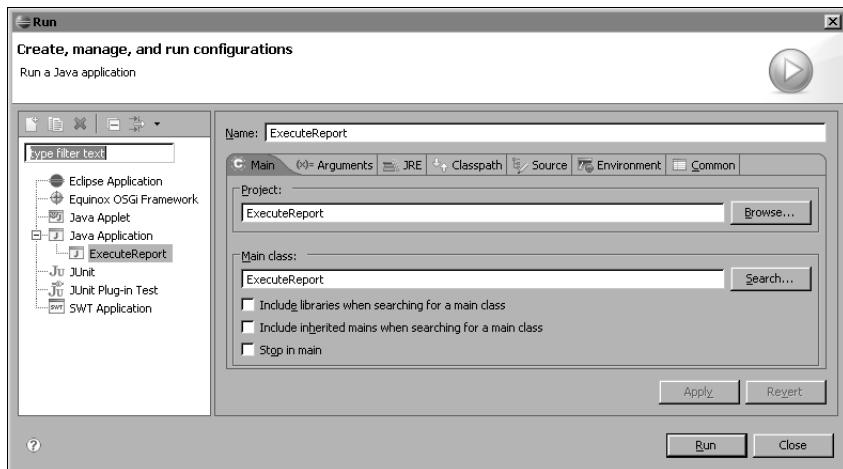
- 3 Open ExecuteReport.java in Java Editor, and add the required code. The ExecuteReport code is discussed later in this chapter.
- 4 In Eclipse run-time workbench, compile the project by choosing Project→Build Project.

#### How to run the CSV report rendering extension

To run the CSV report rendering extension, using the ExecuteReport application, perform the following tasks:

- 1 In Eclipse run-time workbench, right-click ExecuteReport, and choose Run As→Run from the menu. Run appears.
- 2 On Run, perform the following tasks:

- 1 In Java Application, select ExecuteReport, as shown in Figure 18-12.



**Figure 18-12** Selecting ExecuteReport

- 2 To change the working directory for the launch configuration, perform the following tasks:
- 1 On Run, choose (x) = Arguments.
  - 2 In Working Directory, choose Other. Choose File System. Browse for Folder appears. Select the working directory that contains the ExecuteReports project for the launch configuration. Choose OK.
  - 3 On Run, choose Apply.

**3** To run the Java application using the launch configuration, choose Run.

#### How to view the CSV report rendering extension file output

- 1 Navigate to the directory containing the CSV output file. This CSV report rendering extension example writes the CSV file to the following location:

```
C:\Program Files\eclipse\runtime-EclipseApplication\  
ExecuteReport\reports
```

- 2 Using a text editor or other tool, open the file, and view its contents.

Figure 18-13 shows the CSV output.

```
1969 Harley Davidson Ultimate Chopper,7933,95.7  
1952 Alpine Renault 1300,7305,214.3  
1996 Moto Guzzi 1100i,6625,118.94  
2003 Harley-Davidson Eagle Drag Bike,5582,193.66  
1972 Alfa Romeo GTA,3252,136  
1962 Lancia Delta 16V,6791,147.74  
1968 Ford Mustang,68,194.57  
2001 Ferrari Enzo,3619,207.8
```

**Figure 18-13** CSV output

The XML source code for the report design used in this example is discussed later in this chapter.

## About ExecuteReport class

The ExecuteReport class runs a BIRT report and renders the output in CSV format, writing the text-based elements of the report to a file. The ExecuteReport class performs the following operations:

- Configures the report engine
- Sets the log configuration and logging level
- Starts the platform and loads the plug-ins
- Gets the report engine factory object from the platform and creates the report engine
- Opens the report design
- Creates a task to run and render the report
- Set the rendering options, such as the output file and format
- Runs the report and destroys the engine
- Shuts down the engine

Listing 18-18 shows the code for the ExecuteReport class in the CSV report rendering extension example.

---

**Listing 18-18** The ExecuteReport class code

```
import java.util.logging.Level;
import org.eclipse.birt.core.framework.Platform;
import org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api.EngineConfig;
import org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api.CSVRenderOption;
import org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api.IReportEngine;
import
    org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api.IReportEngineFactory;
import org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api.IReportRunnable;
import org.eclipse.birt.report.engine.api.IRunAndRenderTask;

public class ExecuteReport {

    static void executeReport( ) throws Exception
    {
        IReportEngine engine=null;
        EngineConfig config = null;
        config = new EngineConfig( );
        config.setEngineHome
            ( "C:/birt-runtime-2_1_0/ReportEngine" );
        config.setLogConfig( "c:/birt/logs", Level.FINE );
        Platform.startup( config );
        IReportEngineFactory factory =
            ( IReportEngineFactory ) Platform.createFactoryObject
            ( IReportEngineFactory
                .EXTENSION_REPORT_ENGINE_FACTORY );
        engine = factory.createReportEngine( config );
        engine.changeLogLevel( Level.WARNING );

        IReportRunnable design =
            engine.openReportDesign
                ( "reports/csvTest.rptdesign" );
        IRunAndRenderTask task =
            engine.createRunAndRenderTask( design );
        String format = CSVRenderOption.OUTPUT_FORMAT_CSV;
        if ( format.equals( CSVRenderOption.OUTPUT_FORMAT_CSV ) )
        {
            CSVRenderOption csvOptions = new CSVRenderOption( );
            csvOptions.setOutputFormat( format );
            csvOptions.setOutputFileName( "reports/csvTest.csv" );
            task.setRenderOption( csvOptions );
        }

        task.run( );
        task.close( );
        engine.shutdown( );
        Platform.shutdown( );
        System.out.println("We are done!!!!");
    }
}
```

```

        }
        public static void main(String[] args) {
            try
            {
                executeReport( );
            }
            catch ( Exception e )
            {
                e.printStackTrace();
            }
        }
    }
}

```

## About the report design XML code

The XML file for the report design, csvTest.reportdesign, contains the following source code settings, as specified in the report design:

- Data sources, including the ODA plug-in extension ID, driver class, URL, and user
- Data sets, including the ODA JDBC plug-in extension ID, result set properties, and query text
- Page setup, including the page footer
- Body, containing the table structure and properties for the bound data columns, including the header, footer, and detail rows

The report design example specifies a data source that connects to org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.sampledb, the BIRT Classic Models sample database. Listing 18-19 shows the XML source code for the report design used to test the CSV rendering example. The sample application runs the report from the reports subfolder in the ExecuteReport project.

**Listing 18-19** The report design XML code

---

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!-- Written by Eclipse BIRT 2.0 -->
<report xmlns="http://www.eclipse.org/birt/2005/design"
    version="3.2.2" id="1">
    <property name="createdBy">
        Eclipse BIRT Designer Version 1.0.1
        Build &lt;20050729-0746></property>
    <property name="units">in</property>
    <data-sources>
        <oda-data-source
            extensionID=
            "org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.sampledb"
            name="Data Source" id="2">

```

```

<property
    name="odaDriverClass">
    org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.sampledb.Driver
</property>
<property
    name="odaURL">jdbc:classicmodels:sampledbs
</property>
<property name="odaUser">ClassicModels</property>
</oda-data-source>
</data-sources>
<data-sets>
    <oda-data-set
        extensionID=
            "org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.jdbc
            .JdbcSelectDataSet" name="Data Set" id="3">
        <structure name="cachedMetaData">
            <list-property name="resultSet">
                <structure>
                    <property name="position">1</property>
                    <property name=
                        "name">PRODUCTNAME
                    </property>
                    <property
                        name="dataType">string
                    </property>
                </structure>
                <structure>
                    <property name="position">2</property>
                    <property
                        name="name">QUANTITYINSTOCK
                    </property>
                    <property
                        name="dataType">integer
                    </property>
                </structure>
                <structure>
                    <property name="position">3</property>
                    <property name="name">MSRP</property>
                    <property name="dataType">float</property>
                </structure>
            </list-property>
        </structure>
        <property name="dataSource">Data Source</property>
        <property name="queryText">
            select CLASSICMODELS.PRODUCTS.PRODUCTNAME,
                   CLASSICMODELS.PRODUCTS.QUANTITYINSTOCK,
                   CLASSICMODELS.PRODUCTS.MSRP
            from CLASSICMODELS.PRODUCTS</property>
    </oda-data-set>
</data-sets>
<page-setup>
    <simple-master-page name="Simple MasterPage" id="4">

```

```

<page-footer>
    <text id="5">
        <property name="contentType">html</property>
        <text-property name="content">
            <![CDATA[<value-of>new Date()</value-of>]]>
        </text-property>
    </text>
</page-footer>
</simple-master-page>
</page-setup>
<body>
    <table id="6">
        <property name="width">100%</property>
        <property name="dataSet">Data Set</property>
        <list-property name="boundDataColumns">
            <structure>
                <property name="name">PRODUCTNAME</property>
                <expression
                    name="expression">dataSetRow[ "PRODUCTNAME" ]</expression>
            </structure>
            <structure>
                <property
                    name="name">QUANTITYINSTOCK</property>
                <expression
                    name="expression">
                        dataSetRow[ "QUANTITYINSTOCK" ]</expression>
                </expression>
            </structure>
            <structure>
                <property name="name">MSRP</property>
                <expression
                    name="expression">dataSetRow[ "MSRP" ]</expression>
                </expression>
            </structure>
        </list-property>
        <column id="28"/>
        <column id="29"/>
        <column id="30"/>
        <header>
            <row id="7">
                <cell id="8">
                    <property name="colSpan">3</property>
                    <property name="rowSpan">1</property>
                    <property name="textAlign">center</property>
                    <label id="9">
                        <property
                            name="fontSize">x-large</property>
                        <property
                            name="fontWeight">bold</property>
                    </label>
                </cell>
            </row>
        </header>
        <row id="8">
            <cell id="10">
                <property name="colSpan">3</property>
                <property name="rowSpan">1</property>
                <property name="text-align">center</property>
                <label id="11">
                    <property
                        name="font-size">x-large</property>
                    <property
                        name="font-weight">bold</property>
                </label>
            </cell>
        </row>
    </table>
</body>

```

```

        <property
            name="textAlign">center
        </property>
        <text-property
            name="text">Report
        </text-property>
    </label>
</cell>
</row>
<row id="10">
    <cell id="11">
        <label id="12">
            <text-property
                name="text">PRODUCTNAME
            </text-property>
        </label>
    </cell>
    <cell id="13">
        <label id="14">
            <text-property
                name="text">QUANTITYINSTOCK
            </text-property>
        </label>
    </cell>
    <cell id="15">
        <label id="16">
            <text-property
                name="text">MSRP
            </text-property>
        </label>
    </cell>
</row>
</header>
<detail>
    <row id="17">
        <cell id="18">
            <data id="19">
                <property
                    name="resultSetColumn">PRODUCTNAME
                </property>
            </data>
        </cell>
        <cell id="20">
            <data id="21">
                <property
                    name="resultSetColumn">QUANTITYINSTOCK
                </property>
            </data>
        </cell>
        <cell id="22">
            <data id="23">
                <property
                    name="resultSetColumn">MSRP

```

```
        </property>
    </data>
</cell>
</row>
</detail>
<footer>
    <row id="24">
        <cell id="25"/>
        <cell id="26"/>
        <cell id="27"/>
    </row>
</footer>
</table>
</body>
</report>
```

BIRT Report Engine can render a report design for output using a standard emitter extension or a customized emitter extension, such as this CSV rendering example.

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---

# 19

## Developing an ODA Extension

This chapter describes how to develop an ODA extension. BIRT uses the Eclipse Data Tools Platform (DTP) ODA API to build a driver that connects to a data source and retrieves data for a report. The API defines interfaces and classes that manage the following tasks:

- Connecting to a data source
- Preparing and executing a query
- Handling data and metadata in a result set
- Mapping between the object representation of data and the data source

Eclipse DTP also provides tools and support for SQL development, locales, logging, and other special types of processing. For more information about the Eclipse DTP project, see <http://www.eclipse.org/datatools>.

This chapter shows how to develop an ODA extension using examples that access the following data sources:

- CSV file
  - Uses the source code from the DTP ODA flat file plug-in, `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.flatfile`, as the template for the classes in the CSV ODA plug-in project. The DTP ODA interfaces are similar to a JDBC interface with extensions that support retrieving data from non-relational database sources.
- Relational database
  - Uses Hibernate Core for Java, an object-oriented software system for generating SQL and handling JDBC result sets. Hibernate Query Language

(HQL) provides a SQL-transparent extension that makes the DTP ODA extension portable to all relational databases. Hibernate also supports developing a query in the native SQL dialect of a database.

Hibernate is free, open-source software licensed under the GNU Lesser General Public License (LGPL). For more information about Hibernate, see <http://www.hibernate.org/>.

---

## Understanding an ODA extension

A BIRT report design specifies the type of data access and data transformations required to generate a report. All data comes from an external data source. The BIRT data engine supports the DTP ODA framework. The DTP ODA framework provides access to standard and custom data sources using an open API.

The ODA extension point makes it possible to create a plug-in driver to any external data source. BIRT adopts DTP ODA extension points for the report designer and report generation environments.

A DTP ODA extension adds a new data source driver to the BIRT framework by implementing the following extension points:

- ODA data source

`org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.dataSource` supports the extension of BIRT design-time and run-time data source access. The XML schema file, `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda/schema(dataSource.exsd)`, describes this extension point.

- ODA user interface

`org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.dataSource` supports optionally adding an integrated user interface for an ODA driver to BIRT Report Designer. The plug-in can provide user interface support that allows a user to specify the data source and edit the data set. The XML schema file, `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui/schema(dataSource.exsd)`, describes this extension point.

For more information on the DTP ODA APIs, see the Javadoc for the `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda` package hierarchy. The Javadoc is in the DTP Software Development Kit (SDK) available from the Eclipse Data Tools Platform project at <http://www.eclipse.org/datatools>.

---

## Developing the CSV ODA driver extensions

You develop the CSV ODA extensions by performing the following tasks:

- Download the required BIRT source code from the Eclipse CVS repository.

- Create two new projects in the Eclipse PDE to implement the following plug-ins:
  - CSV ODA driver to access the data source
  - CSV ODA user interface (UI) to select the data file and available data columns in BIRT Report Designer
- Extend the source code in the CSV ODA plug-in projects by adding new functionality at the defined extension points.
- Test and deploy the extensions in the run-time environment.

You can download the source code for the CSV ODA driver extension examples at <http://www.actuate.com/birt/contributions>.

## About the CSV ODA plug-ins

The CSV ODA extensions require the following two plug-ins:

- `org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv`

The CSV ODA data source plug-in extends the functionality defined by the extension point, `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.dataSource`, to create the CSV ODA driver. The first row of the CSV input file contains the column names. The remaining rows, separated by new line markers, contain the data fields, separated by commas. The `org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv` plug-in contains the database classes and data structures, such as data types, result set, metadata result set, and query used to handle data in a BIRT report.

The `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.dataSource` extension point is in the Eclipse DTP project and is part of the `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda` plug-in. This plug-in is available from the CVS repository in `/home/datatools`.

- `org.eclipse.birt.report.data.csv.ui`

The CSV ODA UI plug-in extends the functionality defined by the `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.connectionProfile`, `org.eclipse.ui.propertyPages`, and `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.dataSource` extension points. The UI consists of the following two pages:

- The data source page specifies and validates the path and name of the CSV file.
- The data set page shows the selected data file and columns available in the file. By default, the UI selects all the columns in the data set.

## Downloading BIRT source code from the CVS repository

The CSV ODA driver plug-in, `org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv`, requires the following Eclipse plug-ins:

- org.eclipse.core.runtime
- org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda

The CSV ODA UI extension, org.eclipse.birt.report.data.csv.ui, requires the following Eclipse plug-ins:

- org.eclipse.core.runtime
- org.eclipse.ui
- org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui
- org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv

For the org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv plug-in, you extend only the Java classes in the org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda plug-in. For the org.eclipse.birt.report.data.csv.ui plug-in, you extend the Java classes in the org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui plug-in.

Eclipse makes source code available to the developer community in the CVS repository. To compile, you do not need the source code for the plug-ins. You can configure the system to use the JAR files in the eclipse\plugins folder. To debug, you may need the source code for all the required BIRT and DTP plug-ins.

---

## Implementing the CSV ODA driver plug-in

This section describes how to implement an ODA driver plug-in, using the CSV ODA driver plug-in as an example. To create an ODA driver plug-in, perform the following tasks:

- Create the ODA driver plug-in project.
- Define the dependencies.
- Specify the run-time archive.
- Declare the ODA extension points.

You can create the CSV ODA driver plug-in project, org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv, in the Eclipse PDE. This section describes how to create the plug-in project using the New Plug-in Project wizard.

### How to create the CSV ODA driver plug-in project

- 1 From the Eclipse PDE menu, choose File→New→Plug-in Project.
- 2 On New Project—Select a wizard, select Plug-in Project. Choose Next. New Plug-in Project appears.

- 3** In Plug-in Project, modify the settings as shown in Table 19-1. Choose Next. Plug-in Content appears.

**Table 19-1** Settings for Plug-in Project options

Section	Option	Value
Plug-in Project	Project name	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv
	Use default location	Selected
	Location	Not available when you select Use default location
Project Settings	Create a Java project	Selected
	Source folder	src
	Output folder	bin
Target Platform	Eclipse version	3.2
	OSGi framework	Selected Equinox

- 4** In Plug-in Content, modify the settings as shown in Table 19-2. Choose Finish.

**Table 19-2** Settings for Plug-in Content options

Section	Option	Value
Plug-in Properties	Plug-in ID	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv
	Plug-in Version	1.0.0
	Plug-in Name	CSV ODA Driver
	Plug-in Provider	yourCompany.com or leave blank
	Classpath	csvODA.jar
Plug-in Options	Generate an activator, a Java class that controls the plug-in's life cycle	Selected
	Activator	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv.CsvPlugin
	This plug-in will make contributions to the UI	Deselected
Rich Client Application	Would you like to create a rich client application?	No

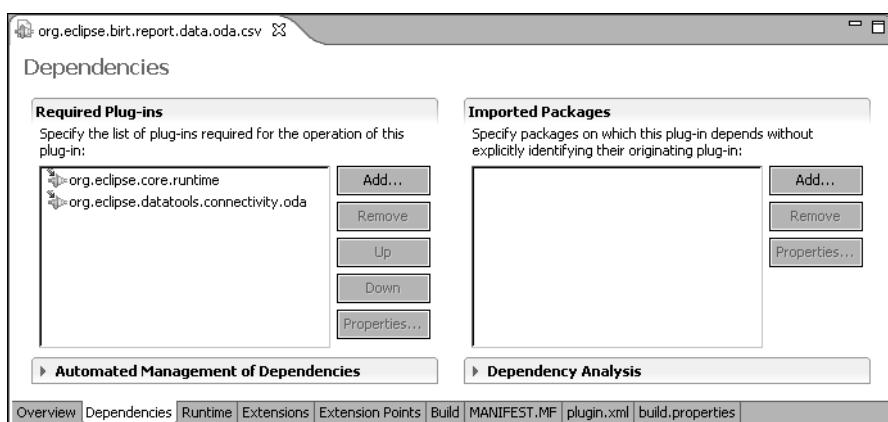
## Defining the dependencies for the CSV ODA driver extension

In this step, you specify the list of plug-ins that must be available on the classpath of the CSV ODA driver extension to compile and run.

### How to specify the dependencies

- 1 On PDE Manifest Editor, choose Overview.
- 2 In Plug-in Content, choose Dependencies. In Required Plug-ins, choose Add. Plug-in Selection appears.
- 3 In Plug-in Selection, hold down CTRL and select the following plug-ins:
  - org.eclipse.core.runtime
  - org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda

Choose OK. Dependencies appears, as shown in Figure 19-1.



**Figure 19-1** The Dependencies page

The order of the list determines the sequence in which a plug-in loads at run time. Use Up and Down to change the loading order as necessary. The CSV ODA driver extension does not require any changes to the loading order if you selected the required plug-ins in the order listed in step 3.

## Specifying the run-time settings for the CSV ODA driver extension

On PDE Manifest Editor, choose Runtime. On Runtime, you specify exported package visibility and the libraries and folders on the plug-in classpath.

In Exported Packages, verify that the org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv package appears in the list. In Classpath, verify that the archive file you specified in the New Plug-in Project wizard, csvODA.jar, appears in the library list.

## Declaring the ODA data source extension point

In this next step, you specify the extension point used to implement the CSV ODA driver extension and add the extension element details. The ODA data source extension point supports extending design-time and run-time data source access for an application. The extension must implement the ODA Java run-time interfaces defined in the org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda plug-in.

The extension point, org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.dataSource, specifies the following properties that identify the extension in the run-time environment:

- ID  
Optional identifier of the extension instance
- Name  
Optional name of the extension instance
- Point  
Fully qualified identifier of the extension

The extension point requires you to define the following extension elements and extension element details for the CSV ODA driver:

- Datasource  
Defines an ODA data source extension type to use at design time and run time, containing the following elements and element details:
  - id  
Fully qualified identifier of an ODA data source extension.
  - driverClass  
Java class that implements the org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.IDriver interface. This interface provides the entry point for the ODA run-time driver extension.
  - odaVersion  
Version of the ODA interfaces. Specify version 3.0 for an ODA driver developed for BIRT release 2.1.
  - defaultDisplayName  
Display name of the ODA data source extension. The value can be localized using the plugin.properties mechanism. The default display name is the extension id.
  - setThreadContextClassLoader  
Indicates whether the consumer of the ODA run-time extension plug-in must set the thread context class loader before calling an ODA interface

method. The OSGi class loader that loads the ODA run-time plug-in is not designed to load additional classes. To load additional classes, an ODA run-time plug-in must provide its own `java.net.URLClassLoader` object and switch the thread context class loader as required.

The `dataSource` element also specifies a property, `HOME`, containing the following extension element details:

- `name`

Unique name of a property group.

- `defaultDisplayName`

Default display name of a property group. The value can be localized using the `plugin.properties` mechanism. The default display name is the `id`.

- `type`

Data type of the property.

- `canInherit`

Flag indicating whether the property extension element can inherit properties.

- `defaultValue`

Default value of the property extension element.

- `isEncryptable`

Flag indicating whether the property is encrypted.

- `dataSet`

Defines a type of data set supported by a `dataSource` extension, containing the following elements and element details:

- `id`

Required identifier of the ODA data set extension.

- `defaultDisplayName`

Display name of the ODA data set extension. The value can be localized using the `plugin.properties` mechanism. The default display name is the element `id`.

The `dataSet` element also specifies a complex data type, `dataTypeMapping`, which defines a sequence of data type mappings containing the following properties:

- `nativeDataTypeCode`

Integer value that must match one of the data type codes returned in the implementation for the ODA driver interface.

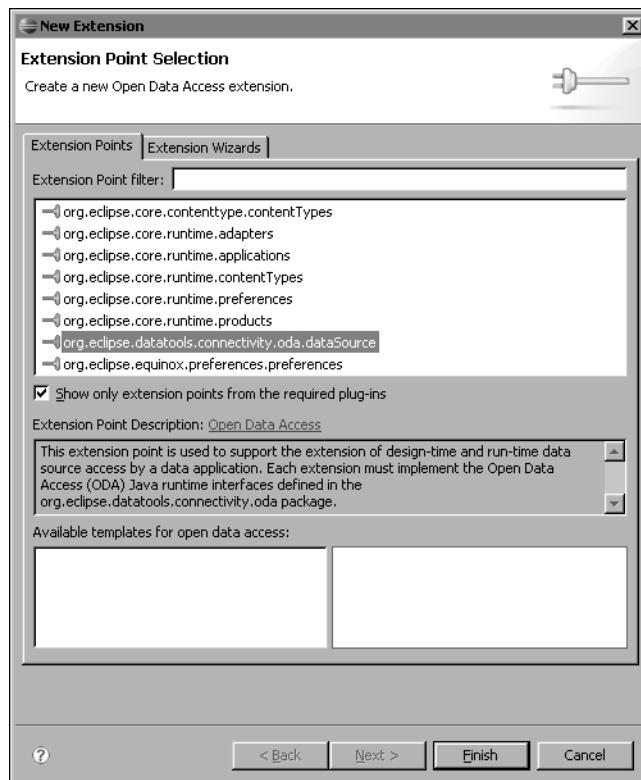
- **nativeDataType**  
String value specifying the data source native data type.
- **odaScalarDataType**  
ODA scalar data type that maps to the native type. Supported ODA data types include Date, Double, Integer, String, Time, Timestamp, Decimal, BLOB, and CLOB.

### How to specify the data source extension point

- 1 On PDE Manifest Editor, choose Extensions.
- 2 In All Extensions, choose Add. New Extension appears.
- 3 On New Extension—Extension Points, in the list of extension points, select the following plug-in:

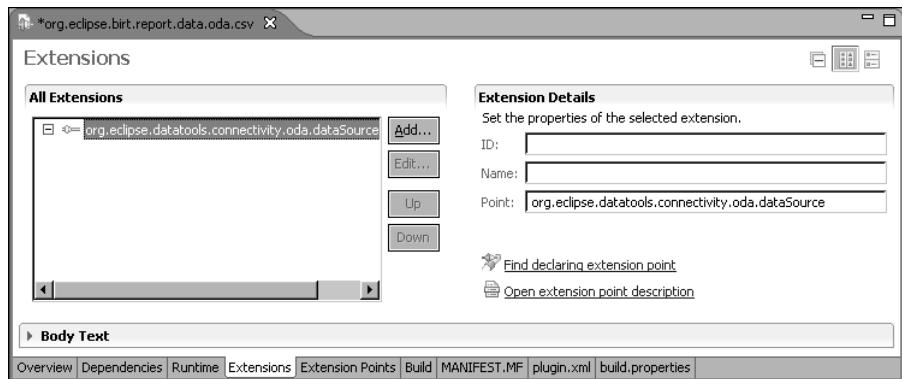
`org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.dataSource`

New Extension—Extension Points appears as shown in Figure 19-2. Choose Finish.



**Figure 19-2** Selecting the dataSource extension point

Extensions appears as shown in Figure 19-3.



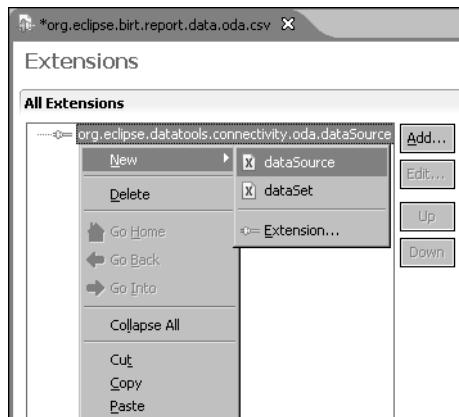
**Figure 19-3** The dataSource extension point on Extensions page

All Extensions lists the extension point, org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.dataSource. Extensions Details contains the list of extension details specified in the XML schema file, dataSource.exsd.

#### How to specify the data source extension element

- 1 On PDE Manifest Editor, choose Extensions.

In All Extensions, right-click the extension point, org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.dataSource, and choose New->dataSource, as shown in Figure 19-4. The PDE Manifest Editor displays org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv.dataSource in All Extensions.



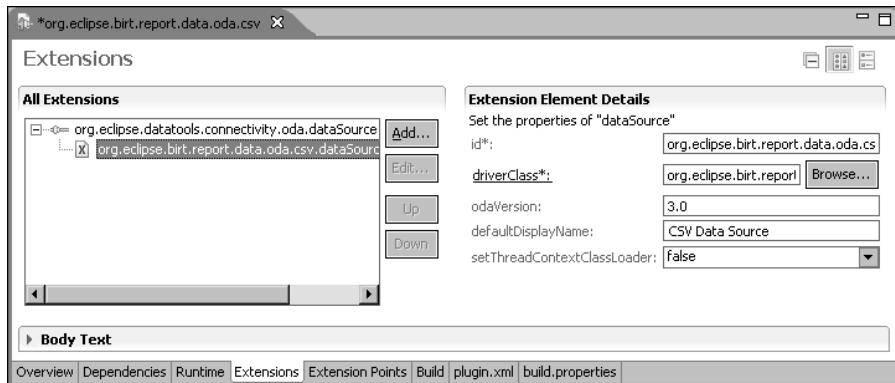
**Figure 19-4** Choosing a new data source extension element

- 2 In Extension Element Details, add the extension element details for the extension element, dataSource, as shown in Table 19-3.

**Table 19-3** Property values for the dataSource extension element

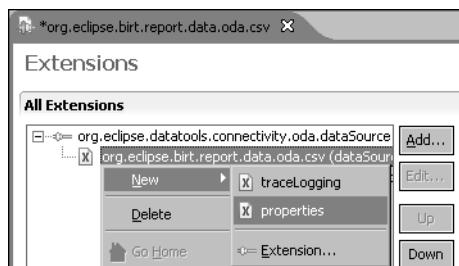
Property	Value
id	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv
driverClass	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv .CSVFileDriver
odaVersion	3.0
defaultDisplayName	CSV Data Source
setThreadContextClassLoader	false

- 3 The property values for the dataSource extension element appear as shown in Figure 19-5.



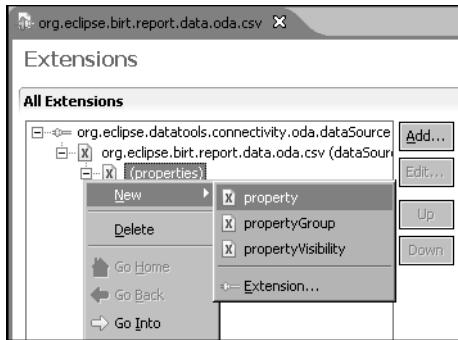
**Figure 19-5** Property settings for the new extension element

- 4 Specify the extension element details for org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.dataSource by performing the following tasks:
- 1 In All Extensions, right-click the dataSource extension element and choose New->properties, as shown in Figure 19-6. PDE Manifest Editor displays properties in All Extensions.



**Figure 19-6** Choosing properties

- 2 Right-click properties and choose New > property, as shown in Figure 19-7. PDE Manifest Editor displays property in All Extensions.

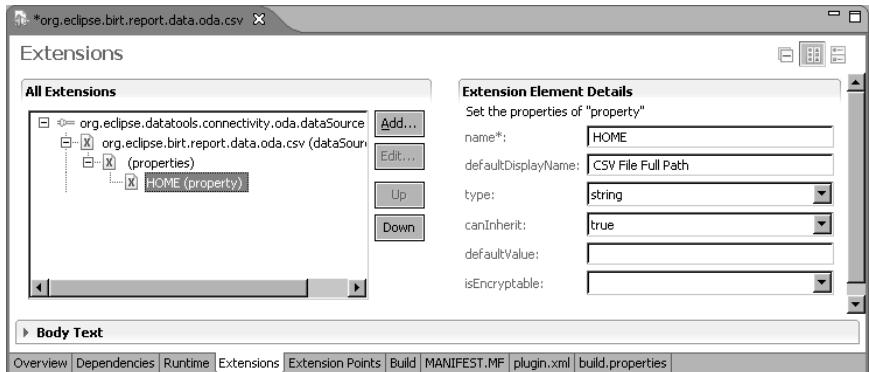


**Figure 19-7** Choosing a new property

- 3 Add the element details for the property, as shown in Table 19-4. When the extension element details for the property are complete, All Extensions appears as shown in Figure 19-8.

**Table 19-4** Property settings for HOME property

Property	Value
name	HOME
defaultDisplayName	CSV File Full Path
type	string
canInherit	true

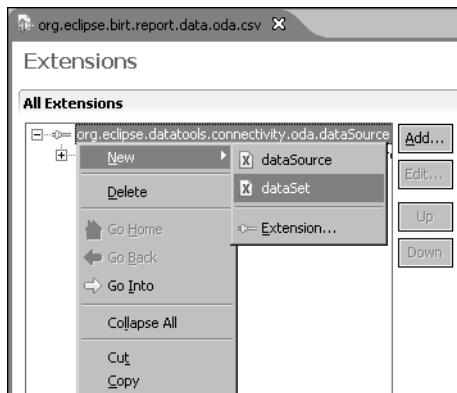


**Figure 19-8** HOME property settings in Extensions

### How to specify the data set extension

- 1 On PDE Manifest Editor, choose Extensions.

- 2** In All Extensions, right-click the extension point, org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.dataSource, and choose the extension element, New→dataSet, as shown in Figure 19-9.

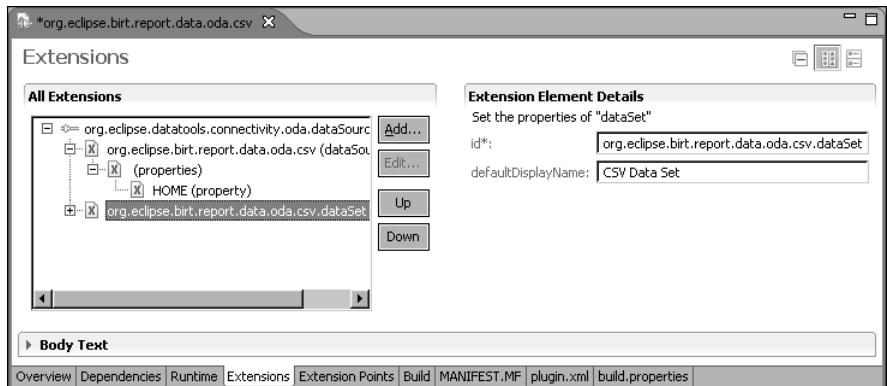


**Figure 19-9** Choosing the dataSet extension

The Eclipse PDE displays org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv.dataSet in All Extensions. In Extension Element Details, add the details for the extension, dataSet, as shown in Table 19-5. Extensions appears as shown in Figure 19-10.

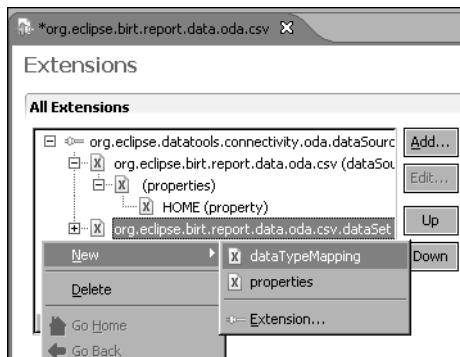
**Table 19-5** Property values for the dataSet extension

Property	Value
id	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv.dataSet
defaultDisplayName	CSV Data Set



**Figure 19-10** Property settings for dataSet, in Extensions

- 3 In All Extensions, right-click the extension point, org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv.dataSet and choose New->dataTypeMapping, as shown in Figure 19-11.



**Figure 19-11** Choosing a new data type mapping

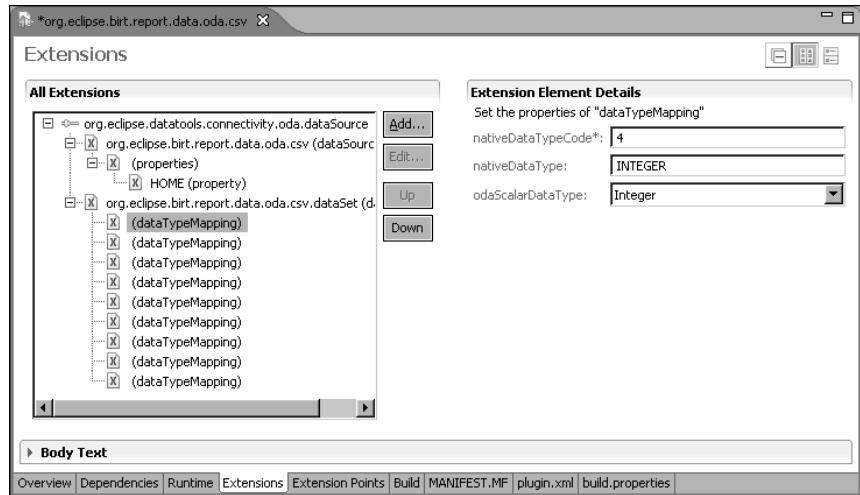
Repeat step 3 eight times to add more dataTypeMapping elements.

- 4 In Extension Element Details, add the extension element details for the list of dataTypeMapping elements, as shown in Table 19-6.

**Table 19-6** Settings for dataTypeMapping elements

nativeDataType	nativeDataTypeCode	odaScalarDataType
INTEGER	4	Integer
DOUBLE	8	Double
BIGDECIMAL	2	Decimal
STRING	12	String
DATE	91	Date
TIME	92	Time
TIMESTAMP	93	Timestamp
BLOB	2004	String
CLOB	2005	String

When the extension element details for all the dataTypeMappings are complete, All Extensions appears as shown in Figure 19-12.



**Figure 19-12** Data type mappings in All Extensions

PDE Manifest Editor automatically updates plugin.xml with extension element information.

## Understanding the sample CSV ODA driver extension

BIRT Data Engine supports the Eclipse DTP ODA framework. The DTP ODA framework supports creating an extension that can plug any external data source into BIRT Report Engine.

The DTP ODA API specifies the interfaces for a run-time driver. BIRT Data Engine uses the data source and data set definitions in a report design to access the ODA run-time driver to execute a query and retrieve data.

The DTP ODA interfaces are similar to JDBC interfaces with extensions that support retrieving data from non-RDBMS sources. An extended ODA driver can implement these interfaces to wrap the API for another data source, such as a CSV file, to retrieve a result set containing data rows.

The CSV ODA driver extension described in this chapter is a simplified example that illustrates how to create an ODA plug-in using the Eclipse PDE. The following section describes the code-based extensions a developer must make to complete the development of the CSV ODA driver extension after defining the plug-in framework in the Eclipse PDE.

## Implementing the DTP ODA interfaces

The ODA plug-in, org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda, defines the run-time interfaces used to retrieve data from a data source. The CSV ODA driver extension implements the following interfaces in the ODA plug-in:

- **IDriver**

The entry point to an ODA run-time driver. IDriver is the connection factory that generates the connection to an ODA run-time driver. An IDriver implementation provides the IConnection object used to establish a connection to a data source.

- **IConnection**

The interface that establishes a connection to a data source. An IConnection implementation opens and closes the connection, returns an IQuery object for a data set, and optionally commits or rolls back all changes made since the last commit or rollback operation.

- **IQuery**

The base interface for handling a query. The IQuery implementation prepares the query text, sets parameters and sorting specifications, executes the query, returns metadata for the result set, and closes the query.

- **IResultSet**

The interface used to access the result set retrieved by an IQuery object. An IResultSet implementation opens and closes a cursor that points to the current data row, and moves the cursor forward to the next row, until there are no more rows or MaxRows limit is reached. Accessor methods get the value for specified columns in the current row as specific data types. A query can retrieve one or more IResultSet instances.

- **IResultSetMetaData**

The interface that contains the metadata for an IResultSet object. An IResultSetMetaData implementation contains metadata describing each column in a result set, including the following information:

- Column count in the result set
- Display length
- Label
- Name
- Data type
- Precision
- Scale
- Permits null

- **IDataSetMetaData**

An interface that describes the features and capabilities of a data set type, including the following attributes:

- Indicates whether the data set type supports the following features:

- ❑ Input, output, or named parameters
- ❑ Named or multiple result sets
- ❑ Multiple open result sets
- Provides the following information:
  - ❑ Version of the data source provider
  - ❑ Sort mode for columns, such as none, single, or multiple sort order
- Returns references to the following components:
  - ❑ Data source connection
  - ❑ Collection of objects in the data source provider catalog
- IParameterMetaData
 

An interface that provides information on the parameters defined in a prepared statement, including count, data type, precision, scale, or whether a parameter allows null.
- IAdvancedQuery
 

An extended interface for a query that has complex input and output parameters or returns multiple result sets.

## **Understanding the CSV ODA extension package**

The package for the CSV ODA extension example, org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv, uses the following classes to implement the ODA plug-in interfaces:

- CSVFileDriver
 

Implements the IDriver interface. Instantiates the connection object for the CSV ODA driver and sets up the log configuration and application context.
- Connection
 

Implements the IConnection interface. Opens and closes the connection to the CSV file and instantiates the IQuery object.
- CSVFileQuery
 

Implements the IQuery interface. Handles the processing that performs the following operations:

  - Sets up the java.io.File object, containing the file and path names
  - Fetches the data rows from the data file, using the internal class, CSVBufferReader
  - Trims the column data, removing extraneous characters such as commas and quotes
  - Prepares the result set metadata, containing the table and column names

- **ResultSet**  
Implements the IResultSet interface. Handles the processing that transforms the String value for a column to the specified data type.
- **ResultSetMetaData**  
Implements the IResultSetMetaData interface. Describes the metadata for each column in the result set.
- **DataSetMetaData**  
Implements the IDatasetMetaData interface. Describes the features and capabilities of the data set.
- **Messages**  
Defines the exception messages for the CSV ODA driver.
- **DataTypes**  
Defines, validates, and returns the data types supported by the CSV ODA driver.
- **CommonConstant**  
Defines the constants used in the package, such as the driver name, ODA version, query keywords, and delimiters.

## Understanding CSVFileDriver

The CSVFileDriver class instantiates the connection object for the CSV ODA driver and sets up the log configuration and application context. Listing 19-1 shows the getConnection( ) method.

**Listing 19-1**    The getConnection( ) method

---

```
public IConnection getConnection( String odaDataSourceId )
    throws OdaException
{
    return new Connection( );
}
```

## Understanding CSVFileQuery

In the CSVFileQuery class, the constructor sets up the java.io.File object, containing the file and path names. The constructor allows the application to submit the home directory parameter, homeDir, as a file name as well as a path. CSVFileQuery( ) configures the data source property based on the value of the HOME property specified in the report design, as shown in Listing 19-2.

**Listing 19-2**    The Statement class

---

```
CSVFileQuery ( String homeDir, IConnection host )
    throws OdaException
```

```

{
    if ( homeDir == null || host == null )
        throw new OdaException(Messages.getString
            ( "Common.ARGUMENT_CANNOT_BE_NULL" ) );
    File file = new File(homeDir);
    if (file.isDirectory( ) )
        this.homeDirectory = homeDir;
    else if (file.isFile( ) )
        this.homeDirectory = file.getParent( );
    this.connection = host;
}

```

The CSVFileQuery class prepares and executes a query, then retrieves the data. CSVFileQuery implements the following additional methods:

- `prepare()` performs the following operations:
  - Formats the query String, eliminating redundant spaces and converting all keywords to uppercase, by calling `formatQueryText()`
  - Validates the query by calling `validateQueryText()`
  - Prepares the metadata required for the execution of the query and retrieval of the query results by calling `prepareMetaData()`

Listing 19-3 shows the `prepare()` method.

### **Listing 19-3    The `prepare()` method**

---

```

public void prepare( String queryText ) throws OdaException
{
    validateOpenConnection( );
    String formattedQuery = formatQueryText( queryText );
    validateQueryText( formattedQuery );
    prepareMetaData( formattedQuery );
}

```

- `prepareMetaData()` acquires the following metadata:
  - Table name
  - Actual column names read from data file
  - Query column names, including prepared column names that use wildcards
  - Query data types

If the command column list contains a wild card, `prepareMetaData()` sets the array of command column names equal to the array of actual column names.

`prepareMetaData()` then instantiates and sets up the `ResultSetMetaData` object. Listing 19-4 shows the `prepareMetaData()` method.

---

**Listing 19-4** The prepareMetaData( ) method

---

```
private void prepareMetaData( String queryText )
    throws OdaException
{
    String[ ] queryFragments =
        parsePreparedQueryText( queryText );
    String tableName =
        getPreparedTableNames( queryFragments );
    String[] allColumnNames =
        discoverActualColumnMetaData( tableName,
            NAME_LITERAL );
    String[ ] allColumnTypes = null;
    String[ ] queryColumnNames = null;
    String[ ] queryColumnTypes = null;
    if ( isWildCard
        ( getPreparedColumnNames( queryFragments ) ) )
    {
        queryColumnNames = allColumnNames;
        queryColumnTypes = allColumnTypes;
    }
    else
    {
        queryColumnNames =
            getPreparedColumnNames( queryFragments )
                .split( CommonConstants.DELIMITER_COMMA );
    }

    this.resultSetMetaData =
        new ResultSetMetaData( queryColumnNames,
            queryColumnTypes,
            getColumnLabels( queryFragments ) );
    this.currentTableName = tableName;
}
```

- executeQuery( ) performs the following operations:
  - Fetches the data from the file to a Vector object
  - Transfers the data from the Vector to a two-dimensional String array
  - Returns the data rows and metadata in a single ResultSet object

Listing 19-5 shows the executeQuery( ) method.

---

**Listing 19-5** The executeQuery( ) method

---

```
public IResultSet executeQuery( ) throws OdaException
{
    Vector v = fetchQueriedDataFromFileToVector( );
    String[ ][ ] rowSet =
        copyDataFromVectorToTwoDimensionArray( v );
```

```
        return new ResultSet( rowSet, this.resultSetMetaData );
    }
```

- The internal class, CSVBufferedReader, fetches the data rows from the data file. Listing 19-6 shows the readLine( ) method.

**Listing 19-6** The readLine( ) method

---

```
public String readLine( ) throws IOException
{
    if ( isLastCharBuff( ) && needRefillCharBuff( ) )
        return null;
    if ( needRefillCharBuff( ) )
    {
        charBuffer = newACharBuff( );
        int close = reader.read( charBuffer );
        if ( close == -1 )
            return null;
        if ( close != CHARBUFFSIZE )
            this.eofInPosition = close;
        this.startingPosition = 0;
    }
    String candidate = "";
    int stopIn = CHARBUFFSIZE;
    if ( isLastCharBuff( ) )
    {
        stopIn = this.eofInPosition;
    }
    for ( int i = this.startingPosition; i < stopIn; i++ )
    {
        if ( this.charBuffer[i] == '\n' )
        {
            return readALine( candidate, stopIn, i );
        }
    }
    if ( isLastCharBuff( ) )
    {
        return readLastLine( candidate );
    }
    return readExtraContentOfALine( candidate );
}
```

## Understanding ResultSet

The ResultSet class performs the following operations:

- Provides the cursor processing that fetches forward into the buffered result set rows
- Transforms the String value for a column to the specified data type

ResultSet implements the following methods:

- ResultSet( ), the constructor, sets up a two-dimensional array that contains the table data and metadata, as shown in Listing 19-7.

#### **Listing 19-7** The ResultSet( ) constructor

---

```
ResultSet( String[][] sData, IResultSetMetaData rsmd )
{
    this.sourceData = sData;
    this.resultSetMetaData = rsmd;
}
```

- getRow( ) returns the cursor, indicating the position of the row in the result set, as shown in Listing 19-8.

#### **Listing 19-8** The getRow( ) method

---

```
public int getRow( ) throws OdaException
{
    validateCursorPosition( );
    return this.cursor;
}
```

- next( ) increments the cursor to point to the next row, as shown in Listing 19-9.

#### **Listing 19-9** The next( ) method

---

```
public boolean next( ) throws OdaException
{
    if ( (this.maxRows <= 0? false:cursor >=
        this.maxRows - 1) || cursor >=
        this.sourceData.length - 1 )
    {
        cursor = CURSOR_INITIAL_VALUE;
        return false;
    }
    cursor++;
    return true;
}
```

- getInt( ) returns the data type value for a column in the row at the column position specified in the result set, as shown in Listing 19-10.

#### **Listing 19-10** The getInt( ) method

---

```
public int getInt( int index ) throws OdaException
{
    return stringToInt( getString( index ) );
}
```

- `stringToInt( )` converts the `String` value of the column to the specified data type, as shown in Listing 19-11.

#### **Listing 19-11** The `stringToInt( )` method

---

```
private int stringToInt( String stringValue )
{
    if ( stringValue != null )
    {
        try
        {
            return new Integer( stringValue ).intValue( );
        }
        catch ( NumberFormatException e )
        {
            this.wasNull = true;
        }
    }
    return 0;
}
```

### **Understanding ResultSetMetaData**

The `ResultSetMetaData` class describes the metadata for a column in the result set, including the following information:

- Column count in the result set
- Display length
- Label
- Name
- Data type
- Precision
- Scale
- Permits null

`getColumnName( )` returns the column name for a column at the row, column position specified in the result set, as shown in Listing 19-12.

#### **Listing 19-12** The `getColumnName( )` method

---

```
public String getColumnName( int index ) throws OdaException
{
    validateColumnIndex( index );
    return this.columnName[index - 1].trim();
}
```

## **Understanding DataSetMetaData**

The DataSetMetaData class describes the features and capabilities of the data set, including:

- Indicating whether the data set supports multiple result sets
- Providing information about the sort mode for columns
- Returning a reference to the data source connection

getConnection( ) returns a reference to a data source connection, as shown in Listing 19-13.

**Listing 19-13** The getConnection( ) method

---

```
public IConnection getConnection() throws OdaException
{
    return connection;
}
```

## **Understanding Messages**

The Messages class defines the exception messages for the CSV ODA driver.

getString( ) returns a message from the resource bundle using the key value, as shown in Listing 19-14.

**Listing 19-14** The getString( ) method

---

```
public static String getString(String key) {
    try {
        return RESOURCE_BUNDLE.getString(key);
    } catch (MissingResourceException e) {
        return '!' + key + '!';
    }
}
```

## **Understanding DataTypes**

The DataTypes class defines, validates, and returns the data types supported by the CSV ODA driver. DataTypes sets up a map, correlating the names of data types with a specific integer value, as shown in Listing 19-15.

**Listing 19-15** The DataTypes class

---

```
public final class DataTypes
{
    public static final int INT = Types.INTEGER;
    public static final int DOUBLE = Types.DOUBLE;
    public static final int STRING = Types.VARCHAR;
    ...
    private static HashMap typeStringIntPair = new HashMap();
}
```

```

static
{
    typeStringIntPair.put( "INT", new Integer( INT ) );
    typeStringIntPair.put( "DOUBLE", new Integer( DOUBLE ) );
    typeStringIntPair.put( "STRING", new Integer( STRING ) );
    ...
}

```

`getTypeCode()` returns the integer value for a type based on the type name parameter, as shown in Listing 19-16.

#### **Listing 19-16** The `getType()` method

---

```

public static int getTypeCode( String typeName ) throws
    OdaException
{
    String preparedTypeName = typeName.trim( ).toUpperCase( );
    if ( typeStringIntPair.containsKey( preparedTypeName ) )
        return
            ( ( Integer ) typeStringIntPair
                .get( preparedTypeName ) ).intValue( );
    throw new OdaException( Messages.getString
        ( "DataTypes.TYPE_NAME_INVALID" ) + typeName );
}

```

### **Understanding CommonConstant**

The `CommonConstant` class defines the constants used in the package, such as the driver name, ODA version, query keywords, and delimiters. Listing 19-17 shows these definitions.

#### **Listing 19-17** The `CommonConstant` class

---

```

final class CommonConstant
{
    public static final String DELIMITER_COMMA = ",";
    public static final String DELIMITER_SPACE = " ";
    public static final String DELIMITER_DOUBLEQUOTE = "\"";
    public static final String KEYWORD_SELECT = "SELECT";
    public static final String KEYWORD_FROM = "FROM";
    public static final String KEYWORD_AS = "AS";
    public static final String KEYWORD_ASTERISK = "*";
    public static final String DRIVER_NAME =
        "ODA CSV FILE DRIVER";
    public static final int MaxConnections = 0;
    public static final int MaxStatements = 0;
    public static final String CONN_HOME_DIR_PROP = "HOME";
    public static final String CONN_DEFAULT_CHARSET = "UTF-8";
    public static final String PRODUCT_VERSION = "3.0";
}

```

---

# Developing the CSV ODA UI extension

The data source extension point, `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.dataSource`, supports adding a new data source to a user interface, such as BIRT Report Designer. For each data source, the extension implements the following optional components:

- A wizard for creating the data source
- A set of pages for editing the data source
- The list of data sets that the data source supports

For each data set, the extension implements the following optional components:

- A wizard for creating the data set
- A set of pages for editing the data set

The data source editor page must implement the extension point, `org.eclipse.ui.propertyPages`, by extending the abstract class, `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.wizards.DataSourceEditorPage`. The data set editor page must implement the extension point, `org.eclipse.ui.propertyPages`, by extending the abstract class, `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.wizards.DataSourceEditorPage`. The ODA data source and data set UI extensions extend these base classes to create customized property pages with page control and other behavior.

This section describes how to implement a BIRT ODA UI plug-in, using the CSV ODA driver plug-in as an example. To create an ODA driver plug-in, perform the following tasks:

- Create the CSV ODA UI plug-in project.
- Define the dependencies.
- Specify the run-time archive.
- Declare the ODA UI extension points.

## Creating the CSV ODA UI plug-in project

You can create the CSV ODA UI plug-in project, `org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv.ui`, using the Eclipse PDE. The following section describes how to create the plug-in project using the New Plug-in Project wizard.

### How to create the CSV ODA UI plug-in project

- 1 From the Eclipse menu, choose File->New->Plug-in Project. New Project appears.
- 2 On New Project—Select a wizard, select Plug-in Project. Choose Next. New Plug-in Project appears.

- 3** In Plug-in Project, modify the settings as shown in Table 19-7. Choose Next. Plug-in Content appears.

**Table 19-7** Settings for Plug-in Project options

Section	Option	Value
Plug-in Project	Project name	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv.ui
	Use default location	Selected
	Location	Not available when you select Use default location
Project Settings	Create a Java project	Selected
	Source folder	src
	Output folder	bin
Target Platform	Eclipse version	3.2
	OSGi framework	Selected Equinox

- 4** In Plug-in Content, modify the settings as shown in Table 19-8. Choose Finish.

**Table 19-8** Settings for Plug-in Content options

Section	Option	Value
Plug-in Properties	Plug-in ID	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv.ui
	Plug-in Version	1.0.0
	Plug-in Name	%plugin.name
	Plug-in Provider	yourCompany.com or leave blank
	Classpath	csvOdaUI.jar
Plug-in Options	Generate an activator, a Java class that controls the plug-in's life cycle	Selected
	Activator	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv.ui.UiPlugin
	This plug-in will make contributions to the UI	Selected
	This plug-in will make contributions to the UI	Deselected

(continues)

**Table 19-8**      Settings for Plug-in Content options (*continued*)

Section	Option	Value
Rich Client Application	Would you like to create a rich client application?	No

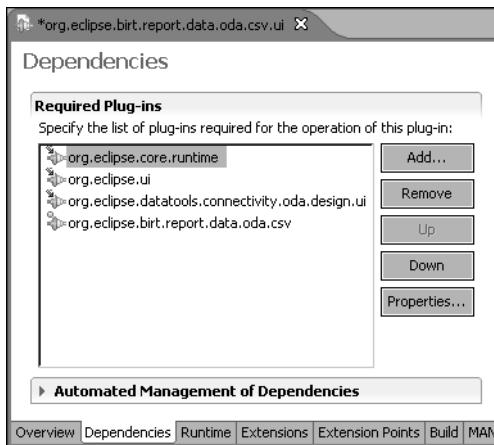
## Defining the dependencies for the CSV ODA UI extension

In this step, you specify the list of plug-ins that must be available on the classpath of the CSV ODA UI extension to compile and run.

### How to specify the dependencies

- 1 On PDE Manifest Editor, choose Overview.
- 2 In Plug-in Content, choose Dependencies.
- 3 In Required Plug-ins, choose Add. Plug-in Selection appears.
- 4 In Plug-in Selection, hold down CTRL and select the following plug-ins:
  - org.eclipse.core.runtime
  - org.eclipse.ui
  - org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui
  - org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv

Choose OK. Dependencies appears as shown in Figure 19-13.



**Figure 19-13**    Selected plug-ins in Dependencies

The order of the list determines the sequence in which a plug-in loads at runtime. Use Up or Down to change the loading order as necessary. The CSV ODA UI extension does not require any changes to the loading order, if you selected the required plug-ins in the order listed in step 4.

## Specifying the run-time settings for the CSV ODA UI extension

On PDE Manifest Editor, choose Runtime. On Runtime, you specify exported package visibility and the libraries and folders on the plug-in classpath.

In Exported Packages, verify that the org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv.ui and org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv.ui.wizards packages appear in the list. In Classpath, verify that the archive file you specified in the New Plug-in Project wizard, csvODAui.jar, appears in the library list.

## Declaring the ODA data source UI extension point

In this next step, you specify the extension points used to implement the CSV ODA UI extension and add the extension element details. The CSV ODA UI plug-in extends the functionality defined by the following extension points:

- org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.connectionProfile
  - Provides support for adding a connection profile
- org.eclipse.ui.propertyPages
  - Adds a property page that displays the properties of an object in a dialog box
- org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.dataSource
  - Extends the ODA Designer UI framework to support creating a dialog page that allows a user to specify an ODA data source and a related data set

The extension points specify the following properties that identify the extensions in the run-time environment:

- ID
  - Optional identifier of the extension instance
- Name
  - Optional name of the extension instance
- Point
  - Fully qualified identifier of the extension point

The connectionProfile extension point specifies the following extension elements:

- category
  - Identifies the category. Supports grouping of connection profile types, such as related database connection profiles.
- connectionProfile
  - Defines a connection profile type. Specifies properties such as id, display name, category, icon, connection factory, and property persistence.

- **connectionFactory**

Defines a connection factory that creates a connection to a server using the properties stored in a connection profile.

- **newWizard**

Defines a wizard that creates a connection profile.

The `propertyPages` extension point specifies the following extension elements:

- **page**

Defines a property page. Specifies properties such as id, display name, category, icon, object class, and filter.

- **filter**

Specifies an action filter that evaluates the attributes of each object in a current selection. If an object has the specified attribute state, a match occurs. Each object must implement the `org.eclipse.ui.IActionFilter` interface.

The `dataSource` extension point specifies the following extension elements:

- **dataSourceUI**

Adds UI support for specifying an extended data source

- **dataSetUI**

Adds UI support for specifying a data set from an extended data source

The `dataSourceUI` extension element requires you to define the following extension elements and details:

- **id**

Fully qualified name of the data source, such as `org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv`. This name must be the same as the name for ODA extension driver.

- **newDataSourceWizard**

Wizard class that allows a report developer to specify a data source in the UI. This class must use or extend `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.wizards.NewDataSourceWizard`.

The `dataSetUI` extension element requires you to define the following extension elements and details:

- **id**

Fully qualified name of the data set, such as `org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv.dataSet`. This name must be the same as the name for the ODA extension driver data set.

- **dataSetWizard**

Wizard class that allows a report developer to specify a data set in the BIRT Report Designer UI. This class must use or extend org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.wizards.DataSetWizard.

- **dataSetPage**

Specifies an editor page to add to the editor dialog for a data set. The data set UI adds editor pages to a dialog in the order the pages are defined. This class must use or extend org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.wizards.DataSetWizardPage.

### How to specify the CSV ODA UI extension points

1 On the PDE Manifest Editor, choose Extensions.

2 In All Extensions, choose Add. New Extension appears.

3 On New Extension—Extension Points, in the list of extension points, select the following plug-in:

```
org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.connectionProfile
```

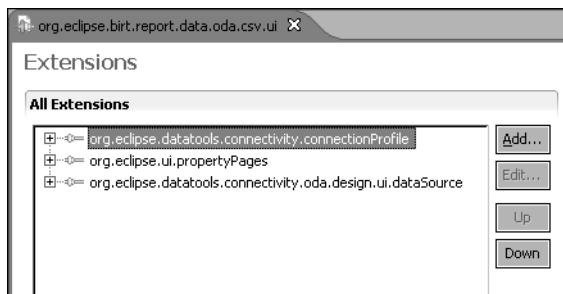
Choose Finish.

4 Repeat steps 2 and 3 to add the following extension points to the list to the Extensions page:

- `org.eclipse.ui.propertyPages`

- `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.dataSource`

Figure 19-14 shows the list of extension points required for the CSV ODA UI extension example.



**Figure 19-14** Required extension points for the CSV ODA UI extension

### How to add the extension details

1 In All Extensions, select `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.connectionProfile`.

2 In Extension Details, to specify point property value for `connectionProfile`, type:

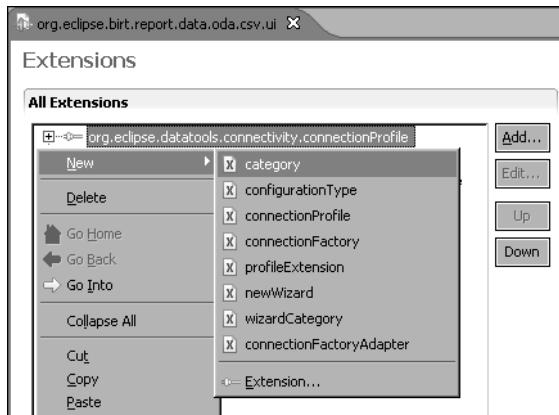
```
org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.connectionProfile
```

- 3 In All Extensions, select org.eclipse.ui.propertyPages.
- 4 In Extension Details, to specify the point property value for propertyPages, type:  
`org.eclipse.ui.propertyPages`
- 5 In All Extensions, select org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.dataSource.
- 6 In Extension Details, to specify the point property value for dataSource, type:  
`org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.dataSource`

Leave the values for ID and Name properties blank for these three extension points blank.

#### How to specify the connectionProfile extension elements

- 1 In All Extensions, right-click the extension point, org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.connectionProfile, and choose New->category, as shown in Figure 19-15. The Eclipse PDE displays category in All Extensions.



**Figure 19-15** Choosing a connectionProfile extension element

- 2 In Extension Element Details, specify the extension element details for the extension element, category, as shown in Table 19-9.

**Table 19-9** Property settings for category

Property	Value
id	%oda.data.source.id
parentCategory	%oda.parent.category.id
name	%oda.data.source.name

- 3** Add the following additional extension elements to the connectionProfile extension point on the Extensions page:
- connectionProfile
  - connectionFactory
  - newWizard
- 1** To add the connectionProfile properties, in All Extensions, right-click the extension point, org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.connectionProfile, and choose New->connectionProfile. In Extension Element Details, specify the extension element details for connectionProfile, as shown in Table 19-10.

**Table 19-10** Property settings for connectionProfile

Property	Value
id	%oda.data.source.id
category	%oda.data.source.id
name	%connection.profile.name
icon	icons/file.gif
pingFactory	org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.profile.OdaConnectionFactory

- 2** To add the connectionFactory properties, in All Extensions, right-click the extension point, org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.connectionProfile, and choose New->connectionFactory. In Extension Element Details, specify the extension element details for connectionFactory, as shown in Table 19-11.

**Table 19-11** Property settings for connectionFactory

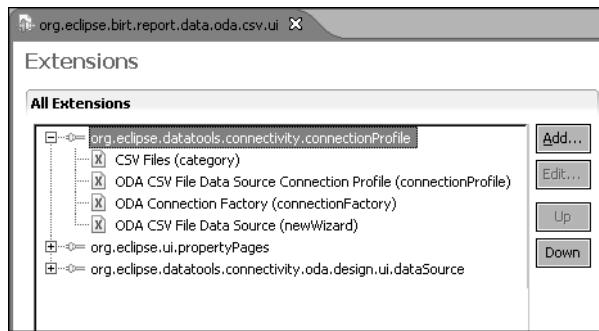
Property	Value
id	org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.IConnection
class	org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.profile.OdaConnectionFactory
profile	%oda.data.source.id
name	%oda.connection.factory.name

- 3** To add the newWizard properties, in All Extensions, right-click the extension point, org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.connectionProfile, and choose New->newWizard. In Extension Element Details, specify the extension element details for newWizard, as shown in Table 19-12.

**Table 19-12** Property settings for newWizard

Property	Value
id	%oda.data.source.id
name	%newwizard.name
class	org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.wizards.NewDataSourceWizard
profile	%oda.data.source.id
icon	icons/fieldlist.ico
description	%newwizard.description

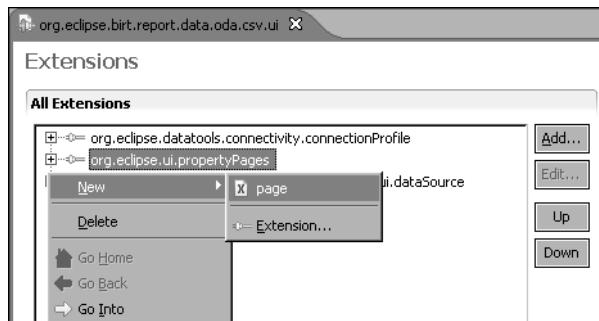
Figure 19-16 shows the complete list of extension points and extension elements required for the connectionProfile extension.



**Figure 19-16** connectionProfile extension points and elements

#### How to specify the propertyPages extension elements

- 1 In All Extensions, right-click the extension point, org.eclipse.ui.propertyPages, and choose New->page, as shown in Figure 19-17. The Eclipse PDE displays page in All Extensions.



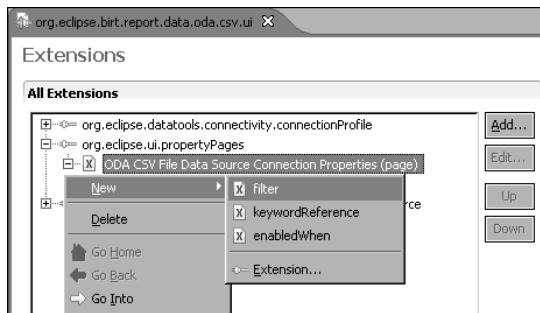
**Figure 19-17** Choosing a propertyPages extension element

- 2 In Extension Element Details, specify the extension element details for page, as shown in Table 19-13.

**Table 19-13** Property settings for page

Property	Value
id	%oda.data.source.id
name	%profile.propertyPage.name
class	org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.pages.impl.DefaultDataSourcePropertyPage
objectClass	org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.IConnectionProfile

- 3 In All Extensions, right-click the extension element, page, and choose New->filter, as shown in Figure 19-18. The Eclipse PDE displays filter in All Extensions.



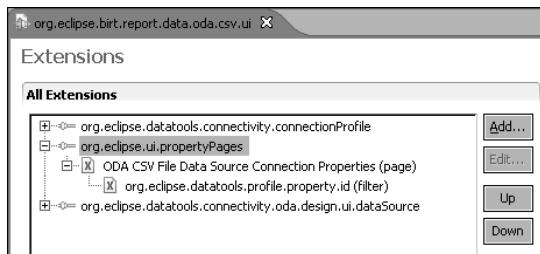
**Figure 19-18** Choosing a filter extension element

- 4 In Extension Element Details, specify the extension element details for filter, as shown in Table 19-14.

**Table 19-14** Property settings for filter

Property	Value
name	org.eclipse.datatools.profile.property.id
value	%oda.data.source.id

Figure 19-19 shows the complete list of extension points and extension elements required for the propertyPages extension.



**Figure 19-19** propertyPages extension points and elements

## How to specify the dataSource extension elements

- 1 In All Extensions, right-click the extension point, org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.dataSource, and choose New->dataSourceUI, as shown in Figure 19-20. The Eclipse PDE displays dataSourceUI in All Extensions.

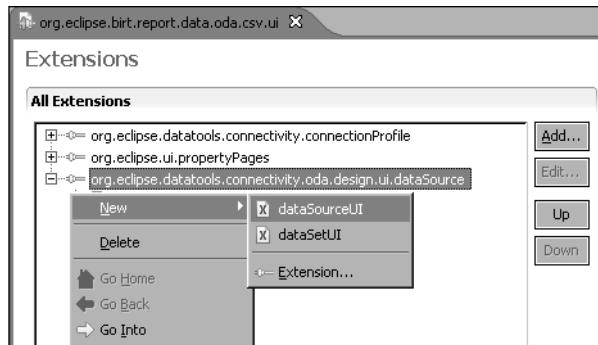


Figure 19-20 Choosing a dataSourceUI extension element

- 2 In Extension Element Details, specify the extension element details for dataSourceUI, as shown in Table 19-15.

Table 19-15 Property setting for dataSourceUI

Property	Value
id	%oda.data.source.id

- 3 In All Extensions, right-click the extension element, dataSourceUI, and choose New->newDataSourceWizard, as shown in Figure 19-21. The Eclipse PDE displays newDataSourceWizard in All Extensions.

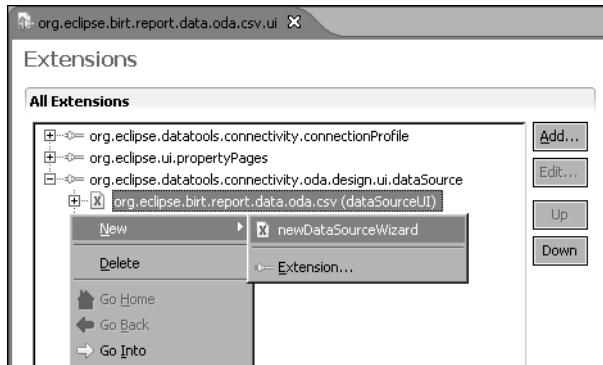


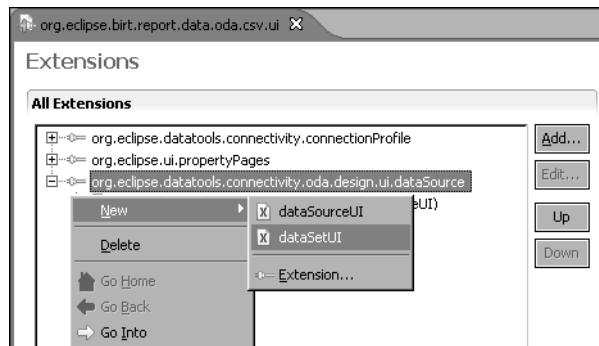
Figure 19-21 Choosing a newDataSourceWizard extension element

- 4 In Extension Element Details, specify the extension element details for newDataSourceWizard, as shown in Table 19-16.

**Table 19-16** Property settings for newDataSourceWizard

Property	Value
pageClass	org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.pages.impl.DefaultDataSourceWizardPage
windowTitle	%wizard.window.title
includes Progress Monitor	false
pageTitle	%datasource.selectfile

- 5 In All Extensions, right-click the extension point, org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.dataSource, and choose New->dataSetUI, as shown in Figure 19-22. The Eclipse PDE displays dataSetUI in All Extensions.



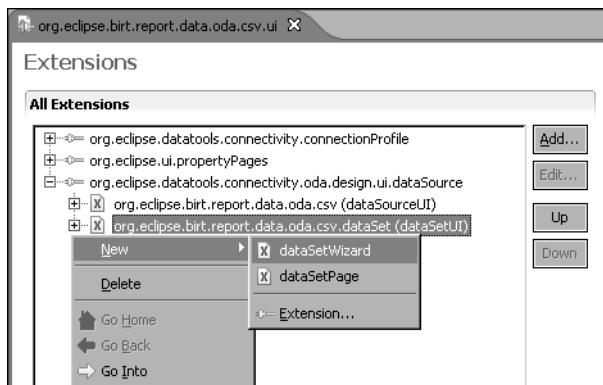
**Figure 19-22** Choosing a dataSetUI extension element

- 6 In Extension Element Details, specify the extension element details for dataSetUI, as shown in Table 19-17.

**Table 19-17** Property settings for dataSetUI

Property	Value
id	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv.dataSet
initialPageId	oda.csv.ui.tablePage
supportsIn Parameters	false
supportsOut Parameters	false

- 7 In All Extensions, right-click the extension element, dataSetUI, and choose New->dataSetWizard, as shown in Figure 19-23. The Eclipse PDE displays dataSetWizard in All Extensions.



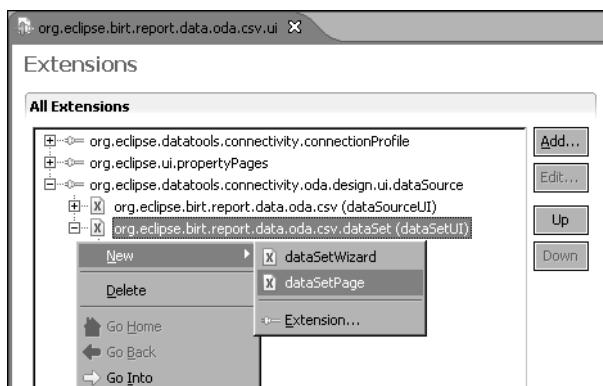
**Figure 19-23** Choosing a dataSetWizard extension element

- 8 In Extension Element Details, specify the extension element details for dataSetWizard, as shown in Table 19-18.

**Table 19-18** Property settings for dataSetWizard

Property	Value
class	org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.wizards.DataSetWizard
windowTitle	%dataset.selectcolumns

- 9 In All Extensions, right-click the extension element, dataSetUI, and choose New->dataSetPage, as shown in Figure 19-24. The Eclipse PDE displays dataSetPage in All Extensions.



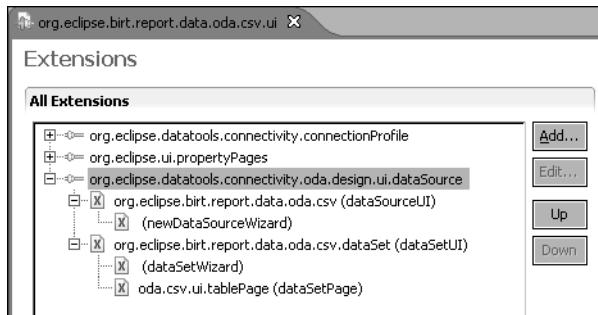
**Figure 19-24** Choosing a dataSetPage extension element

- 10** In Extension Element Details, specify the extension element details for the extension element, dataSetPage, as shown in Table 19-19.

**Table 19-19** Property settings for dataSetPage

Property	Value
id	oda.csv.ui.tablePage
wizardPage	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv.ui.wizards
Class	.FileSelectionWizardPage
displayName	%dataset.selectcolumns
path	/
icon	icons/file.gif

Figure 19-25 shows the complete list of extension points and extension elements required for the org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.dataSource extension point.



**Figure 19-25** dataSource extension points and elements

PDE Manifest Editor automatically updates plugin.xml with the extension element information.

## Understanding the sample CSV ODA UI extension

The CSV ODA UI extension described in this chapter illustrates how to create an ODA UI plug-in using the Eclipse PDE. The following section describes the code-based extensions a developer must make to complete the development of the CSV ODA UI extension, after defining the plug-in framework in the Eclipse PDE.

The CSV ODA UI plug-in contains the following packages:

- org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv.ui

Contains the following files:

- `UiPlugin` class is automatically generated by the PDE Manifest Editor when you create the plug-in project.
- Messages class and the properties file, `messages.properties`, generate the messages displayed in the UI. The localized versions for these messages are in files, using the following naming syntax:

`messages_<locale>.msg`

- `org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv.ui.wizards`

The wizards package contains the classes that create the user interface pages used to choose a data source and data set in BIRT Report Designer. For more details about these classes, see “Understanding the `org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv.ui.wizards` package,” later in this chapter.

## Implementing the ODA data source and data set wizards

In BIRT release 2.1, BIRT Report Designer adopted the Eclipse Data Tools Platform (DTP) ODA design-time framework. The DTP ODA framework defines two of the three extension points used in the CSV ODA UI plug-in:

- Connection profile  
Defined in `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.connectionProfile`
- Data source and data set wizards  
Defined in `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.dataSource`

The CSV ODA UI plug-in also uses the extension point for property pages defined in `org.eclipse.ui.propertyPages`.

The CSV ODA UI plug-in uses the following classes in the `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.wizards` package to create the wizards that specify the data source and data set pages. An ODA UI plug-in must extend these classes to provide the wizard pages with page control and related behavior:

- `DataSourceEditorPage`  
The abstract base class that provides the framework for implementing an ODA data source property page
- `DataSourceWizardPage`  
The abstract base class that provides the framework for implementing an ODA data source wizard page
- `DataSetWizardPage`  
The abstract base class that provides the framework for implementing an ODA data set wizard page

The CSV ODA UI plug-in must also implement the `org.eclipse.ui.propertyPages` extension point. The `propertyPages` extension point requires a `class` attribute

specifying the fully qualified name of the class that implements org.eclipse.ui.IWorkbenchPropertyPage.

## Understanding the org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv.ui.wizards package

The org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv.ui.wizards package in the CSV ODA UI extension example implements the following classes:

- **Constants**  
Defines the constants for the data source connection properties defined in org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv.
- **CSVFilePropertyPage**  
Extends DataSourceEditorPage. This class creates and initializes the editor controls for the property page used to specify the ODA data source. The class updates the connection profile properties with the values collected from the page.
- **CSVFileSelectionPageHelper**  
Specifies the page layout and sets up the control that listens for user input and verifies the location of the CSV data source file.
- **CSVFileSelectionWizardPage**  
Extends DataSourceWizardPage. This class creates and initializes the controls for the data source wizard page. The class sets the select file message and collects the property values.
- **FileSelectionWizardPage**  
Extends DataSetWizardPage. This class creates and initializes the controls for the data set wizard page and specifies the page layout. The class connects to the data source, executes a query, retrieves the metadata and result set, and updates the date-set design.

## Understanding Constants

The Constants class defines the following variables for the data source connection properties defined in org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.csv:

- **ODAHOME** specifies the CSV ODA file path constant, HOME.
- **ODA\_DEFAULT\_CHARSET** specifies the default character set as 8-bit Unicode Transformation Format (UTF-8).

Listing 19-18 shows the code for the Constants class.

### **Listing 19-18** The Constants class

---

```
public class Constants {
```

```

    public static String ODAHOME="HOME";
    public static String ODA_DEFAULT_CHARSET = "UTF-8";
}

```

## Understanding CSVFilePropertyPage

CSVFilePropertyPage extends the DataSourceEditorPage class, implementing the following methods to provide page editing functionality for the CSV ODA data source property page:

- `createAndInitCustomControl()` method performs the following tasks:
  - Instantiates a CSVFileSelectionPageHelper object
  - Specifies the page layout and sets up the editing control by calling `CSVFileSelectionPageHelper.createCustomControl()` method

Listing 19-19 shows the code for the `createAndInitCustomControl()` method.

**Listing 19-19** The `createAndInitCustomControl()` method

---

```

protected void createAndInitCustomControl
( Composite parent, Properties profileProps )
{
    if( m_pageHelper == null )
        m_pageHelper =
            new CSVFileSelectionPageHelper( this );
    m_pageHelper.createCustomControl( parent );
    m_pageHelper.initCustomControl( profileProps );
    if( ! isSessionEditable() )
        getControl().setEnabled( false );
}

```

- `collectCustomProperties()` updates the connection profile properties with the values collected from the page by calling `CSVFileSelectionPageHelper.collectCustomProperties()` method, as shown in Listing 19-20.

**Listing 19-20** The `collectCustomProperties()` method

---

```

public Properties collectCustomProperties
( Properties profileProps )
{
    if( m_pageHelper == null )
        return profileProps;
    return m_pageHelper.collectCustomProperties
        ( profileProps );
}

```

## Understanding CSVFileSelectionPageHelper

CSVFileSelectionPageHelper provides auxiliary processing for the CSVFilePropertyPage and CSVFileSelectionWizardPage classes. CSVFileSelectionPageHelper implements the following methods:

- `createCustomControl()` performs the following tasks:
  - Sets up the composite page layout
  - Calls the `setupFileLocation()` method that sets up a control to listen for user input and verify the location of the CSV data source file

Listing 19-21 shows the code for the `createCustomControl()` method.

#### **Listing 19-21** The `createCustomControl()` method

---

```
void createCustomControl( Composite parent )
{
    Composite content = new Composite( parent, SWT.NULL );
    GridLayout layout = new GridLayout( 2, false );
    content.setLayout(layout);
    setupFileLocation( content );
}
```

- `setupFileLocation()` performs the following tasks:
  - Sets up the label and the grid data object in the page layout
  - Sets up the control that listens for user input and verifies the location of the CSV data source file

Listing 19-22 shows the code for the `setupFileLocation()` method.

#### **Listing 19-22** The `setupFileLocation()` method

---

```
private void setupFileLocation( Composite composite )
{
    Label label = new Label( composite, SWT.NONE );
    label.setText( Messages.getString
        ( "label.selectFile" ) );
    GridData data = new GridData( GridData.FILL_HORIZONTAL );
    fileName = new Text( composite, SWT.BORDER );
    fileName.setLayoutData( data );
    setPageComplete( false );
    fileName.addModifyListener
        ( new ModifyListener(
            {
                public void modifyText( ModifyEvent e )
                {
                    verifyFileLocation();
                }
            } ) );
}
```

- `collectCustomProperties()` sets the data source directory property in the connection profile, as shown in Listing 19-23.

---

**Listing 19-23** The collectCustomProperties( ) method

---

```
Properties collectCustomProperties( Properties props )
{
    if( props == null )
        props = new Properties( );
    props.setProperty( CommonConstants.CONN_HOME_DIR_PROP,
                      getFolderLocation( ) );
    return props;
}
```

- initCustomControl( ) initializes the data source wizard control to the location of the data source file, as shown in Listing 19-24.

**Listing 19-24** The initCustomControl( ) method

---

```
void initCustomControl( Properties profileProps )
{
    if( profileProps == null || profileProps.isEmpty() ||
        fileName == null )
        return;
    String folderPath = profileProps.getProperty(
        CommonConstants.CONN_HOME_DIR_PROP );
    if( folderPath == null )
        folderPath = EMPTY_STRING;
    fileName.setText( folderPath );
    verifyFileLocation( );
}
```

## Understanding CSVFileSelectionWizardPage

The CSVFileSelectionWizardPage class extends the DataSourceWizardPage class, implementing the following methods to provide the functionality for the CSV ODA data source wizard page:

- The createPageCustomControl( ) method performs the following tasks:
  - Instantiates a CSVFileSelectionPageHelper object
  - Specifies the page layout and sets up the wizard page control by calling CSVFileSelectionPageHelper.createCustomControl( ) method
  - Calls CSVFileSelectionPageHelper.initCustomControl( ) to initialize the control to the location of the data source file

Listing 19-25 shows the code for the createPageCustomControl( ) method.

**Listing 19-25** The createPageCustomControl( ) method

---

```
public void createPageCustomControl( Composite parent )
{
```

```

        if( m_pageHelper == null )
            m_pageHelper =
                new CSVFileSelectionPageHelper( this );
        m_pageHelper.createCustomControl( parent );
        m_pageHelper.initCustomControl( m_csvFileProperties );
    }
}

```

- The collectCustomProperties( ) method instantiates a Properties object to contain the CSV data source properties information, as shown in Listing 19-26.

**Listing 19-26** The collectCustomProperties( ) method

---

```

public Properties collectCustomProperties( )
{
    if( m_pageHelper != null )
        return m_pageHelper.collectCustomProperties
            ( m_csvFileProperties );
    return ( m_csvFileProperties != null ) ?
        m_csvFileProperties : new Properties( );
}

```

## Understanding FileSelectionWizardPage

The FileSelectionWizardPage class extends the DataSetWizardPage class, implementing the following methods to provide the functionality for the CSV ODA data set wizard page:

- The createPageControl( ) method performs the following tasks:
    - Specifies the page layout and sets up the wizard page control
    - Gets the data source properties
    - Calls populateAvailableList( ) to update the data set design
- Listing 19-27 shows the code for the createPageControl( ) method.

**Listing 19-27** The createPageControl( ) method

---

```

private Control createPageControl( Composite parent )
{
    Composite composite = new Composite( parent, SWT.NULL );
    FormLayout layout = new FormLayout( );
    composite.setLayout( layout );
    FormData data = new FormData( );
    data.left = new FormAttachment( 0, 5 );
    data.top = new FormAttachment( 0, 5 );
    fileName = new Text( composite, SWT.BORDER );
    fileName.setLayoutData( data );
    Properties dataSourceProps =
        getInitializationDesign( ).getDataSourceDesign( )
            .getPublicProperties( );
    fileName.setText( ( String )

```

```

        ( dataSourceProps.getProperty( Constants.ODAHOME ) ) );
data = new FormData();
data.top = new FormAttachment
( fileName, 10, SWT.BOTTOM );
data.left = new FormAttachment( 0, 5 );
data.right = new FormAttachment( 47, -5 );
data.bottom = new FormAttachment( 100, -5 );
data.width = DEFAULT_WIDTH;
data.height = DEFAULT_HEIGHT;
m_availableList = new List( composite,
    SWT.MULTI | SWT.BORDER |
    SWT.H_SCROLL | SWT.V_SCROLL );
m_availableList.setLayoutData( data );
m_selectedFile =
new File(( String )
(dataSourceProps.getProperty( Constants.ODAHOME ) ) );
populateAvailableList( );
return composite;
}

```

- `getQuery()` method builds the query for the data set by performing the following tasks:
  - Gets the table name from the file object
  - Appends the table name to a query that selects all the columns using a wildcard
  - Appends the column list then the table name to a query that selects specific columns
  - Returns the query text

`Listing 19-28` shows the code for the `getQuery()` method.

---

**Listing 19-28** The `getQuery()` method

---

```

private String getQuery( )
{
    String tableName = null;
    StringBuffer buf = new StringBuffer( );
    File file = m_selectedFile;
    if(file != null)
    {
        tableName = file.getName( );
    }
    if(tableName != null)
    {
        if(m_availableList.getItemCount( ) == 0)
        {
            buf.append("select * from ").append(tableName);
        }
        else

```

```

{
    buf.append("select ");
    String[ ] columns = m_availableList.getItems();
    for(int n = 0; n < columns.length; n++)
    {
        buf.append(columns[n]);
        if(n < columns.length - 1)
        {
            buf.append(", ");
        }
    }
    buf.append(" from ").append(tableName);
}
return buf.toString();
}

```

- `getQueryColumnNames()` method performs the following tasks:

- Instantiates the CSVFileDriver
- Prepares the query and gets the results set metadata using the CSV ODA run-time driver and data source connection properties settings
- Gets the column count
- Iterates through the metadata results to get the column names and return the results

Listing 19-29 shows the code for the `getQueryColumnNames()` method.

**Listing 19-29** The `getQueryColumnNames()` method

---

```

private String[ ] getQueryColumnNames
    ( String queryText, File file )
{
    IDriver ffDriver = new CSVFileDriver( );
    IConnection conn = null;
    try
    {
        conn = ffDriver.getConnection( null );
        IResultSetMetaData metadata =
            getResultSetMetaData( queryText, file, conn );
        int columnCount = metadata.getColumnCount( );
        if( columnCount == 0 )
            return null;
        String[ ] result = new String[columnCount];
        for( int i = 0; i < columnCount; i++ )
            result[i] = metadata.getColumnName( i + 1 );
        return result;
    }
    catch( OdaException e )
    {
        setMessage( e.getLocalizedMessage( ), ERROR );
        disableAll( );
    }
}

```

```

        return null;
    }
    finally
    {
        closeConnection( conn );
    }
}

```

- `getResultSetMetaData()` method performs the following tasks:
  - Sets up the `Properties` object with the location of the data source file
  - Opens the connection to the data source
  - Sets up a `Query` object and prepares the query text
  - Executes the query
  - Returns the metadata

`Listing 19-30` shows the code for the `getResultSetMetaData()` method.

**Listing 19-30** The `getResultSetMetaData()` method

---

```

private IResultSetMetaData getResultSetMetaData
    ( String queryText, File file, IConnection conn )
    throws OdaException
{
    java.util.Properties prop = new java.util.Properties();
    prop.put( CommonConstants.CONN_HOME_DIR_PROP,
              file.getParent() );
    conn.open( prop );
    IQuery query = conn.newQuery( null );
    query.setMaxRows( 1 );
    query.prepare( queryText );
    query.executeQuery();
    return query.getMetaData();
}

```

- `setResultSetMetaData()` method updates the data set page design with metadata returned by the query by performing the following tasks:
  - Calls the `DesignSessionUtil.toResultSetColumnsDesign()` method to convert the run-time metadata to a design-time `ResultSetColumns` object
  - Obtains a `ResultSetDefinition` object from the design factory to use in populating the data set page design with the metadata definitions
  - Calls the `resultSetDefn.setResultSetColumns()` method to set the reference to `ResultSetColumns` object, containing the metadata content
  - Assigns the result set definition to the data set design

`Listing 19-31` shows the code for the `setResultSetMetaData()` method.

---

**Listing 19-31** The setResultSetMetaData( ) method

---

```
private void setResultSetMetaData
    ( DataSetDesign dataSetDesign, IResultSetMetaData md )
throws OdaException
{
    ResultSetColumns columns =
        DesignSessionUtil.toResultSetColumnsDesign( md );
    ResultSetDefinition resultSetDefn =
        DesignFactory.eINSTANCE.createResultSetDefinition();
    resultSetDefn.setResultSetColumns( columns );
    dataSetDesign.setPrimaryResultSet( resultSetDefn );
    dataSetDesign.getResultSets().setDerivedMetaData( true );
}
```

- savePage( ) method performs the following tasks:
  - Instantiates the CSVFileDriver
  - Gets the result set metadata
  - Updates the data set design with the metadata
  - Closes the connection

Listing 19-32 shows the code for the savePage( ) method.

---

**Listing 19-32** The savePage( ) method

---

```
private void savePage( DataSetDesign dataSetDesign )
{
    String queryText = getQuery( );
    dataSetDesign.setQueryText( queryText );
    IConnection conn = null;
    try
    {
        IDriver ffDriver = new CSVFileDriver();
        conn = ffDriver.getConnection( null );
        IResultSetMetaData metadata =
            getResultSetMetaData( queryText, m_selectedFile,
            conn );
        setResultSetMetaData( dataSetDesign, metadata );
    }
    catch( OdaException e )
    {
        dataSetDesign.setResultSets( null );
    }
    finally
    {
        closeConnection( conn );
    }
}
```

---

# Testing the CSV ODA UI plug-in

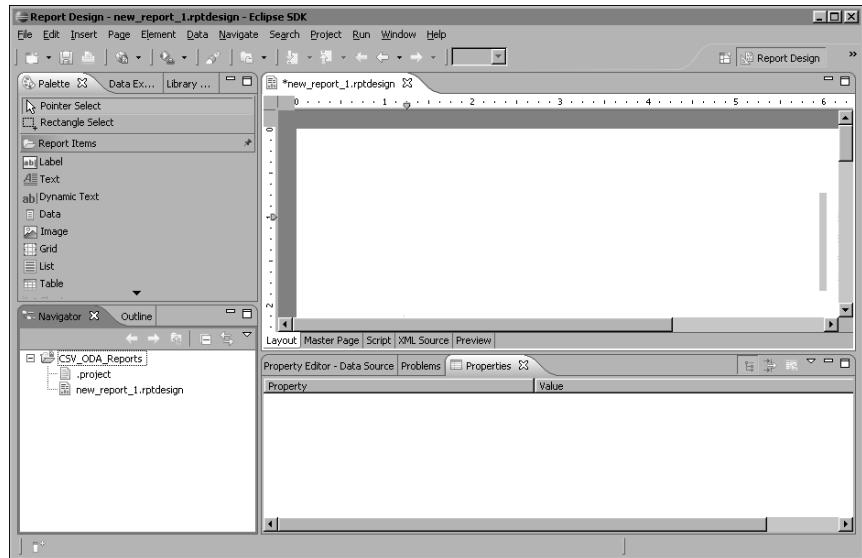
On PDE Manifest Editor, in Overview, the Testing section contains links to launch a plug-in as a separate Eclipse application in either Run or Debug mode.

## How to launch the CSV report rendering plug-in

- 1 On the Eclipse PDE Manifest Editor, in the Testing section of Overview, choose Launch an Eclipse application. The Eclipse PDE launches a run-time instance of the workbench.
- 2 In the run-time instance of the Eclipse PDE workbench, choose Window→Open Perspective→Other. Select Perspective appears.
- 3 In Select Perspective, select Report Design. Choose OK. Report Design appears.

## How to create a report design

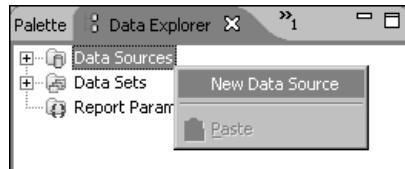
- 1 In Report Design, choose File→New→Project.
- 2 Expand Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools and choose Report Project. Choose Next. New Report Project appears.
- 3 In Report Project, perform the following tasks:
  - 1 In Project name, type:  
CSV\_ODA\_Reports  
In Project contents, select Use default location. Choose Finish. In Navigator, CSV\_ODA\_Reports appears.
  - 4 In Navigator, right-click CSV\_ODA\_Reports and choose File→New→Report. New Report appears.
  - 5 On New Report, perform the following tasks:
    - 1 In Enter or select the parent folder, select CSV\_ODA\_Reports.
    - 2 In file name, type:  
new\_report\_1.rptdesign  
Choose Next.
    - 3 In Report Templates, select Blank Report. Choose Finish. In Navigator, new\_report\_1.rptdesign appears in the CSV\_ODA\_Reports project folder.
  - 6 Right-click new\_report\_1.rptdesign and choose Open. new\_report\_1.rptdesign appears in Report Design, as shown in Figure 19-26.



**Figure 19-26** new\_report\_1.rptdesign in the report design environment

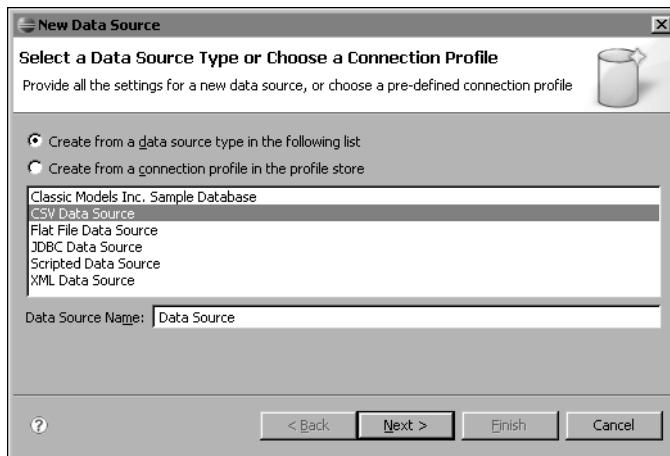
#### How to specify a data source

- 1 In Data Explorer, right-click Data Sources and choose New Data Source, as shown in Figure 19-27. New Data Source appears.



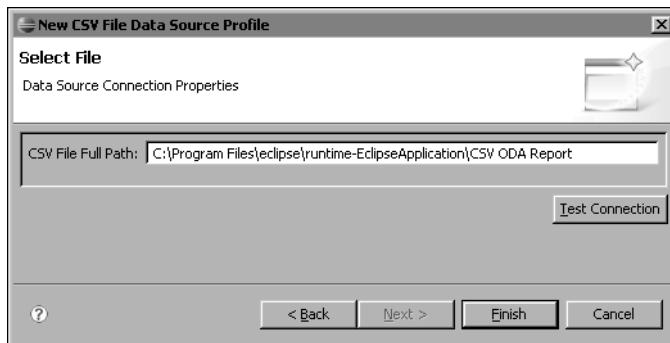
**Figure 19-27** Choosing New Data Source

- 2** On New Data Source, choose CSV Data Source, as shown in Figure 19-28. Choose Next. Select File appears.



**Figure 19-28** Choosing CSV Data Source

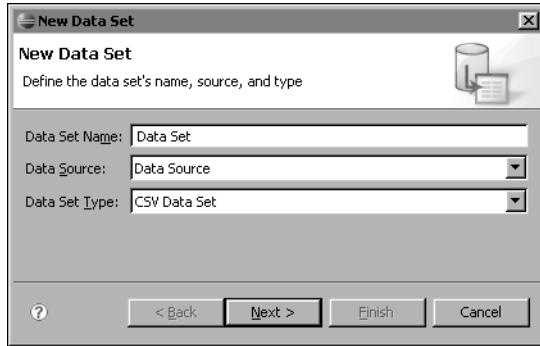
- 3** In Select File, enter the path and file name of the directory that contains the CSV data source file, as shown in Figure 19-29. Choose Finish. Report Design appears.



**Figure 19-29** Path to the CSV data source file directory

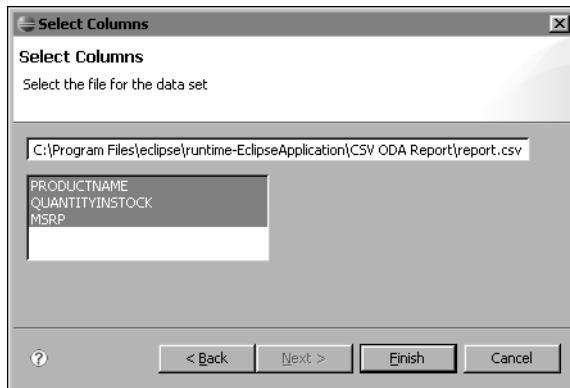
#### How to select a new data set

- 1** In Report Design, choose Data->New Data Set. New Data Set appears, as shown in Figure 19-30. Choose Next. Select Columns appears.



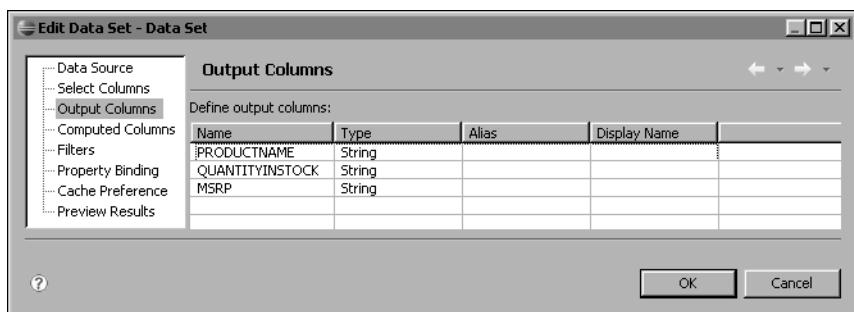
**Figure 19-30** New Data Set

- 2 On Select Columns, select all the columns, as shown in Figure 19-31. Choose Finish.



**Figure 19-31** Selecting columns

Edit Data Set appears, as shown in Figure 19-32.



**Figure 19-32** Edit Data Set

- 3 Choose Preview Results. Preview Results appears as shown in Figure 19-33. Choose OK.

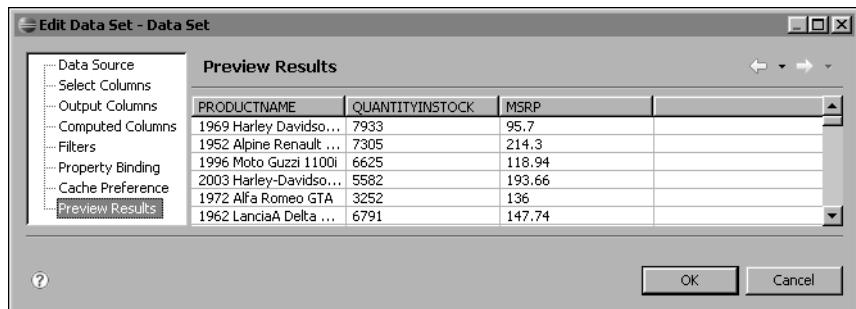


Figure 19-33 Data preview

- 4 On Data Explorer, expand Data Sets. Data Explorer appears as shown in Figure 19-34.

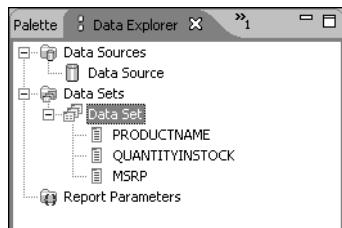


Figure 19-34 Data Set in Data Explorer

#### How to run a report design using CSV ODA UI and driver extensions

- 1 To build the report, drag Data Set from Data Explorer to the layout editor. Layout appears as shown in Figure 19-35.

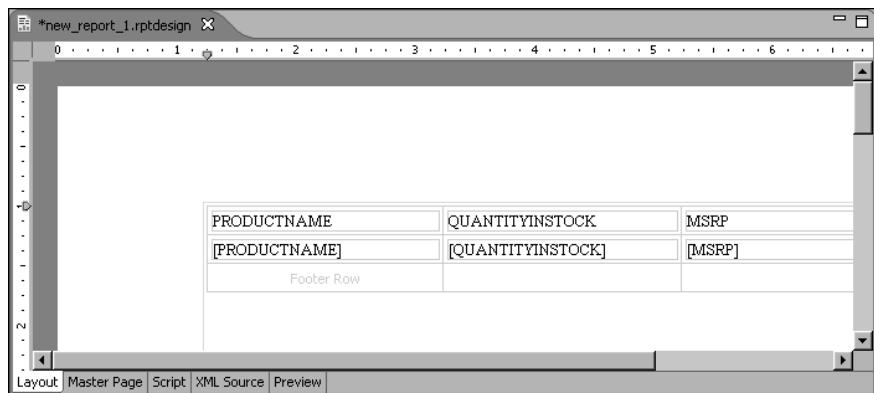


Figure 19-35 Report design in the layout editor

- 2** To run the report design, choose Preview. new\_report\_1.rptdesign runs, displaying the data set from the CSV data source, as shown in Figure 19-36.

PRODUCTNAME	QUANTITYINSTOCK	MSRP
1969 Harley Davidson Ultimate Chopper	7933	95.7
1952 Alpine Renault 1300	7305	214.3
1996 Moto Guzzi 1100i	6625	118.94
2003 Harley-Davidson Eagle Drag Bike	5582	193.66
1972 Alfa Romeo GTA	3252	136
1962 Lancia A Delta 16V	6791	147.74
1968 Ford Mustang	68	194.57
2001 Ferrari Enzo	3619	207.8
...	...	...

**Figure 19-36** Preview of the data set from the CSV data source

## Developing a Hibernate ODA extension

You develop the Hibernate ODA extension by creating two new projects in the Eclipse PDE that implement the following plug-ins:

- `org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate`

The Hibernate ODA driver accesses a relational data source using HQL. The Hibernate ODA data source plug-in extends the functionality defined by the `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.dataSource` extension point to create the Hibernate ODA driver.

- `org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate.ui`

The Hibernate ODA UI plug-in for BIRT Report Designer selects a Hibernate data source and allows the user to create an HQL statement to retrieve data from the available tables and columns. The Hibernate ODA UI plug-in extends the functionality defined by the `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.dataSource`, `org.eclipse.ui.propertyPages`, and `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.connectionProfile` extension points.

The UI consists of the following pages:

- Data source page

Includes the Hibernate data source in the list of available data sources. The Hibernate ODA driver contains preconfigured Hibernate configuration and mapping files that connect to the MySQL version of the BIRT demonstration database, ClassicModels.

- Data set page

Creates an HQL statement that selects the data set and embeds the HQL statement in the report design.

In BIRT Report Designer, the Hibernate ODA data source wizard allows the report developer to select a Hibernate ODA driver containing preconfigured Hibernate configuration and mapping files. The Hibernate ODA driver searches for these configuration and mapping files in the plug-in's `hibfiles` directory.

The Hibernate ODA driver also searches in the `hibfiles` directory for JAR and ZIP files and the `org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.jdbc` plug-in for JDBC drivers to add to the classpath. This approach prevents the need to copy drivers to multiple locations. Note that changing the configuration causes the Hibernate ODA driver plug-in to rebuild the Hibernate SessionFactory, which is a machine-intensive operation.

Once the Hibernate ODA driver creates the data source configuration, you can create a data set. The Hibernate data set wizard allows the user to enter HQL statements. The Hibernate ODA UI example only supports simple queries, such as the following types of statements:

```
From Customer
```

or

```
Select ord.orderNumber, cus.customerNumber, cus.customerName  
from Orders as ord, Customer as cus  
where ord.customerNumber = cus.customerNumber and  
cus.customerNumber = 363
```

In the Hibernate ODA plug-in, there is an `exampleconfig` directory. This directory contains a sample Hibernate configuration file, mapping files, and Java classes that connect to the BIRT sample MySQL database. You can test using these files by performing the following tasks:

- Modify the `hibernate.cfg.xml` file to connect to your database configuration.
- Copy these files to the `hibfiles` directory.
- Create a JAR file containing the Java classes.

You can test and deploy the extensions in the Eclipse PDE run-time environment.

The following sections describe how to create and deploy the Hibernate ODA driver and UI plug-in projects. You can download the source code for the Hibernate ODA driver and UI extension examples at <http://www.actuate.com/birt/contributions>.

## **Creating the Hibernate ODA driver plug-in project**

Create the Hibernate ODA driver plug-in project, `org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate`, using the New Plug-in Project wizard in the Eclipse PDE.

## How to create the Hibernate ODA driver plug-in project

- 1 From the Eclipse PDE menu, choose File→New→Plug-in Project.
- 2 On New Project—Select a wizard, select Plug-in Project. Choose Next. New Plug-in Project appears.
- 3 In Plug-in Project, modify the settings as shown in Table 19-20.

**Table 19-20** Settings for Plug-in Project options

Section	Option	Value
Plug-in Project	Project name	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate
	Use default location	Selected
	Location	Not available when you select Use default location
Project Settings	Create a Java project	Selected
	Source folder name	src
	Output folder name	bin
Target Platform	Eclipse version	3.2
	OSGi framework	Selected Equinox

- 4 On Plug-in Content, modify the settings as shown in Table 19-21.

**Table 19-21** Settings for Plug-in Content options

Section	Option	Value
Plug-in Properties	Plug-in ID	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate
	Plug-in Version	2.0.0
	Plug-in Name	BIRT ODA-Hibernate Driver
	Plug-in Provider	yourCompany.com or leave blank
	Classpath	odahibernate.jar
Plug-in Options	Generate an activator, a Java class that controls the plug-in's life cycle	Selected
	Activator	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate.Activator
	This plug-in will make contributions to the UI	Deselected

*(continues)*

**Table 19-21** Settings for Plug-in Content options (*continued*)

Section	Option	Value
Rich Client Application	Would you like to create a rich client application?	No

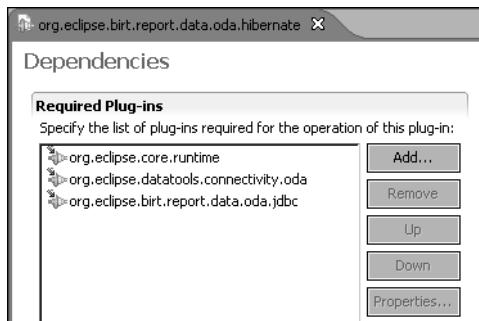
Choose Finish. The Hibernate ODA driver plug-in project appears in the Eclipse PDE workbench.

#### How to specify the properties of the Hibernate ODA plug-in project

- 1 Using the Eclipse PDE Manifest Editor, in Dependencies, specify the following required plug-ins in the following order:

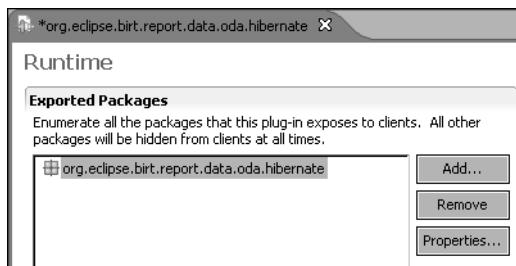
- org.eclipse.core.runtime
- org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda
- org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.jdbc

Dependencies appears as shown in Figure 19-37.



**Figure 19-37** Required plug-ins, in Dependencies

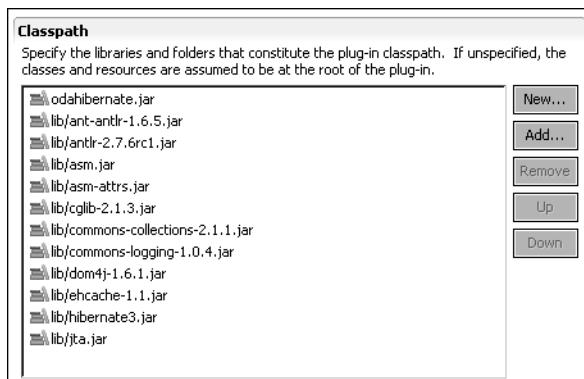
- 2 On Runtime, in Exported Packages, verify that the org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate package appears in the list, as shown in Figure 19-38.



**Figure 19-38** Runtime exported packages

- 3 On Runtime, in Classpath, add the following JAR files to the plug-in classpath:
- lib/hibernate3.jar
  - lib/ant-antlr-1.6.5.jar
  - lib/antlr-2.7.6.rc1.jar
  - lib/asm.jar
  - lib/asm-attrs.jar
  - lib/cglib-2.1.3.jar
  - lib/dom4j-1.6.1.jar
  - lib/ehcache-1.1.jar
  - lib/jta.jar
  - lib/commons-collections-2.1.1.jar
  - lib/commons-logging-1.0.4.jar

Classpath appears as shown in Figure 19-39.



**Figure 19-39** Runtime classpath

You must have previously imported these JAR files into the lib directory in the Hibernate ODA plug-in. You can also put these JAR files in a new plug-in that the Hibernate ODA plug-in references.

- 4 On Extensions, add the extension point, org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.dataSource, and the following elements and details for:
- dataSource
- Add the extension element details, as shown in Table 19-22.

**Table 19-22** Property settings for the dataSource extension element

Property	Value
id	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate
driverClass	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate.HibernateDriver
odaVersion	3.0
defaultDisplayName	Hibernate Data Source
setThreadContextClassLoader	true

The dataSource extension has an attribute named setThreadContextClassLoader, which, if set to true, sets the thread context class loader to the Hibernate ODA plug-in class loader. In this example, this attribute is set to true to avoid potential class conflicts with classes loaded with the Eclipse Tomcat plug-in.

- **dataSet**

Add the extension element details, as shown in Table 19-23.

**Table 19-23** Property settings for the dataSet extension element

Property	Value
id	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate.dataSet
defaultDisplayName	Hibernate Data Set

- 5 On Extensions, select dataSource and add the following properties and element details:

- HIBCONFIG, as shown in Table 19-24.

**Table 19-24** HIBCONFIG property settings

Property	Value
name	HIBCONFIG
defaultDisplayName	Hibernate Configuration File
type	string
canInherit	true

- MAPDIR, as shown in Table 19-25.

**Table 19-25** MAPDIR property settings

Property	Value
name	MAPDIR
defaultDisplayName	Hibernate Mapping Directory
type	string
canInherit	true

- 6** On Extensions, select dataSet and add the list of dataTypeMapping elements, as shown in Table 19-26.

**Table 19-26** Settings for dataTypeMapping elements

nativeDataType	nativeDataTypeCode	odaScalarDataType
BIT	-7	Integer
TINYINT	-6	Integer
SMALLINT	5	Integer
INTEGER	4	Integer
BIGINT	-5	Decimal
FLOAT	6	Double
REAL	7	Double
DOUBLE	8	Double
NUMERIC	2	Decimal
DECIMAL	3	Decimal
CHAR	1	String
VARCHAR	12	String
LONGVARCHAR	-1	String
DATE	91	Date
TIME	92	Time
TIMESTAMP	93	Timestamp
BINARY	-2	String
VARBINARY	-3	String
LONGVARBINARY	-4	String
BOOLEAN	16	Integer
BLOB	2004	Blob
CLOB	2005	Clob

Extensions appears as shown in Figure 19-40.

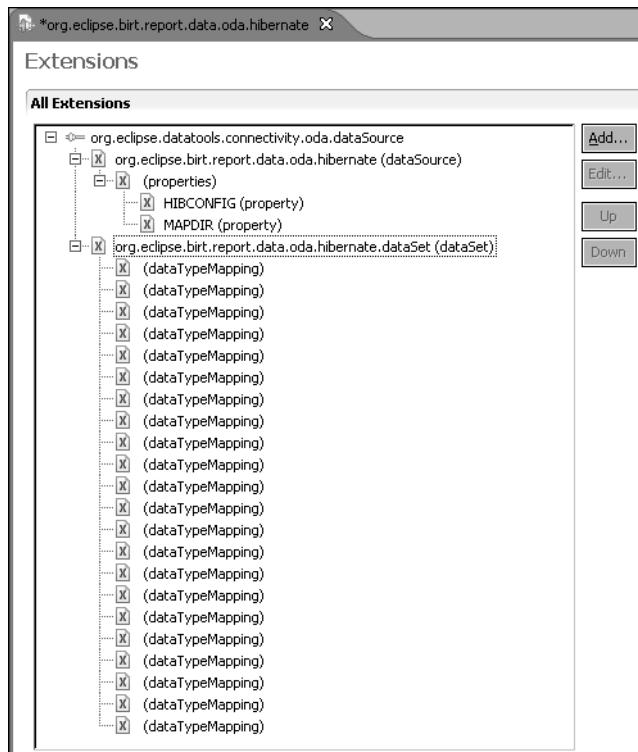


Figure 19-40 Extensions

## Understanding the sample Hibernate ODA driver extension

The package for the Hibernate ODA extension example, `org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate`, implements the following classes using the ODA plug-in interfaces defined in the DTP plug-in, `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda`, and the extension points defined in the XML Schema file, `datasource.exsd`. The package implements the following classes:

- **HibernateDriver**

Implements the `IDriver` interface. Instantiates the connection object for the Hibernate ODA driver. This is the entry point for the Hibernate ODA plug-in.

- **Connection**

Implements the `IConnection` interface. Opens and closes the connection to the Hibernate ODA data source and instantiates the `IQuery` object.

- Statement

Implements the IQuery interface. Prepares the result set metadata containing the table and column names, executes the query, and fetches the data rows from the data source.

- ResultSet

Implements the IResultSet interface. Provides access to the data rows in the result set, maintaining a cursor that points to the current row. Handles the processing that gets the value for a column as the specified data type.

- ResultSetMetaData

Implements the IResultSetMetaData interface. Describes the metadata for each column in the result set.

- DataSetMetaData

Implements the IDatasetMetaData interface. Describes the features and capabilities of the driver for the data set.

- Messages

Defines the exception messages for the Hibernate ODA driver.

- DataTypes

Defines, validates, and returns the data types supported by the Hibernate ODA driver.

- CommonConstant

Defines the constants used in the package, such as the driver name, ODA version, query keywords, and delimiters.

- HibernateUtil

Manages the Hibernate SessionFactory that provides the session or run-time interface between the Hibernate service and the ODA driver. This class is built based on the example HibernateUtil, available at <http://www.hibernate.org>.

The Hibernate ODA driver plug-in supports specifying the Hibernate configuration file and mapping files directory in the data source wizard. The plug-in creates the Hibernate SessionFactory from these settings. The example project has an exampleconfig directory that contains a Hibernate configuration and mapping files for use with the BIRT MySQL example database, ClassicModels.

The following sections describe the classes where there are important differences between the implementation of Hibernate ODA driver and the earlier example, the CSV ODA driver.

## **Understanding HibernateDriver**

The HibernateDriver class instantiates the Connection object for the Hibernate ODA driver. This class implements the IDriver interface, but does not provide any processing for the methods that configure logging and set the application context. Listing 19-33 shows the getConnection( ) method.

### **Listing 19-33 The getConnection( ) method**

---

```
public IConnection getConnection( String connectionClassName )
    throws OdaException
{
    return new Connection( );
}
```

getMaxConnections( ) returns 0, imposing no limit on the number of connections to the ODA data source from the application. Listing 19-34 shows the getMaxConnections( ) method.

### **Listing 19-34 The getMaxConnections( ) method**

---

```
public int getMaxConnections( ) throws OdaException
{
    return( 0 );
}
```

## **Understanding Connection**

The Connection class implements the following methods:

- **open( )**

Opens a Hibernate session and sets the Boolean variable, isOpen, to true. The open( ) method uses the HibernateUtil class to obtain a session from a Hibernate SessionFactory, providing the run-time interface between the Hibernate service and the ODA driver.

The open( ) method retrieves the locations for the Hibernate configuration file and mapping files directory from connection properties. The open( ) method calls HibernateUtil.constructSessionFactory( ), which attempts to build the SessionFactory with these settings. If the SessionFactory already exists, the plug-in does not recreate the SessionFactory unless the Hibernate configuration file or the mapping directory have changed.

Listing 19-35 shows the code for the open( ) method.

### **Listing 19-35 The open( ) method**

---

```
public void open( Properties connProperties )
    throws OdaException
{
    try
    {
```

```

configfile =
connProperties.getProperty( "HIBCONFIG" );
mapdir = connProperties.getProperty( "MAPDIR" );
HibernateUtil
.constructSessionFactory( configfile, mapdir );
Session testSession = HibernateUtil.currentSession( );
this.isOpen = true;
}catch( Exception e )
{
    throw new OdaException( e.getLocalizedMessage( ) );
}
}

```

- **newQuery( )**

Opens a new query by returning an instance of a Statement object, the class that implements the IQuery interface. The connection can handle multiple result set types, but the Hibernate ODA example uses only one and ignores the dataSetType parameter, as shown in Listing 19-36.

**Listing 19-36** The newQuery( ) method

---

```

public IQuery newQuery( String dataSetType )
throws OdaException
{
    if ( !isOpen( ) )
        throw new OdaException( Messages.getString
            ( "Common.CONNECTION_IS_NOT_OPEN" ) );
    return new Statement( this );
}

```

- **getMetaData( )**

Returns an IDatasetMetaData object of the data set type, as shown in Listing 19-37.

**Listing 19-37** The getMetaData( ) method

---

```

public IDatasetMetaData getMetaData( String dataSetType )
throws OdaException
{
    return new DataSetMetaData( this );
}

```

- **getMaxQueries( )**

Indicates the maximum number of queries the driver supports. The getMaxQueries( ) method returns 1, indicating that the Hibernate ODA driver does not support concurrent queries, as shown in Listing 19-38.

---

**Listing 19-38** The getMaxQueries( ) method

```
public int getMaxQueries( ) throws OdaException
{
    return 1;
}
```

- `commit()` and `rollback()`

Handle transaction processing. The Hibernate ODA driver example does not support transaction operations. In the Connection class, the `commit()` and `rollback()` methods throw `UnsupportedOperationException`. Listing 19-39 shows the code for the `commit()` method.

---

**Listing 19-39** The commit( ) method

```
public void commit( ) throws OdaException
{
    throw new UnsupportedOperationException( );
}
```

- `close()`

Closes the Hibernate session, as shown in Listing 19-40.

---

**Listing 19-40** The close( ) method

```
public void close( ) throws OdaException
{
    this.isOpen = false;
    try{
        HibernateUtil.closeSession( );
    }catch(Exception e){
        throw new OdaException( e.getLocalizedMessage( ) );
    }
}
```

## Understanding DataSetMetaData

The `DataSetMetaData` class describes the features and capabilities of the data source for the specified data set. The Hibernate ODA driver example returns true or false to indicate support for a feature. The Hibernate ODA driver example does not support input or output parameters, named parameters, or multiple result sets.

The following code example indicates that the Hibernate ODA driver does not support multiple result sets, as shown in Listing 19-41.

---

**Listing 19-41** The supportsMultipleResultSets( ) method

```
public boolean supportsMultipleResultSets( ) throws
    OdaException
{
```

```
        return false;  
    }  
}
```

A method such as `getSQLStateType()`, which has no implementation, simply throws `UnsupportedOperationException`, as shown in Listing 19-42.

#### **Listing 19-42** The `getSQLStateType()` method

---

```
public int getSQLStateType( ) throws OdaException  
{  
    throw new UnsupportedOperationException ( );  
}
```

### **Understanding Statement**

The Statement class implements the `IQuery` interface. This class prepares and executes the query. Statement also handles parameters and retrieves the result set and result set metadata.

The Statement class implements the following methods:

- `prepare()`

The ODA framework calls the `prepare()` method before executing the query. The ODA framework uses the query saved in the report design.

The Hibernate ODA UI plug-in also calls `prepare()` to verify the columns used in the report design. The UI plug-in passes an HQL statement that gets the columns from the result set object.

`prepare()` sets up the result-set metadata and stores the query in an object variable for use by the `executeQuery()` method. The ODA run time uses the result-set metadata to retrieve the data. BIRT Report Designer also uses the result-set metadata to display the columns in the UI.

The `prepare()` method performs the following operations:

- Sets up array lists to contain the columns, column types, and column classes
- Trims the query String
- Creates a Hibernate Query object, using the HQL query
- Gets the Hibernate column names, types, and classes for the query
- Instantiates a `ResultSetMetaData` object, passing in the column names and data types
- Saves the query for execution

Listing 19-43 shows the code for the `prepare()` method.

#### **Listing 19-43** The `prepare()` method

---

```
public void prepare( String query ) throws OdaException
```

```

{
Query qry = null;
testConnection( );
ArrayList arColsType = new ArrayList( );
ArrayList arCols = new ArrayList( );
ArrayList arColClass = new ArrayList( );

String[ ] props = null;
try
{
    Session hibsession = HibernateUtil.currentSession( );
    query = query.replaceAll( "[\\n\\r]+", " " );
    query = query.trim( );
    qry = hibsession.createQuery( query );
    Type[ ] qryReturnTypes = qry.getReturnTypes( );
    if( qryReturnTypes.length > 0
    && qryReturnTypes[0].isEntityType( ) )
    {
        for( int j=0; j< qryReturnTypes.length; j++ )
        {
            String clsName=qryReturnTypes[j].getName( );
            props =
                HibernateUtil.getHibernateProp( clsName );
            for( int x = 0; x < props.length; x++ )
            {
                String propType =
                    HibernateUtil.getHibernatePropTypes
                    ( clsName, props[x] );
                if( DataTypes.isValidType( propType ) )
                {
                    arColsType.add( propType );
                    arCols.add( props[x] );
                    arColClass.add( clsName );
                }
            }
        }
    }
    else
    {
        throw new OdaException
        ( Messages.getString
        ( "Statement.SOURCE_DATA_ERROR" ) );
    }
}
else
{
    props = extractColumns( qry.getQueryString( ) );
    for( int t=0; t < qryReturnTypes.length; t++ )
    {
}

```

```

        if( DataTypes.isValidType
            (qryReturnTypes[t].getName( )))
        {
            arColsType.add( qryReturnTypes[t].getName( ) );
            arCols.add( props[t] );
        }
        else
        {
            throw new OdaException
            ( Messages.getString
                ( "Statement.SOURCE_DATA_ERROR" ) );
        }
    }
}
catch( Exception e )
{
    throw new OdaException( e.getLocalizedMessage( ) );
}
this.resultSetMetaData = new ResultSetMetaData
(( String[ ] )arCols.toArray
( new String[arCols.size( )] ),
(String[ ] )arColsType.toArray
( new String[arColsType.size( )] ),
(String[ ] )arCols.toArray
( new String[arCols.size( )] ),
(String[ ] )arColClass.toArray
( new String[arColClass.size( )] ));
this.query = query;
}

```

- **getMetaData()**

The BIRT framework calls `getMetaData()` after the `prepare()` method to retrieve the metadata for a result set. The BIRT framework uses the metadata to create the data set in the report.

`Listing 19-44` shows the code for the `getMetaData()` method.

**Listing 19-44** The `getMetaData()` method

---

```

public IResultSetMetaData getMetaData( ) throws OdaException
{
    return this.resultSetMetaData;
}

```

- **executeQuery()**

The `executeQuery()` method executes the prepared query and retrieves the results. The `executeQuery()` method returns an `IResultSet` object, which is created using the list results, result-set metadata, and Hibernate types returned from the HQL query. The ODA framework uses the `IResultSet` object to iterate over the results.

The executeQuery( ) method performs the following operations:

- Sets up an array of org.hibernate.type.Type to map Java types to JDBC datatypes
- Sets up a list to contain the results set
- Trims the query String
- Instantiates a Hibernate Query object, creating the HQL query
- Executes the HQL query, returning the query result set in a List
- Gets the Hibernate types for the query result set
- Instantiates a ResultSet object, passing in the data, metadata, and Hibernate types

Listing 19-45 shows the code for the executeQuery( ) method.

---

**Listing 19-45** The executeQuery( ) method

---

```
public IResultSet executeQuery( ) throws OdaException
{
    Type[ ] qryReturnTypes = null;
    List rst = null;
    try
    {
        Session hibsession = HibernateUtil.currentSession( );
        String qryStr = this.query;
        qryStr = qryStr.replaceAll( "[\\n\\r]+", " " );
        qryStr.trim( );
        Query qry = hibsession.createQuery( qryStr );
        rst = qry.list( );
        qryReturnTypes = qry.getReturnTypes( );

    }
    catch( Exception e )
    {
        throw new OdaException( e.getLocalizedMessage( ) );
    }
    return new ResultSet
    ( rst, getMetaData( ), qryReturnTypes );
}
```

- close( )

The close( ) method clears the Connection and ResultSetMetaData objects. In the Connection object, the close( ) method closes the Hibernate session.

Listing 19-46 shows the code for the Statement.close( ) method.

---

**Listing 19-46** The Statement.close( ) method

---

```
public void close( ) throws OdaException
```

```

{
    connection = null;
    resultSetMetaData = null;
}

```

## Understanding ResultSet

The ResultSet class implements the IResultSet interface. When this class is instantiated, it stores the list.iterator( ) passed from the Statement object. It uses the iterator when the ODA driver framework calls the next( ) method.

The iterator points to the next available row of data from the HQL query results. The framework calls the accessor methods that get the data types for the columns in the current row. For example, if the first column is a String, the framework calls getString( ). This method calls the getResult( ) method, which interprets the HQL query results.

The getResult( ) method parses the results in one of the following ways, depending on whether the query returns a Hibernate EntityType or just an array of values:

- If the query uses HQL and each return type is an EntityType, getResult( ) gets each Column class and uses the Hibernate ClassMetaData methods to retrieve the value.
- If the query returns standard data types, getResult( ) gets each value or values, returning an Object containing the simple value or an array of Objects containing the multiple values.

Listing 19-47 shows the code for the getResult( ) method.

---

### **Listing 19-47** The getResult( ) method

---

```

private Object getResult( int rstcol ) throws OdaException
{
    Object obj = this.currentRow;
    Object value = null;
    try
    {
        if( qryReturnTypes.length >
            0 && qryReturnTypes[0].isEntityType( ) )
        {
            String checkClass =
                (( ResultSetMetaData )getMetaData( ))
                    .getColumnClass( rstcol );
            Object myVal =
                HibernateUtil.getHibernatePropVal( obj,
                    checkClass,
                    getMetaData( ).getColumnName( rstcol ) );
            value = myVal;
        }
        else
        {

```

```

        if( getMetaData( ).getColumnCount( ) == 1)
        {
            value = obj;
        }
        else
        {
            Object[ ] values = ( Object[ ] )obj;
            value = values[rstcol-1];
        }
    }
}
catch( Exception e )
{
    throw new OdaException( e.getLocalizedMessage( ) );
}
return( value );
}

```

## **Understanding HibernateUtil**

HibernateUtil is a utility class that provides the run-time interface between the Hibernate service and the application. The HibernateUtil class example derives from the class provided with the Hibernate documentation. HibernateUtil performs the following operations:

- Initializes the SessionFactory
- Builds the Hibernate SessionFactory
- Opens and closes a session
- Returns information on Hibernate classes and properties
- Registers the JDBC driver with the DriverManager

The Connection.open( ) method calls HibernateUtil.constructSessionFactory( ), which creates a SessionFactory if one does not already exist. The constructSessionFactory( ) method closes and rebuilds the SessionFactory if the location of the configuration file or mapping files directory has changed.

The SessionFactory construction process creates the ClassLoader. The ClassLoader adds the drivers directory in the org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.jdbc plug-in and the hibfiles directory in the Hibernate ODA plug-in to classpath. This process also registers the JDBC driver specified in the Hibernate config file with the DriverManager.

The HibernateUtil class implements the following methods:

- initSessionFactory()

This method creates the SessionFactory object from the configuration settings in the hibernate.cfg.xml file. Listing 19-48 shows the code for the initSessionFactory( ) method.

Listing 19-48 shows the code for the initSessionFactory( ) method.

#### **Listing 19-48** The initSessionFactory( ) method

---

```
private static synchronized void initSessionFactory
( String hibfile, String mapdir)
throws HibernateException
{
    if( sessionFactory == null)
    {
        Thread thread = Thread.currentThread( );
        try
        {
            oldloader = thread.getContextClassLoader( );
            refreshURLs( );
            ClassLoader changeLoader = new URLClassLoader
                ( ( URL [ ] )URLList.toArray
                    ( new URL[0] ), thread
                        .getContextClassLoader( ) );
            thread.setContextClassLoader( changeLoader );
            Configuration cfg =
                buildConfig( hibfile, mapdir );
            Class driverClass =
                changeLoader.loadClass( cfg.getProperty
                    ( "connection.driver_class" ) );
            Driver driver =
                ( Driver ) driverClass.newInstance( );
            WrappedDriver wd =
                new WrappedDriver( driver,
                    cfg.getProperty
                    ( "connection.driver_class" ) );
            boolean foundDriver = false;
            Enumeration drivers =
                DriverManager.getDrivers( );
            while ( drivers.hasMoreElements( ) )
            {
                Driver nextDriver =
                    ( Driver )drivers.nextElement( );
                if ( nextDriver.getClass( ) == wd.getClass( ) )
                {
                    if( nextDriver.toString( )
                        .equals(wd.toString( )) )
                    {
                        foundDriver = true;
                        break;
                    }
                }
            }
            if( !foundDriver )
            {
                DriverManager.registerDriver( wd );
            }
        sessionFactory = cfg.buildSessionFactory( );
    }
}
```

```

        configuration = cfg;
        HibernateMapDirectory = mapdir;
        HibernateConfigFile = hibfile;
    }
    catch( Exception e)
    {
        e.printStackTrace( );
        throw new HibernateException
        ( "No Session Factory Created " +
          e.getLocalizedMessage( ) );
    }
    finally
    {
        thread.setContextClassLoader( oldloader );
    }
}
}

```

- **constructSessionFactory**

This method checks to see if a configuration change occurred. If a change occurred, the method closes the session and SessionFactory and calls the initSessionFactory to rebuild the SessionFactory.

Listing 19-49 shows the code for the constructSessionFactory( ) method.

**Listing 19-49** The constructSessionFactory( ) method

---

```

public static void constructSessionFactory
( String hibfile, String mapdir)
throws HibernateException
{
    if( hibfile == null)
    {
        hibfile = "";
    }
    if( mapdir == null)
    {
        mapdir = "";
    }
    if( sessionFactory == null)
    {
        initSessionFactory( hibfile, mapdir);
        return;
    }
    if( HibernateMapDirectory.equalsIgnoreCase
        ( mapdir ) && HibernateConfigFile
        .equalsIgnoreCase( hibfile ))
    {
        return;
    }
    synchronized( sessionFactory )
    {

```

```

Session s = ( Session ) session.get( );
if ( s != null )
{
    closeSession( );
}
if ( sessionFactory != null &&
    !sessionFactory.isClosed( ) )
{
    closeFactory( );
}
sessionFactory = null;
initSessionFactory( hibfile, mapdir );
}

```

- **currentSession( )**

This method opens a session when called by the Connection.open( ) method, as shown in Listing 19-50.

**Listing 19-50** The currentSession( ) method

---

```

public static Session currentSession( )
throws HibernateException {
Session s = ( Session ) session.get( );
if ( s == null ) {
    s = sessionFactory.openSession( );
    session.set( s );
}
return s;
}

```

Other methods in this class return information on a particular class and its properties. The getHibernateProp( ) method returns the properties for a class. The getHibernatePropTypes( ) method returns the data type for a property of a class.

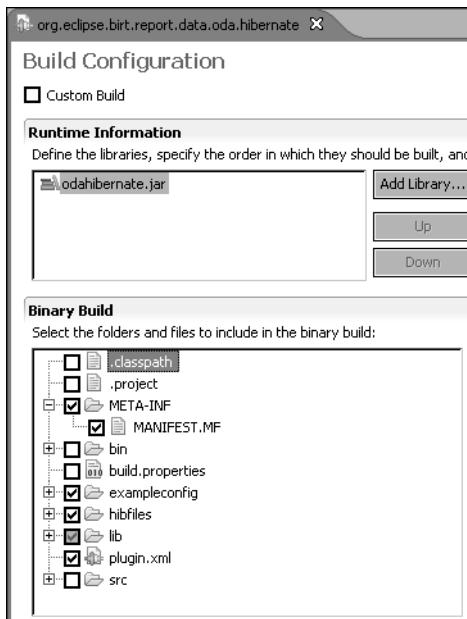
## Building the Hibernate ODA driver plug-in

To build and deploy the org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate plug-in using the Eclipse PDE Manifest Editor, perform the following tasks:

- On Build, specify the Build Configuration to include the following items:
  - In Runtime Information, add the odahibernate.jar file.
  - In Binary Build, select the following files and folders:
    - META-INF
    - exampleconfig
    - hibfiles
    - lib

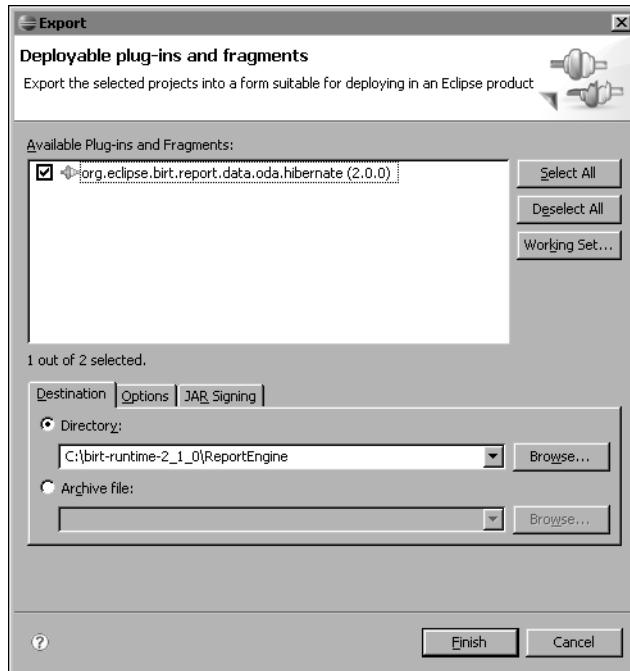
- ❑ plugin.xml

Build Configuration appears, as shown in Figure 19-41.



**Figure 19-41** Build Configuration settings

- On Overview, in Exporting, choose Export Wizard and perform the following tasks:
  - In Options, verify that Package plug-ins as individual JAR archives is not selected.
  - In Destination, choose the directory, \$INSTALL\_DIR\birt-runtime-2\_1\_0\Report Engine, as shown in Figure 19-42.



**Figure 19-42** Using the Export wizard

The Hibernate ODA example uses MySQL as the database. The BIRT sample database and the MySQL installation scripts can be downloaded from <http://www.eclipse.org/birt/db>. For information about the required Hibernate libraries, please refer to the Hibernate web site at <http://www.hibernate.org>.

## Developing the Hibernate ODA UI extension

To use the data retrieved by the Hibernate ODA driver in a BIRT report design, you must extend the DTP design UI. To implement the Hibernate ODA UI, you extend the following extension points:

- `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.dataSource`

The `dataSource` extension point defines and implements the UI for new data source and data set wizards. These wizards use the Hibernate ODA driver plug-in to extend the functionality available in the Data Explorer of BIRT Report Designer.

- `org.eclipse.ui.propertyPages`

The `propertyPage` extension displays and manipulates the Hibernate configuration file and mapping files directory locations.

- org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.connectionProfile

The connectionProfile extension shares a data source connection between applications.

To start developing the Hibernate ODA UI plug-in, create the plug-in project, org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate.ui.

#### How to create the Hibernate ODA UI plug-in project

- 1 From the Eclipse PDE menu, choose File→New→Plug-in Project. New Project appears.
- 2 On New Project, select Plug-in Project. Choose Next. New Plug-in Project appears.
- 3 In Plug-in Project, modify the settings as shown in Table 19-27. Choose Next. Plug-in Content appears.

**Table 19-27** Settings for Plug-in Project options

Section	Option	Value
Plug-in Project	Project name	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate.ui
	Use default location	Selected
	Location	Not available when you select Use default location
Project Settings	Create a Java project	Selected
	Source folder name	src
	Output folder name	bin
Target Platform	Eclipse version	3.2
	OSGi framework	Selected Equinox

- 4 In Plug-in Content, modify the settings as shown in Table 19-28. Choose Finish.

**Table 19-28** Settings for Plug-in Content options

Section	Option	Value
Plug-in Properties	Plug-in ID	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate.ui
	Plug-in Version	2.0.0
	Plug-in Name	BIRT Hibernate UI Plug-in
	Plug-in Provider	yourCompany.com or leave blank
	Classpath	hibernateui.jar

**Table 19-28** Settings for Plug-in Content options (*continued*)

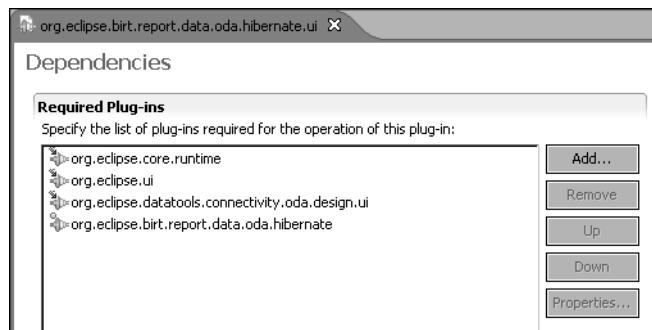
Section	Option	Value
Plug-in Options	Generate an activator, a Java class that controls the plug-in's life cycle	Selected
	Activator	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate.ui.Activator
	This plug-in will make contributions to the UI	Deselected
Rich Client Application	Would you like to create a rich client application?	No

The Hibernate ODA UI plug-in project appears in the Eclipse PDE workbench.

#### How to specify the Hibernate ODA UI dependencies

- 1 On the Eclipse PDE Manifest Editor, in Dependencies, specify the required plug-ins in the following order:
  - org.eclipse.core.runtime
  - org.eclipse.ui
  - org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui
  - org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate

Dependencies appears as shown in Figure 19-43.

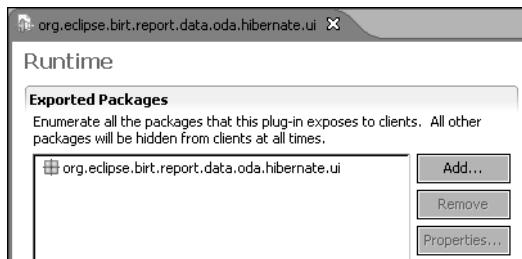


**Figure 19-43** Required plug-ins for the Hibernate ODA UI plug-in project

#### How to specify the Hibernate ODA UI runtime

On Runtime, in Exported Packages, add org.eclipse.birt.report.oda.hibernate.ui to the list of packages that this plug-in exposes to clients.

Runtime appears as shown in Figure 19-44.



**Figure 19-44** Exported packages for the Hibernate ODA UI plug-in project

#### How to specify the Hibernate ODA UI extension points

- 1 On the PDE Manifest Editor, choose Extensions.
- 2 In All Extensions, choose Add. New Extension appears.
- 3 On New Extension—Extension Points, in the list of extension points, select the following plug-in:  
`org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.dataSource`  
Choose Finish.
- 4 Repeat steps 2 and 3 to add the following extension points to the list on the Extensions page:
  - `org.eclipse.ui.propertyPages`
  - `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.connectionProfile`

#### How to add the extension details

- 1 On Extensions, select the extension point, `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.dataSource`, and add the following elements and element details:
  - `dataSourceUI`  
Add the following id:  
`org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate`  
Add the following extension element to `dataSourceUI`:  
`newDataSourceWizard`  
Add the extension element details for the extension element, `newDataSourceWizard`, as shown in Table 19-29.

**Table 19-29** Property settings for newDataSourceWizard

Property	Value
pageClass	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate.ui.HibernateDataSourceWizard
windowTitle	Hibernate Data Source
includesProgressMonitor	false
pageTitle	Hibernate Data Source

■ **dataSetUI**

Add the extension element details for the extension element, dataSetUI, as shown in Table 19-30.

**Table 19-30** Property settings for the dataSetUI extension element

Property	Value
id	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate.dataSet
initialPageId	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate.ui.HibernatePage
supportsInParameters	true
supportsOutParameters	false

- 2 On Extensions, select dataSetUI, org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate.dataSet, and add the following properties and element details:

■ **dataSetWizard**, as shown in Table 19-31**Table 19-31** Property settings for the dataSetWizard extension element

Property	Value
class	org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.wizards.DataSetWizard
windowTitle	Hibernate Data Set

■ **dataSetPage**, as shown in Table 19-32**Table 19-32** Property settings for the dataSetPage extension element

Property	Value
id	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate.ui.HibernatePage

*(continues)*

**Table 19-32** Property settings for the dataSetPage extension element (*continued*)

Property	Value
wizardPageClass	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate.ui.HibernateHqlSelectionPage
displayName	Enter HQL
path	/

- 3 On Extensions, select org.eclipse.ui.propertyPages and add the following property and extension element details for page, as shown in Table 19-33.

**Table 19-33** Property settings for the page extension element

Property	Value
id	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate.
name	ODA Hibernate Data Source Connection Properties
class	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate.ui.HibernatePropertyPage
objectClass	org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.IConnectionProfile

- 4 On Extensions, select page and add the following property and extension element details for filter, as shown in Table 19-34.

**Table 19-34** Property settings for the filter extension element

Property	Value
name	org.eclipse.datatools.profile.property.id
value	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate

- 5 On Extensions, select org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.connectionProfile, and add the following properties and element details:
- category, as shown in Table 19-35

**Table 19-35** Property settings for the filter extension element

Property	Value
id	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate
parentCategory	org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.profileCategory
name	Hibernate Data Source

- connectionProfile, as shown in Table 19-36

**Table 19-36** Property settings for the connectionProfile extension element

Property	Value
id	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate
category	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate
name	ODA Hibernate Data Source Connection Profile
pingFactory	org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.profile.OdaConnectionFactory

- connectionFactory, as shown in Table 19-37

**Table 19-37** Property settings for the connectionFactory extension element

Property	Value
id	ogr.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.IConnection
class	ogr.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.profile.OdaConnectionFactory
profile	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate
name	ODA Connection Factory

- newWizard, as shown in Table 19-35

**Table 19-38** Property settings for the newWizard extension element

Property	Value
id	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate
name	ODA Hibernate Data Source
class	org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.wizards.NewDataSourceWizard
profile	org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate
description	Create an ODA Hibernate connection profile

Extensions appears as shown in Figure 19-45.

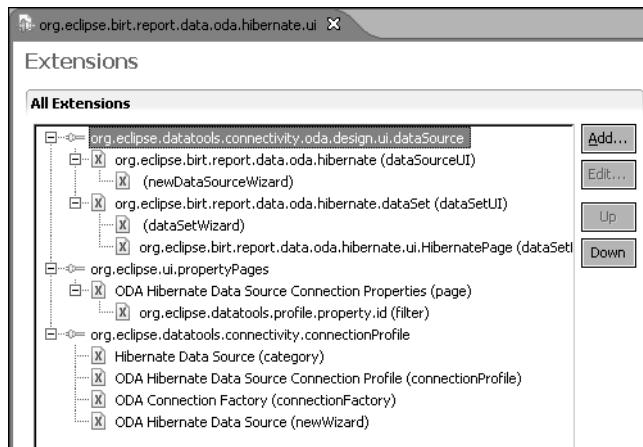


Figure 19-45 Extensions for the Hibernate ODA UI

## Understanding the sample Hibernate ODA UI extension

The following sections describe the code-based extensions a developer must make to complete the development of the Hibernate ODA UI extension, after defining the plug-in framework in the Eclipse PDE.

The Hibernate ODA UI plug-in implements the following classes:

- **HibernatePropertyPage**

Creates and initializes the editor controls for the property page that specify the ODA data source. This class updates the connection profile properties with the values collected from the page. `HibernatePropertyPage` extends `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.wizards.DataSourceEditorPage`, the abstract base class for implementing a customized ODA data source property page.

- **HibernatePageHelper**

Implements the user interface that specifies data source properties. This utility class specifies the page layout, sets up the controls that listen for user input, verifies the location of the Hibernate configuration file, and sets up the location of the mapping directory. The `HibernateDataSourceWizard` and `HibernatePropertyPage` classes use `HibernatePageHelper`.

`HibernatePageHelper` also extends `org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.wizards.DataSourceEditorPage`.

- **HibernateDataSourceWizard**

Creates and initializes the controls for the data source wizard page. The class sets the configuration file message and collects the property values. In the

extension element settings for newDataSourceWizard, the pageClass property specifies this class as the implementation class for the dataSourceUI wizard. The HibernateDataSourceWizard class extends org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.wizards.DataSourceWizardPage, the abstract base class for implementing a customized ODA data source wizard page.

- **HibernateHqlSelectionPage**

Creates the user interface that specifies an HQL statement. The Hibernate ODA UI plug-in calls HibernateHqlSelectionPage when creating or modifying the data set for a data source. In the extension element settings for dataSetPage, the wizardPageClass property specifies this class as the implementation class for the dataSetUI page wizard.

HibernateHqlSelectionPage also extends org.eclipse.datatools.connectivity.oda.design.ui.wizards.DataSourceWizardPage.

- **Messages**

This class and the related properties file, messages.properties, generate the messages displayed in the Hibernate ODA UI.

## **Understanding HibernatePageHelper**

This class creates the components that select the Hibernate configuration file and a mapping files directory using the following methods:

- **createCustomControl( )**

Builds the user interface for the data source

- **initCustomControl( )**

Sets the initial property values

- **collectCustomProperties( )**

Returns the modified properties to the ODA framework

When the data source page displays, the Finish button becomes available when the setPageComplete( ) method indicates the page is complete.

HibernateDataSourceWizard.createPageCustomControl( ) and  
HibernatePropertyPage.createAndInitCustomControl( ) call  
HibernatePageHelper. The createCustomControl( ) method is the entry point for this class.

Listing 19-51 shows the code for the createCustomControl( ) method.

---

### **Listing 19-51    The createCustomControl( ) method**

```
void createCustomControl( Composite parent )
{
    Composite content = new Composite( parent, SWT.NULL );
    GridLayout layout = new GridLayout( 3, false );
    content.setLayout(layout);
```

```

        setupConfigLocation( content );
        setupMapLocation( content );
    }
}

```

The `setupConfigLocation()` method sets up the configuration file location. The `setupMapLocation()` method sets up the mapping folder. These two methods perform similar tasks.

**Listing 19-52** shows the code for the `setupConfigLocation()` method. This method adds a label, a text entry component, and a button. The text entry component has a `ModifyListener()` method, which verifies that the file selected exists, and the button has a `SelectionAdapter()` method, which uses the `FileDialog()` method to access the configuration file.

### **Listing 19-52** The `setupConfigLocation()` method

---

```

private void setupConfigLocation( Composite composite )
{
    Label label = new Label( composite, SWT.NONE );
    label.setText("Select Hibernate Config File" );
    GridData data =
        new GridData( GridData.FILL_HORIZONTAL );
    m_configLocation = new Text( composite, SWT.BORDER );
    m_configLocation.setLayoutData( data );
    setPageComplete( true );
    m_configLocation.addModifyListener
        ( new ModifyListener()
    {
        public void modifyText( ModifyEvent e )
        {
            verifyConfigLocation( );
        }
    } );
    m_browseConfigButton = new Button( composite, SWT.NONE );
    m_browseConfigButton.setText( "..." );
    m_browseConfigButton.addSelectionListener
        ( new SelectionAdapter()
    {
        public void widgetSelected( SelectionEvent e )
        {
            FileDialog dialog = new FileDialog
                ( m_configLocation.getShell( ) );
            if( m_configLocation.getText( ) != null &&
                m_configLocation.getText( )
                    .trim( ).length( ) > 0 )
            {
                dialog.setFilterPath
                    ( m_configLocation.getText() );
            }
            dialog.setText
                ( "Select Hibernate Config File" );
            String selectedLocation = dialog.open( );
            if( selectedLocation != null )

```

```

        {
            m_configLocation.setText
                ( selectedLocation );
        }
    } );
}
}

```

The initCustomControl( ) method initializes the properties settings. The plug-in passes the properties to the method from the createPageCustomControl( ) and setInitialProperties( ) methods of the HibernateDataSourceWizard class and the createAndInitCustomControl( ) method of the HibernatePropertyPage class.

The initCustomControl( ) method retrieves the properties for the Hibernate configuration file and mapping files directory and sets text component values.

Listing 19-53 shows the code for the initCustomControl( ) method.

#### **Listing 19-53** The initCustomControl( ) method

---

```

void initCustomControl( Properties profileProps )
{
    setPageComplete( true );
    setMessage( DEFAULT_MESSAGE, IMessageProvider.NONE );
    if( profileProps == null || profileProps.isEmpty() ||
        m_configLocation == null )
        return;
    String configPath =
        profileProps.getProperty( "HIBCONFIG" );
    if( configPath == null )
        configPath = EMPTY_STRING;
    m_configLocation.setText( configPath );
    String mapPath = profileProps.getProperty( "MAPDIR" );
    if( mapPath == null )
        mapPath = EMPTY_STRING;
    m_mapLocation.setText( mapPath );
    verifyConfigLocation();
}

```

When the user presses the Finish or Test Connection button, the plug-in calls the collectCustomProperties( ) method to retrieve the new values for the Hibernate configuration file and mapping files directory. The HibernateDataSourceWizard and HibernatePropertyPage classes call the HibernatePageHelper.collectCustomProperties( ) method from their collectCustomProperties( ) methods.

Listing 19-54 shows the code for the collectCustomProperties( ) method.

#### **Listing 19-54** The collectCustomProperties( ) method

---

```

Properties collectCustomProperties( Properties props )
{
    if( props == null )
        props = new Properties( );

```

```
        props.setProperty( "HIBCONFIG",
                           getConfig( ) );
        props.setProperty( "MAPDIR", getMapDir( ) );
        return props;
    }
```

## Understanding HibernateDataSourceWizard

The HibernateDataSourceWizard class extends the DTP DataSourceWizardPage, by implementing three methods that the ODA framework calls:

- `createPageCustomControl()`  
Constructs the user interface
- `setInitialProperties()`  
Sets the initial values of the user interface
- `collectCustomProperties()`  
Retrieve the modified values

This class creates the HibernatePageHelper class, and uses the methods described earlier to handle these three methods. The ODA framework uses this class to create a new data source.

## Understanding HibernatePropertyPage

The HibernatePropertyPage class extends the DTP DataSourceEditorPage by implementing two methods that the ODA framework calls:

- `createAndInitCustomControl()`  
Constructs the user interface and sets the initial values
- `collectCustomProperties()`  
Retrieves the modified values

This class creates the HibernatePageHelper class and uses the methods described earlier to handle these two methods. The ODA framework uses this class to create a new data source.

## Understanding HibernateHqlSelectionPage

The HibernateHqlSelectionPage class extends DataSetWizardPage to define the page controls and related functionality for the Hibernate ODA data set wizard. HibernateHqlSelectionPage allows the user to create an HQL statement that selects the data set and embeds the HQL statement in the report design. This page links to the Hibernate ODA through the wizardPageClass attribute of the dataSetPage element within the dataSource extension.

The HibernateHqlSelectionPage class implements the following methods:

- **createPageControl()**

This method performs the following operations:

- Sets up a composite set of controls using a series of GridLayout and GridData objects to create the data set editor UI
- Sets the user prompt to enter an HQL statement and verify the query
- Adds a text control to allow the user to enter and modify text
- Adds a ModifyListener to the text control to detect user input
- Sets up the Verify Query button and adds a SelectionListener to detect when the user selects the button
- Returns the composite page control

Listing 19-55 shows the code for the createPageControl( ) method.

**Listing 19-55** The createPageControl( ) method

---

```
public Control createPageControl( Composite parent )
{
    Composite composite = new Composite
        ( parent, SWT.NONE );
    GridLayout layout = new GridLayout( );
    layout.numColumns = 1;
    composite.setLayout( layout );
    Label label = new Label( composite, SWT.NONE );
    label.setText( Messages.getString
        ( "wizard.title.selectColumns" ) );
    GridData data = new GridData( GridData.FILL_BOTH );
    queryText = new Text( composite, SWT.MULTI |
        SWT.WRAP | SWT.V_SCROLL );
    queryText.setLayoutData( data );
    queryText.addModifyListener( new ModifyListener( ){
        public void modifyText( ModifyEvent e )
        {
            if( m_initialized == false)
            {
                setPageComplete(true);
                m_initialized = true;
            }
            else
            {
                setPageComplete(false);
            }
        }
    } );
    setPageComplete( false );
    Composite cBottom = new Composite
        ( composite, SWT.NONE );
    cBottom.setLayoutData
```

```

        ( new GridData( GridData.FILL_HORIZONTAL ) ) ;
cBottom.setLayout( new RowLayout( ) );
queryButton = new Button( cBottom, SWT.NONE );
queryButton.setText( Messages.getString
        ( "wizard.title.verify" ) );
queryButton.addSelectionListener
        ( new SelectionAdapter( ) )
{
    public void widgetSelected( SelectionEvent event )
    {
        verifyQuery( );
    }
} );
return composite;
}

```

- **initializeControl()**

The plug-in calls this method to retrieve the HQL query from the current design and initializes the HQL text component with this value. initializeControl() also reads the Hibernate configuration file and mapping files directory from the report design and stores them in member variables for use when building a query.

Listing 19-56 shows the code for the initializeControl() method.

**Listing 19-56** The initializeControl() method

---

```

private void initializeControl( )
{
    Properties dataSourceProps =
        getInitializationDesign( ).getDataSourceDesign( )
            .getPublicProperties( );
    m_hibconfig =
        dataSourceProps.getProperty( "HIBCONFIG" );
    m_mapdir = dataSourceProps.getProperty( "MAPDIR" );
    DataSetDesign dataSetDesign =
        getInitializationDesign( );
    if( dataSetDesign == null )
        return;
    String queryTextTmp = dataSetDesign.getQueryText( );
    if( queryTextTmp == null )
        return;
    queryText.setText( queryTextTmp );
    this.m_initialized = false;
    setMessage( "", NONE );
}

```

- **verifyQuery()**

This method is the selection event called when the user chooses the Verify Query button. verifyQuery performs the following operations:

- Opens a connection to the run-time environment.

- Instantiates a Query object and gets the query text entered by the user.
- Prepares the query.
- Checks the column to determine if the query prepare was successful. Depending on the success of the query prepare, verifyQuery( ) indicates that page processing is complete or incomplete.
- Re-enables the Verify Query button.
- Closes the connection.

Listing 19-57 shows the code for the verifyQuery( ) method.

**Listing 19-57** The verifyQuery( ) method

---

```

boolean verifyQuery( )
{
    setMessage( "Verifying Query", INFORMATION );
    setPageComplete( false );
    queryButton.setEnabled( false );
    Connection conn = new Connection( );
    try
    {
        Properties prop = new Properties( );
        if ( m_hibconfig == null)m_hibconfig = "";
        if ( m_mapdir == null)m_mapdir = "";
        prop.put("HIBCONFIG", m_hibconfig );
        prop.put("MAPDIR", m_mapdir);
        conn.open( prop );
        IQuery query = conn.newQuery( "" );
        query.prepare( queryText.getText( ) );
        int columnCount =
            query.getMetaData( ).getColumnCount( );
        if ( columnCount == 0 )
        {
            setPageComplete( false );
            return false;
        }
        setPageComplete( true );
        return true;
    }
    catch ( OdaException e )
    {
        System.out.println( e.getMessage( ) );
        showError( "ODA Verify Exception", e.getMessage( ) );
        setPageComplete( false );
        return false
    }
    catch ( Exception e )
    {
        System.out.println( e.getMessage( ) );
        showError( "Verify Exception", e.getMessage( ) );
        setPageComplete( false );
        return false;
    }
}

```

```

        }
    finally
    {
        try
        {
            queryButton.setEnabled( true );
            conn.close( );
        }
        catch ( OdaException e )
        {
            System.out.println( e.getMessage( ) );
            setMessage( e.getLocalizedMessage( ),
                        ERROR );e.getMessage( );
            setPageComplete( false );
            return false;
        }
    }
}

```

- **canLeave()**

When the user chooses OK or attempts to leave the page, the plug-in calls the canLeave( ) method. If the HQL statement verifies or is unchanged, the plug-in permits the user to leave the page, and saves the HQL in the report. If the page is not complete the plug-in prompts the user to verify the query.

Listing 19-58 shows the code for the canLeave( ) method.

---

**Listing 19-58** The canLeave( ) method

---

```

public boolean canLeave( )
{
    if ( !isPageComplete( ) )
    {
        setMessage( Messages.getString
                    ( "error.selectColumns" ), ERROR );
        return false;
    }
    return true;
}

```

- **savePage()**

The savePage( ) method is called when the ODA framework calls the collectDataSetDesign( ) method. This action occurs when the user presses the Finish button on the new data set wizard or the OK button on the data set editor is pressed. The savePage( ) method saves the query to the report, as shown in Listing 19-59.

---

**Listing 19-59** The savePage( ) method

---

```

private boolean savePage( )
{
    IConnection conn = null;
}

```

```

try
{
    IDriver hqDriver = new HibernateDriver( );
    conn = hqDriver.getConnection( null );
    IResultSetMetaData metadata =
        getResultSetMetaData( dataSetDesign
            .getQueryText( ), conn );
    setResultSetMetaData( dataSetDesign, metadata );
}
catch( OdaException e )
{
    dataSetDesign.setResultSetSets( null );
}
finally
{
    closeConnection( conn );
}
}

```

- **getResultSetMetaData()**

The savePage( ) method calls the getResultSetMetaData( ) method when saving the report design. This method retrieves the query metadata that setResultSetMetaData( ) uses to create the data set columns.

Listing 19-60 shows the code for the getResultSetMetaData( ) method.

**Listing 19-60** The getResultSetMetaData( ) method

---

```

private IResultSetMetaData getResultSetMetaData
( String queryText, IConnection conn )
throws OdaException
{
    java.util.Properties prop =
new java.util.Properties( );
if( m_hibconfig == null)m_hibconfig = "";
if( m_mapdir == null)m_mapdir = "";
prop.put( "HIBCONFIG", m_hibconfig );
prop.put( "MAPDIR", m_mapdir );
conn.open( prop );
IQuery query = conn.newQuery( null );
query.prepare( queryText );
return query.getMetaData( );
}

```

- **setResultSetMetaData()**

The savePage( ) method calls the setResultSetMetaData( ) method when saving the report design. This method uses the DataSetDesign and the ResultSetMetaData objects for the query to create the columns in the data set for use in the report design.

Listing 19-61 shows the code for the setResultSetMetaData( ) method.

---

**Listing 19-61** The setResultSetMetaData( ) method

```
private void setResultSetMetaData
    ( DataSetDesign dataSetDesign,
      IResultSetMetaData md ) throws OdaException
{
    ResultSetColumns columns =
        DesignSessionUtil.toResultSetColumnsDesign( md );
    ResultSetDefinition resultSetDefn =
        DesignFactory.eINSTANCE
            .createResultSetDefinition( );
    resultSetDefn.setResultSetColumns( columns );
    dataSetDesign.setPrimaryResultSet( resultSetDefn );
    dataSetDesign.getResultSets().setDerivedMetaData( true );
}
```

- collectDataSetDesign()

The plug-in calls this method when creating or modifying the query finishes. The plug-in passes the current design to this method.

collectDataSetDesign( ) then verifies that a query exists and sets the design query to the value of the query text. The savePage( ) method saves the design and creates the columns in the data set.

Listing 19-62 shows the code for the collectDataSetDesign( ) method.

---

**Listing 19-62** The collectDataSetDesign( ) method

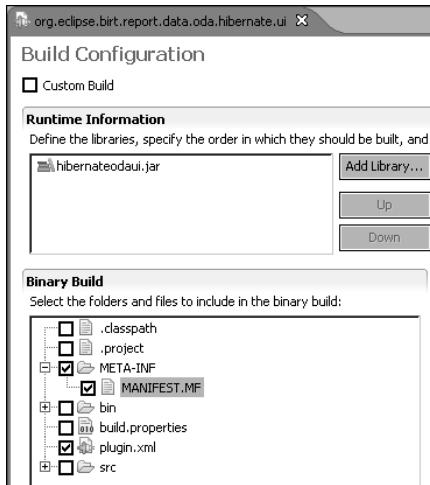
```
protected DataSetDesign collectDataSetDesign
    ( DataSetDesign design )
{
    if( ! hasValidData( ) )
        return design;
    design.setQueryText( queryText.getText( ) );
    savePage( design );
    return design;
}
```

## Building the Hibernate ODA UI plug-in

To build and deploy the org.eclipse.birt.report.data.oda.hibernate.ui plug-in using the Eclipse PDE Manifest Editor, perform the following tasks:

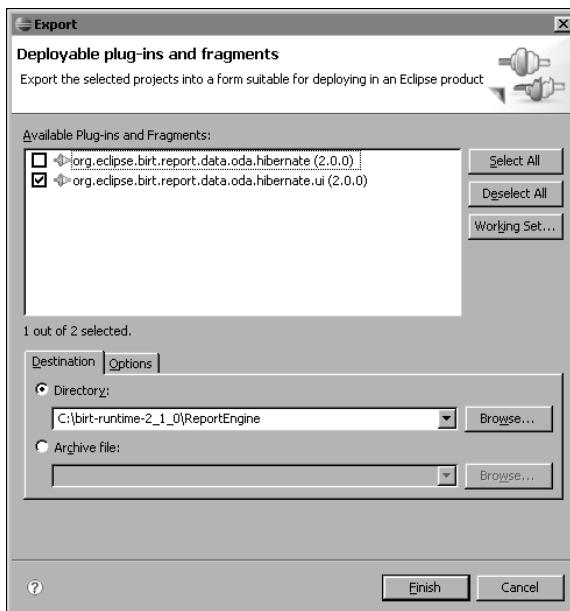
- On Build, specify the Build Configuration to include the following items:
  - In Runtime Information, add the hibernateodaui.jar file.
  - In Binary Build, select the following files and folders:
    - META-INF
    - plugin.xml

Build Configuration appears, as shown in Figure 19-46.



**Figure 19-46** Build Configuration settings

- On Overview, in Exporting, choose Export Wizard and perform the following tasks:
  - In Options, verify that Package plug-ins as individual JAR archives is not selected.
  - In Destination, choose the directory, \$INSTALL\_DIR\birt-runtime-2\_1\_0\Report Engine, as shown in Figure 19-47.



**Figure 19-47** Using the Export wizard

## Testing the Hibernate ODA UI plug-in

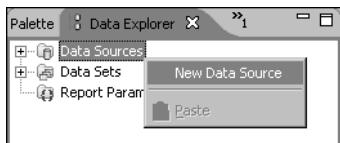
You can test the Hibernate ODA UI plug-in using a run-time instance of the Eclipse PDE workbench.

### How to launch the Hibernate ODA UI plug-in

- 1 On the Eclipse PDE Manifest Editor, in Overview—Testing, choose Launch an Eclipse application.
- 2 In the run-time workbench, choose the Report Design perspective.
- 3 In Report Design, create a new report project and create a new blank report.

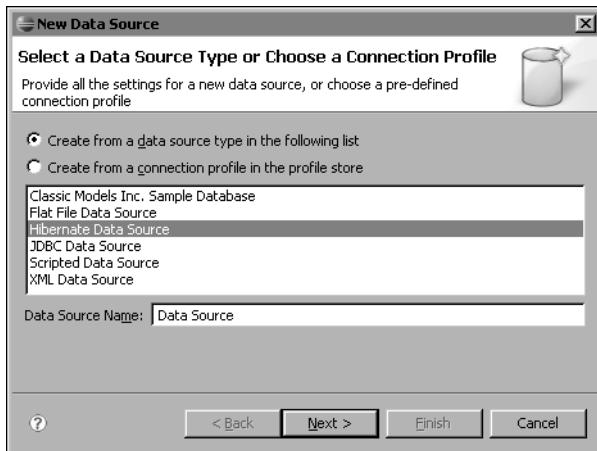
### How to specify a data source and data set

- 1 In Report Design, choose Data Explorer. Data Explorer appears.
- 2 In Data Explorer, right-click Data Sources and choose New Data Source, as shown in Figure 19-48. New Data Source appears.



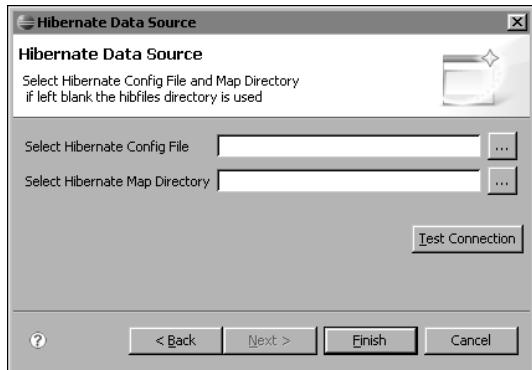
**Figure 19-48** Choosing New Data Source

On New Data Source, choose Create from a data source type in the following list and select Hibernate Data Source as the data source type, as shown in Figure 19-49. Choose Next.



**Figure 19-49** Selecting Hibernate Data Source

Hibernate Data Source appears, as shown in Figure 19-50. On Hibernate Data Source, select the Hibernate configuration file and mapping directory or leave these items blank if you use the hibfiles directory. Choose Finish.



**Figure 19-50** Configuring the Hibernate Data Source

Data Explorer appears with the new data source in Data Sources, as shown in Figure 19-51.



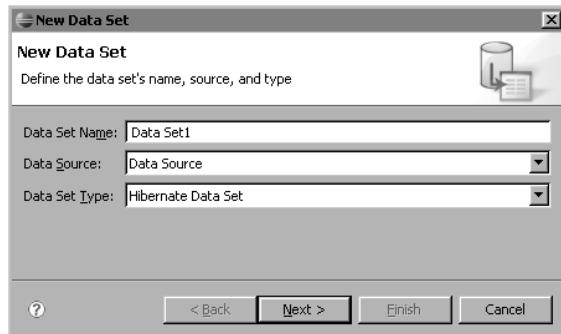
**Figure 19-51** New data source in Data Explorer

- 3 In Data Explorer, right-click Data Sets and choose New Data Set, as shown in Figure 19-52.



**Figure 19-52** Choosing New Data Set

New Data Set appears, as shown in Figure 19-53.



**Figure 19-53** New Data Set

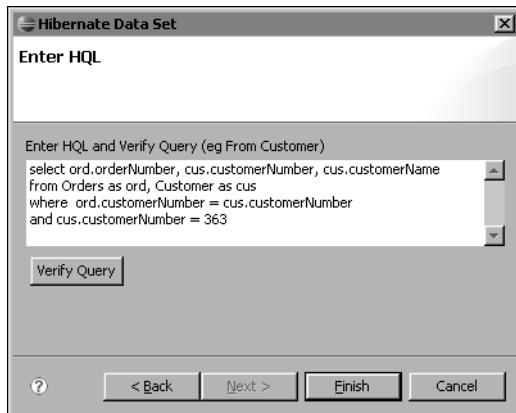
Choose Next. Hibernate Data Set appears.

- 4 On Edit Data Set, perform the following tasks:

- 1 In Enter HQL and Verify Query, type:

```
select ord.orderNumber, cus.customerNumber,  
      cus.customerName  
  from Orders as ord, Customer as cus  
 where ord.customerNumber = cus.customerNumber  
   and cus.customerNumber = 363
```

Edit Data Set displays the query, as shown in Figure 19-54.



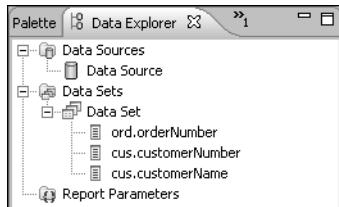
**Figure 19-54** Editing the HQL query

- 2 Choose Verify Query.
- 3 Choose Finish. Edit Data Set appears. Choose Preview Results. Preview Results appears as shown in Figure 19-55.

**Figure 19-55** Previewing the data set

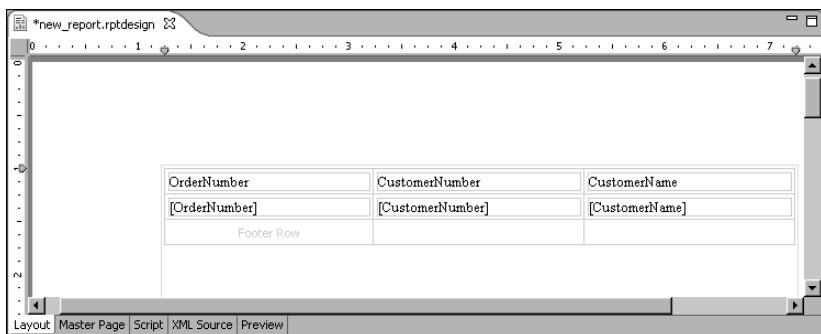
Choose OK. Data Explorer appears.

- 5** On Data Explorer, expand Data Sets. The new data set lists three columns, as shown in Figure 19-56.



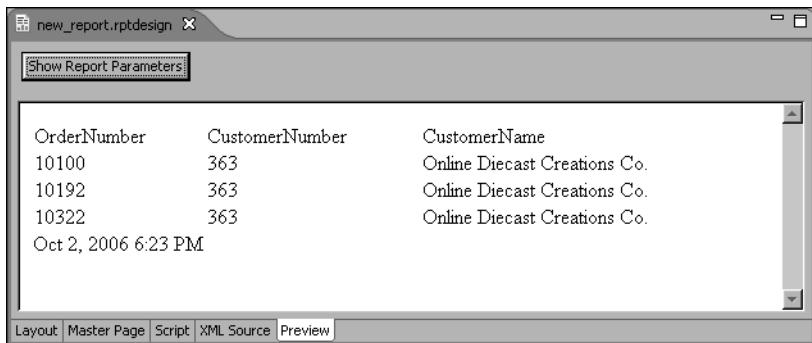
**Figure 19-56** Data set in Data Explorer

- 6** To build a report that uses the data set, perform the following tasks:
- 1 On Data Explorer, drag Data Set to the layout editor. The layout appears as shown in Figure 19-57.



**Figure 19-57** Report design in the layout editor

- 2 To view the output for new\_report\_1.rptdesign, choose Preview. The Preview appears as shown in Figure 19-58.



**Figure 19-58** Preview of the report design

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## **abstract base class**

A class that organizes a class hierarchy or defines methods and variables that apply to descendant classes. An abstract base class does not support the creation of instances.

### **Related terms**

class, class hierarchy, descendant class, object, method, variable

## **Active Server Page (ASP)**

A web server technology that Microsoft Corporation developed. ASPs support the creation of dynamic, interactive sessions. The technology contains both HTML and embedded programming code that is written in VBScript or JavaScript.

### **Related terms**

hypertext markup language (HTML), JavaScript, VBScript (Visual Basic Script Edition), web server

### **Contrast with**

JavaServer Page (JSP)

## **aggregate expression**

An expression that uses an aggregate function to produce an aggregate value. For example, the expression, Total.max(row["SPEED"]), produces an aggregate value that is the maximum value of the field, SPEED, in the data rows.

### **Related terms**

aggregate function, aggregate value, data row, expression, field, value

### **Contrast with**

regular expression

## **aggregate function**

A function that performs a calculation over a set of data rows. For example, Total.ave( ) calculates the average value of a specified numeric field over a set of data rows. An aggregate expression can contain one or more of the following aggregate functions: Total.ave( ), Total.count( ), Total.countDistinct( ), Total.first( ), Total.last( ), Total.max( ), Total.median( ), Total.min( ),

`Total.mode()`, `Total.movingAve()`, `Total.runningSum()`, `Total.stdDev()`, `Total.sum()`, `Total.variance()`, and `Total.weightedAve()`.

**Related terms**

aggregate expression, data row, function

**Contrast with**

aggregate value

**aggregate value**

The result of applying an aggregate function to a set of data rows. For example, consider a set of data rows with a field, SPEED, which has values: 20, 10, 30, 15, 40. The aggregate expression, `Total.max(row["SPEED"])`, produces the aggregate value, 40, which is the maximum value for the field.

**Related terms**

aggregate expression, aggregate function, data row, field, value

**alias**

- 1 In a SQL SELECT statement, an alternative name given to a database table or column.
- 2 An alternative name that is given to a table column for use in an expression or in code in a script method. This name must be a valid variable name that begins with a letter and contains only alphanumeric characters.

**Related terms**

column, expression, method, SQL SELECT statement, table, variable

**Contrast with**

display name

**ancestor class**

A class in the inheritance hierarchy from which a particular class directly or indirectly derives.

**Related terms**

class, inheritance

**Contrast with**

class hierarchy, descendant class, subclass, superclass

**applet**

A small desktop application that usually performs a simple task, for example, a Java program that runs directly from the web browser.

**Related terms**

application, Java

**application**

A complete, self-contained program that performs a specific set of related tasks.

**Contrast with**

applet

## **application programming interface (API)**

A set of routines, including functions, methods, and procedures, that exposes application functionality to support integration and extend applications.

### **Related terms**

application, function, method, procedure

**argument** A constant, expression, or variable that supplies data to a function or method.

### **Related terms**

constant, data, expression, function, method, variable

**array** A data variable that consists of sequentially indexed elements that have the same data type. Each element has a common name, a common data type, and a unique index number identifier. Changes to an element of an array do not affect other elements.

### **Related terms**

data, data type, variable

## **assignment statement**

A statement that assigns a value to a variable. For example:

```
StringToDisplay = "My Name"
```

### **Related terms**

statement, value, variable

**BIRT** *See Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT).*

## **BIRT extension**

*See Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) extension.*

## **BIRT Report Designer**

*See Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Designer.*

## **BIRT technology**

*See Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) technology.*

**bookmark** An expression that identifies a report element. A bookmark is used in a hyperlink expression.

### **Related terms**

expression, hyperlink, report element

## **Boolean expression**

An expression that evaluates to True or False. For example, Total > 3000 is a Boolean expression. If the condition is met, the condition evaluates to True. If the condition is not met, the condition evaluates to False.

### **Related term**

expression

**Contrast with**  
numeric expression

## breakpoint

In BIRT Report Designer, a place marker in a program that is being debugged. At a breakpoint, execution pauses so that the report developer can examine and edit data values as necessary.

### Related terms

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Designer, data, debug, value

## bridge class

A class that maps the functionality of one class to the similar behavior of another class. For example, the JDBC-ODBC bridge class enables applications that use standard JDBC protocol to access a database that uses the ODBC protocol. BIRT Report Designer and BIRT RCP Report Designer use this type of class.

### Related terms

application, Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Designer, Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Rich Client Platform (RCP) Report Designer, class, Java Database Connectivity (JDBC), open database connectivity (ODBC), protocol

## Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT)

A reporting platform that is built on the Eclipse platform, the industry standard for open source software development. BIRT provides a complete solution for extracting data, processing data to answer business questions, and presenting the results in a formatted document that is meaningful to end users.

### Related terms

data, Eclipse, report

### Contrast with

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) extension

## Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Chart Engine

A tool that supports designing and deploying charts outside a report design. With this engine, Java developers embed charting capabilities into an application. BIRT Chart Engine is a set of Eclipse plug-ins and Java archive (.jar) files. The chart engine is also known as the charting library.

### Related terms

application, Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), chart, design, Eclipse platform, Java, Java archive (.jar) file, plug-in, report

### Contrast with

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Engine

## **Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Demo Database**

A sample database that is used in tutorials in online help for BIRT Report Designer and BIRT RCP Report Designer. This package provides this demo database in Derby, Microsoft Access, and MySQL formats.

### **Related terms**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Designer, Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Rich Client Platform (RCP) Report Designer

## **Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) extension**

A related set of extension points that adds custom functionality to the BIRT platform. BIRT extensions are:

- Charting extension
- Open data access (ODA) extension
- Rendering extension
- Report item extension

### **Related terms**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), charting extension, extension, extension point, rendering extension, report, report item extension

## **Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Designer**

A tool that builds BIRT report designs and previews reports that are generated from the designs. BIRT Report Designer is a set of plug-ins to the Eclipse platform and includes BIRT Chart Engine, BIRT Demo Database, and BIRT Report Engine. A report developer who uses this tool can access the full capabilities of the Eclipse platform.

### **Related terms**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Chart Engine, Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Demo Database, Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Engine, design, Eclipse platform, plug-in, report

### **Contrast with**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Rich Client Platform (RCP) Report Designer

## **Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Engine**

A component that supports deploying BIRT charting, reporting and viewing capabilities on an application server. BIRT Report Engine consists of a set of Java archive (.jar) files, web archive (.war) files, and web applications.

### **Related terms**

application, Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), Java archive (.jar) file, report, web archive (.war) file

### **Contrast with**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Chart Engine

## **Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Rich Client Platform (RCP) Report Designer**

A stand-alone tool that builds BIRT report designs and previews reports that are generated from the designs. BIRT RCP Report Designer uses the Eclipse Rich Client Platform. This tool includes BIRT Report Engine, BIRT Chart Engine, and BIRT Demo Database. BIRT RCP Report Designer supports report design and preview functionality without the additional overhead of the full Eclipse platform. BIRT RCP Report Designer does not support the Java-based scripting and the report debugger functionality it provides. BIRT RCP Report Designer can use, but not create, BIRT extensions.

### **Related terms**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) extension, Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Chart Engine, Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Demo Database, Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Engine, debug, design, Eclipse platform, Eclipse Rich Client Platform (RCP), extension, JavaScript, library (.rptlibrary) file, plug-in, report

### **Contrast with**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Designer

## **Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Samples**

A sample of a BIRT report item extension and examples of BIRT charting applications. The report item extension sample is an Eclipse platform plug-in. The charting applications use BIRT Chart Engine. Java developers use these examples as models of how to design custom report items and embed charting capabilities in an application.

### **Related terms**

application, Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Chart Engine, chart, design, Eclipse, Eclipse platform, Java, plug-in, report, report item, report item extension

## **Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) technology**

A set of Java applications and APIs that support the design and deployment of a business report. BIRT applications include BIRT Report Designer, BIRT RCP Report Designer, and a report viewer web application servlet. The BIRT Java APIs provide programmatic access to BIRT functionality.

### **Related terms**

application, application programming interface (API), Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Designer, Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Rich Client Platform (RCP) Report Designer, Java, report viewer servlet

## **Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Test Suite**

A set of test packages for BIRT. BIRT developers use these test packages to perform regression testing when they modify BIRT source code. Report developers and application developers do not need to install this BIRT Test Suite.

**Related terms**

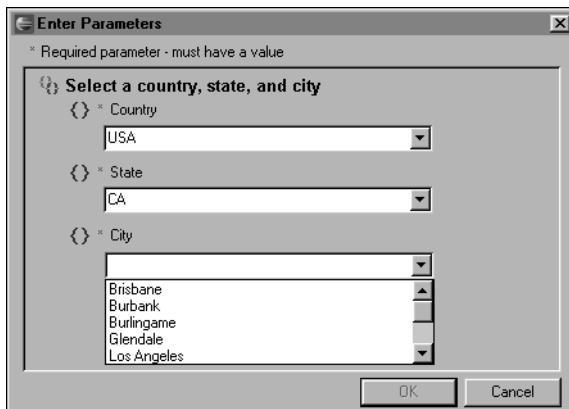
application, Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), report

**cascading parameters**

Report parameters that have a hierarchical relationship. For example, the following parameters have a hierarchical relationship:

Country  
State  
City

In a group of cascading parameters, each report parameter displays a set of values. When a report user selects a value from the top-level parameter, the selected value determines the values that the next parameter displays, and so on. Cascading parameters display only relevant values to the user. Figure G-1 shows cascading parameters as they appear to a report user.



**Figure G-1** Cascading parameters

**Related terms**

hierarchy, parameter, report, value

**Contrast with**

cascading style sheet (CSS)

**cascading style sheet (CSS)**

A file that contains a set of rules that attach formats and styles to specified HTML elements. For example, a cascading style sheet can specify the color, font, and size for an HTML heading.

**Related terms**

element, font, hypertext markup language (HTML), style

**Contrast with**

template

## **case sensitivity**

A condition in which the letter case is significant for the purposes of comparison. For example, “McManus” does not match “MCMANUS” or “mcmanus” in a case-sensitive environment.

**category** In an area, bar, line, step, or stock chart, one of the discrete values that organizes data on an axis that does not use a numerical scale. Typically, the x-axis of a chart displays category values. In a pie chart, category values are called orthogonal axis values and define which sectors appear in a pie.

**Related terms**

chart, data, value

**Contrast with**

series

**cell** An intersection of a row and a column in a grid element, or table element. Figure G-2 shows a cell.

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Row 1	Data	Data	Data
Row 2	Data	Data	Data
Row 3	Data	Data	Data
Row 4	Data	Data	Data

**Figure G-2** Cell

**Related terms**

column, grid element, row, table element

**character** An elementary mark that represents data, usually in the form of a graphic spatial arrangement of connected or adjacent strokes, such as a letter or a digit. A character is independent of font size and other display properties. For example, an uppercase C is a character.

**Related term**

data

**Contrast with**

character set, glyph

## **character set**

A mapping of specific characters to code points. For example, in most character sets, the letter A maps to the hexadecimal value 0x21.

**Related terms**

character, code point

**Contrast with**

locale

**chart** A graphic representation of data or the relationships among sets of data.

**Related term**  
data

## chart element

A report item that displays values from data rows in the form of a chart. The chart element can use data rows from the report design's data set or a different data set. A report item extension defines the chart element.

**Related terms**

chart, data, data row, data set, design, element, report, report item, report item extension, value

**Contrast with**

charting extension

## chart engine

*See Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Chart Engine.*

## charting extension

ABIRT extension that adds a new type of chart, a new component to an existing chart type, or a new user interface component to the BIRT chart engine.

**Related terms**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) extension, Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Chart Engine, chart, extension

## charting library

*See Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Chart Engine.*

## class

A set of methods and variables that defines the attributes and behavior of an object. All objects of a given class are identical in form and behavior but can contain different data in their variables.

**Related terms**

data, method, object, variable

**Contrast with**

subclass, superclass

## class hierarchy

A tree structure that represents the inheritance relationships among a set of classes.

**Related terms**

class, inheritance

## class name

A unique name for a class that permits unambiguous references to its public methods and variables.

**Related terms**

class, method, variable

## **class variable**

A variable that all instances of a class share. The run-time system creates only one copy of a class variable. The value of the class variable is the same for all instances of the class, for example, the taxRate variable in an Order class.

### **Related terms**

class, object, value, variable

### **Contrast with**

class variable, dynamic variable, field variable, global variable, instance variable, local variable, member variable, static variable

## **code point**

A hexadecimal value. Every character in a character set is represented by a code point. The computer uses the code point to process the character.

### **Related terms**

character, character set

## **column**

- 1 A named field in a database table or query. For each data row, the column has a different value, called the column value. The term column refers to the definition of the column, not to any particular value. Figure G-3 shows a column in a database table.

items	
	itemcode
	description
	pricequote
	quantity
	category
	orderID

**Figure G-3** Column in a database table

- 2 A vertical sequence of cells in a cross tab, grid element, or table element. Figure G-4 shows a column in a cross tab.

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Row 1	Data	Data	Data
Row 2	Data	Data	Data
Row 3	Data	Data	Data
Row 4	Data	Data	Data

**Figure G-4** Column in a cross tab

### **Related terms**

cell, cross tab, field, grid element, query, data row, table, table element, value

## **column binding**

A named column that defines an expression that specifies what data to return. For each piece of data to display in a report, there must be column binding. Column bindings form an intermediate layer between data-set data and report elements.

### **Related terms**

column, data, data set, expression, report, report element

## **Common Gateway Interface (CGI)**

An internet standard that describes how a web server accesses external programs to return data to the user as a generated web page. When a web user fills out a form, a CGI program handles the data and calls other programs as necessary.

### **Related terms**

data, web page, web server

## **computed column**

*See* computed field.

## **computed field**

A field that displays the result of an expression rather than stored data.

### **Related terms**

field, data, expression

### **Contrast with**

computed value

## **computed value**

The result of a calculation that is defined by an expression. To display a computed value in a report, use a data element.

### **Related terms**

data element, expression, report, value

### **Contrast with**

computed field

## **conditional expression**

*See* Boolean expression.

## **configuration file**

In open data access (ODA), a file that specifies the ODA interface version of the driver and defines the structure, contents, and semantics of requests and responses between the open data source and the design tool.

### **Related terms**

data source, interface, open data access (ODA), open data access (ODA) driver, request, response

## **Connection**

A Java object that provides access to a data source.

### **Related terms**

data source, Java, object

**constant** An unchanging, predefined value. A constant does not change while a program is running, but the value of a field or variable can change.

### **Contrast with**

field, value, variable

## **constructor code**

Code that initializes an instance of a class.

### **Related terms**

class, object

**container** 1 An application that acts as a master program to hold and execute a set of commands or to run other software routines. For example, application servers provide containers that support communication between applications and Enterprise JavaBeans.  
2 A data structure that holds one or more different types of data. For example, a grid element can contain label elements and other report items.

### **Related terms**

application, data, Enterprise JavaBean (EJB), grid element, label element, report item

## **containment**

A relationship among instantiated objects in a report. One object, the container, incorporates other objects, the contents.

### **Related terms**

container, instantiation, object, report

## **containment hierarchy**

A hierarchy of objects in a report.

### **Related terms**

hierarchy, object, report

**converter** A tool that converts data from one format to another format.

### **Related terms**

data, format

**cross tab** A report that summarizes data from database table columns into a concise format for analysis. Data appears in a matrix with rows and columns. Every cell in a cross tab contains an aggregate value. A cross tab shows how one item relates to another, such as order totals by credit rating and order status. Figure G-5 shows a cross tab.

Order Totals by Credit Rating and Order Status												
	A			B			C			Totals		
	Quantity	Ave Qty	Amount	Quantity	Ave Qty	Amount	Quantity	Ave Qty	Amount	Quantity	Ave Qty	Amount
Open	98,205	349	9,870,799	40,472	283	4,873,517	4,980	332	636,555	143,857	327	15,180,871
Closed	171,813	365	20,633,175	131,183	497	14,465,314	21,790	198	2,591,731	324,786	384	37,690,220
In Evaluation	90,969	469	12,135,328	22,168	411	2,598,936	0	0	0	113,137	456	14,732,262
Cancelled	23,944	855	3,029,520	0	0	0	0	0	0	23,944	855	3,029,520
Selected	10,540	627	1,375,204	0	0	0	0	0	0	10,540	627	1,375,204
Totals	395,471	398	47,044,024	193,823	420	21,735,767	26,770	214	3,228,286	616,064	390	72,008,077

**Figure G-5** Cross tab

#### Related terms

aggregate value, cell, column, data, grid, report, row, table, value

#### Contrast with

aggregate function

## CSS

See cascading style sheet (CSS).

## custom data source

See open data access (ODA).

## data

Information that is stored in databases, flat files, or other data sources that can appear in a report.

#### Related terms

data source, flat file, report

#### Contrast with

metadata

## data element



A report item that displays a computed value or a value from a data set field.

#### Related terms

computed value, data set, element, field, report item, value

#### Contrast with

label element, Report Object Model (ROM) element, text element

## Data Explorer

An Eclipse view that shows the data sources, data sets, and report parameters that were created for use in a report. Use Data Explorer to create, edit, or delete these items. Figure G-6 shows Data Explorer.



**Figure G-6** Data Explorer

**Related terms**

data set, data source, Eclipse view, parameter, report

**data point**

A point on a chart that corresponds to a particular pair of x- and y-axis values.

**Related terms**

chart, value

**Contrast with**

data row, data set

**data row**

One row of data that a data set returns. A data set, which specifies the data to retrieve from a data source, typically returns many data rows.

**Related terms**

data, data set, data source, row

**Contrast with**

data point, filter

**data set**

A description of the data to retrieve or compute from a data source.

**Related terms**

data, data source

**Contrast with**

data point, data row

**data set field**

*See* column.

**data set parameter**

A parameter that is associated with a data set column and passes an expression to extend dynamically the query's WHERE clause. A data set parameter restricts the number of data rows that the data set supplies to the report.

**Related terms**

column, data row, data set, expression, parameter, query, report

**Contrast with**

report parameter

**data source**

- 1 A SQL database or other repository of data. For example, a flat file can be a data source.
- 2 An object that contains the connection information for an external data source, such as a flat file, a SQL database, or another repository of data.

**Related terms**

data, flat file, SQL (Structured Query Language)

**Contrast with**

data row, data set

- data type**
- 1 A category for values that determines their characteristics, such as the information they can hold and the permitted operations.
  - 2 The data type of a value determines the default appearance of the value in a report. This appearance depends on the locale in which a user generates the report. For example, the order in which year, month, and day appear in a date-and-time data value depends on the locale. BIRT uses three fundamental data types: date-and-time, numeric, and string. Data sources such as relational databases support more data types, which BIRT maps to the appropriate fundamental data type.

**Related terms**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), date-and-time data type, locale, numeric data type, report, String data type, value, variable

**database connection**

*See* data source.

**database management system (DBMS)**

Software that organizes simultaneous access to shared data. Database management systems store relationships among various data elements.

**Related term**

data

**database schema**

*See* schema.

**date-and-time data type**

A data type for date-and-time calculations. Report items can contain expressions or fields with a date-and-time data type. The appearance of date-and-time values in the report document is based on locale and format settings specified by your computer and the report design.

**Related terms**

data type, design, expression, field, format, locale, report, report item

**debug**

To detect, locate, and fix errors. Typically, debugging involves executing specific portions of a computer program and analyzing the operation of those portions.

**declaration**

The definition of a class, constant, method, or variable that specifies the name and, if appropriate, the data type.

**Related terms**

class, constant, data type, method, variable

**derived class**

*See* descendant class.

## **descendant class**

A class that is based on another class.

### **Related term**

class

### **Contrast with**

subclass, superclass

## **design**

- 1 To create a report specification. Designing a report includes selecting data, laying out the report visually, and saving the layout in a report design file.
- 2 A report specification. A report design (.rptdesign) file contains a report design.

### **Related terms**

data, layout, report, report design (.rptdesign) file

## **DHTML (dynamic hypertext markup language)**

*See dynamic hypertext markup language (DHTML).*

## **display name**

An alternative name for a table column, report parameter, chart series, or user-defined ROM property. BIRT Report Designer displays this alternative name in the user interface, for example, as a column heading in a report. This name can contain any character, including spaces and punctuation.

### **Related terms**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Designer, character, chart, column, Data Explorer, report, report parameter, Report Object Model (ROM), table, value

### **Contrast with**

alias

## **document object model (DOM)**

A model that defines the structure of a document such as an HTML or XML document. The document object model defines interfaces that dynamically create, access, and manipulate the internal structure of the document. The URL to the W3C document object model is:

[www.w3.org/DOM/](http://www.w3.org/DOM/)

### **Related terms**

extensible markup language (XML), hypertext markup language (HTML), interface, Uniform Resource Locator (URL), World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)

### **Contrast with**

document type definition (DTD), structured content

## **document type definition (DTD)**

A set of markup tags and the interpretation of those tags that together define the structure of an XML document.

**Related terms**

extensible markup language (XML), tag

**Contrast with**

document object model (DOM), schema, structured content

**domain name**

A name that defines a node on the internet. For example, the Eclipse Foundation's domain name is eclipse. The URL is:

[www.eclipse.org](http://www.eclipse.org)

**Related terms**

node, Uniform Resource Locator (URL)

**driver**

An interface that supports communication between an application and another application or a peripheral device such as a printer.

**Related term**

interface

**dynamic hypertext markup language (DHTML)**

An HTML extension that provides enhanced viewing capabilities and interactivity in a web page without the necessity for communication with a web server. The Document Object Model Group of the W3C develops DHTML standards.

**Related terms**

document object model (DOM), hypertext markup language (HTML), web page, web server, World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)

**dynamic text element**

A data element that displays text data that contains multiple style formats and a variable amount of text. A dynamic text element adjusts its size to accommodate varying amounts of data. Use a dynamic text element to display a data source field that contains formatted text. A dynamic text element supports plain or HTML text.

**Related terms**

data, data source, field, format, hypertext markup language (HTML)

**Contrast with**

text element

**dynamic variable**

A variable that changes during program execution. The program requests the memory allocation for a dynamic variable at run time.

**Related term**

variable

**Contrast with**

class variable, field variable, global variable, instance variable, local variable, member variable, static variable

**Eclipse** An open platform for tool integration that is built by an open community of tool providers. The Eclipse platform is written in Java and includes extensive plug-ins in construction toolkits and examples.

**Related terms**

Eclipse platform, Java, plug-in

**Contrast with**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) extension

### Eclipse Modeling Framework (EMF)

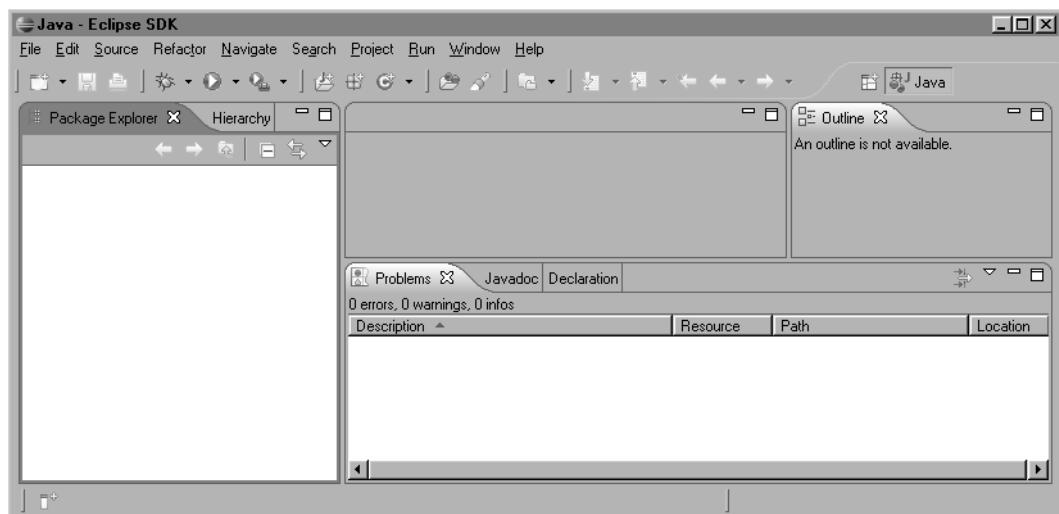
A Java framework and code generation facility for building tools and other applications that are based on a structured model. EMF uses XML schemas to generate the EMF model of a plug-in. For example, a BIRT chart type uses EMF to represent the chart structure and properties.

**Related terms**

application, Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) technology, chart, Eclipse, extensible markup language (XML), framework, Java, plug-in, property, schema

### Eclipse perspective

A predefined layout of the Eclipse Workbench, including which Eclipse views are visible and where they appear. A perspective also controls what appears in certain menus and toolbars. A user can switch the perspective to work on a different task and can rearrange and customize a perspective to better suit a particular task. Figure G-7 shows the Eclipse perspective.



**Figure G-7** Eclipse perspective

**Related terms**

Eclipse, Eclipse view, Eclipse Workbench

## Eclipse platform

The core framework and services in which Eclipse plug-in extensions exist. The Eclipse platform provides the run time in which plug-ins load and run. The Eclipse platform consists of a core component and a user interface component. The user interface component is known as the Eclipse Workbench. The core portion of the Eclipse platform is called the platform core or the core.

### Related terms

Eclipse, Eclipse Workbench, extension, framework, plug-in

## Eclipse Plug-in Development Environment (PDE)

An integrated design tool for creating, developing, testing, and deploying a plug-in. The Eclipse PDE provides wizards, editors, views, and launchers that support plug-in development. The Eclipse PDE supports host and run-time instances of a workbench project. The host instance provides the development environment. The run-time instance enables the launching of a plug-in for testing purposes.

### Related terms

design, Eclipse, Eclipse project, Eclipse Workbench, object, plug-in

## Eclipse project

A user-specified directory within an Eclipse workspace. An Eclipse project contains folders and files that are used for builds, version management, sharing, and resource organization.

### Related terms

Eclipse, Eclipse workspace

## Eclipse Rich Client Platform (RCP)

The Eclipse framework for building a client application that uses a minimal set of plug-ins. Eclipse Rich Client Platform (RCP) uses a subset of the components that are available in the Eclipse platform. An Eclipse rich client application is typically a specialized user interface that supports a specific function, such as the report development tools in the BIRT Rich Client Platform.

### Related terms

application, Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), Eclipse, Eclipse platform, framework, plug-in, report

## Eclipse view

A panel on the Eclipse Workbench, similar to a pane in Windows. An Eclipse view can be an editor, the Navigator, a palette of report items, a graphical report designer, or any other functional component that Eclipse or an Eclipse project provides. A view can have its own menus and toolbars. Multiple views can be visible at one time.

### Related terms

design, Eclipse, Eclipse perspective, Eclipse project, Eclipse Workbench, Navigator, Palette, report, report item

## Eclipse Workbench

The Eclipse desktop development environment, which consists of one or more Eclipse perspectives.

### Related terms

Eclipse, Eclipse perspective

### Contrast with

Eclipse Plug-in Development Environment (PDE), Eclipse workspace

## Eclipse workspace

A user-specified directory that contains one or more Eclipse projects. An Eclipse workspace is a general umbrella for managing resources in the Eclipse platform. The Eclipse platform can contain one or more workspaces. A user can switch between workspaces.

### Related terms

Eclipse platform, Eclipse project

### Contrast with

Eclipse Workbench

## EJB

See Enterprise JavaBean (EJB).

## element

- 1 In Report Object Model (ROM), a component that describes a piece of a report. A ROM element typically has a name and a set of properties.
- 2 A tag-delimited structure in an XML or HTML document that contains a unit of data. For example, the root element of an HTML page starts with the beginning tag, <HTML>, and ends with the closing tag, </HTML>. This root element encloses all the other elements that define the contents of a page. An XML element must be well-formed, with both a beginning and a closing tag. In HTML, some tags, such as <br>, the forced line break tag, do not require a closing tag.

### Related terms

data, extensible markup language (XML), hypertext markup language (HTML), property, report, Report Object Model (ROM), Report Object Model (ROM) element, tag, well-formed XML

### Contrast with

report item

## ellipsis button



A button that opens tools that you use to perform tasks, such as navigating to a file, building an expression, or specifying localized text.

## encapsulation

A technique of packaging related functions and subroutines together.

Encapsulation compartmentalizes the structure and behavior of a class, hiding the implementation details, so that parts of an object-oriented system need not depend upon or affect each other's internal details.

**Related terms**

class, function, object

**Contrast with**

object-oriented programming

**enterprise** A large collection of networked computers that run on multiple platforms. Enterprise systems can include both mainframes and workstations that are integrated in a single, managed environment. Typical software products that are used in an enterprise environment include web browsers, applications, applets, web tools, and multiple databases that support a warehouse of information.

**Related terms**

applet, application

**Contrast with**

Enterprise JavaBean (EJB), enterprise reporting

## **Enterprise JavaBean (EJB)**

A standards-based server-side component that encapsulates the business logic of an application. An EJB can provide access to data or model the data itself. Application servers provide the deployment environment for EJBs.

**Related terms**

application, data, JavaBean

**Contrast with**

Java

## **enterprise reporting**

The production of a high volume of simple and complex structured documents that collect data from a variety of data sources. A large number of geographically distributed users who are working in both client/server and internet environments receive, work with, and modify these reports.

**Related terms**

data, data source, report

**Contrast with**

enterprise, structured content

**event**

An action or occurrence recognized by an object. Each object responds to a predefined set of events that can be extended by the developer.

**Related term**

object

**Contrast with**

event handler, event listener

## **event handler**

A Java or JavaScript method that is executed upon the firing of a BIRT event. BIRT fires events at various times in the report generation process. By writing custom code for the associated event handlers, the BIRT report developer can provide special handling at the time the events are fired. Report items, data sets,

and data sources all have event handlers for which the report developer can provide custom code.

**Related terms**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), data set, data source, event, Java, JavaScript, method, report, report item

**Contrast with**

event listener

**event listener**

An interface that detects when a particular event occurs and runs a registered method in response to that event.

**Related terms**

event, method

**Contrast with**

event handler

**exception**

An abnormal situation that a program encounters. In some cases, the program handles the exception and returns a message to the user or application that is running the program. In other cases, the program cannot handle the exception, and the program terminates.

**Related term**

application

**expression**

A combination of constants, functions, literal values, names of fields, and operators that evaluates to a single value.

**Related terms**

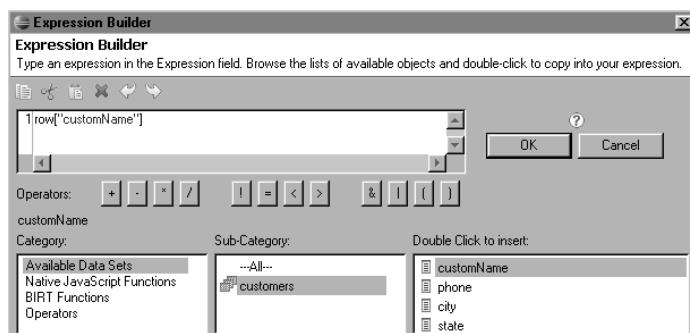
constant, field, function, operator, value

**Contrast with**

aggregate expression, regular expression

**expression builder**

A tool for selecting data fields, functions, and operators to write JavaScript expressions. Figure G-8 shows the expression builder.



**Figure G-8** Expression builder

**Related terms**

data, expression, field, function, JavaScript, operator

**extensible markup language (XML)**

A markup language that supports the interchange of data among data sources and applications. Using XML, a wide variety of applications, legacy systems, and databases can exchange information. XML is content-oriented rather than format-oriented. XML uses tags to structure data into nested elements. An XML schema that is structured according to the rules that were defined by the W3C describes the structure of the data.

XML documents must be well formed.

**Related terms**

application, data, data source, element, schema, tag, well-formed XML, World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)

**Contrast with**

hypertext markup language (HTML)

**extension**

A module that adds functionality to an application. BIRT consists of a set of extensions, called plug-ins, which add functionality to the Eclipse development environment.

**Related terms**

application, Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), Eclipse, plug-in

**Contrast with**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) extension,extension point

**extension point**

A defined place in an application where a developer adds custom functionality. The APIs in BIRT support adding custom functionality to the BIRT framework. In the Eclipse Plug-in Development Environment (PDE), a developer views the extension points in the PDE Manifest Editor to guide and control plug-in development tasks.

**Related terms**

application, application programming interface (API), Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), Eclipse Plug-in Development Environment (PDE), extension, framework, plug-in

**Contrast with**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) extension

**field**

The smallest identifiable part of a database table structure. In a relational database, a field is also called a column.

**Related terms**

column, table

**field variable**

In Java, a member variable with public visibility.

**Related terms**

Java, member, variable

**Contrast with**

class variable, dynamic variable, field variable, global variable, instance variable, local variable, member variable, static variable

**file types** Table G-1 lists the report designer's file types.

**Table G-1** File types

Display name	Glossary term	File type
BIRT Report Design	report design (.rptdesign) file	RPTDESIGN
BIRT Report Design Library	library (.rptlibrary) file	RPTLIBRARY
BIRT Report Design Template	report template (.rpttemplate) file	RPTTEMPLATE
BIRT Report Document	report document (.rptdocument) file	RPTDOCUMENT

**filter** To exclude any data rows from the result set that do not meet a set of conditions. Some external data sources can filter data as specified by conditions that the query includes directly or through the use of report parameters. In addition, BIRT can filter data after retrieval from the external data source. Report developers can specify conditions for filtering in either the data set or a report item.

**Related terms**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), data, data row, data set, data source, query, report, report item, report parameter, result set

**flat file** A file that contains data in the form of text.

**Related term**

data

**Contrast with**

data source

**font** A family of characters of a given style. Fonts contain information that specifies typeface, weight, posture, and type size.

**Related term**

character

**footer** A unit of information that appears at the bottom of a page.

**Contrast with**

header

**format** 1 A set of standard options with which to display and print currency values, dates, numbers, and times.

2 A specification that describes layout and properties of report data or other information, for example, PDF or HTML.

**Related terms**

data, hypertext markup language (HTML), layout, property, report, value

**Contrast with**

style

**forms-capable browser**

A web browser that handles hypertext markup language (HTML) forms. HTML tags enable interactive forms, including check boxes, drop-down lists, fill-in text areas, and option buttons.

**Related terms**

hypertext markup language (HTML), tag

**framework**

A set of interrelated classes that provide an architecture for building an application.

**Related terms**

application, class

**function**

A sequence of instructions that are defined as a separate unit within a program. To invoke the function, include its name as one of the instructions anywhere in the program. BIRT provides JavaScript functions to support building expressions.

**Related terms**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), expression, JavaScript,

**Contrast with**

method

**global variable**

A variable that is available at all levels in an application. A global variable stays in memory in the scope of all executing procedures until the application terminates.

**Related terms**

application, procedure, scope, variable

**Contrast with**

class variable, dynamic variable, field variable, global variable, instance variable, local variable, member variable, static variable

**glyph**

1 An image that is used in the visual representation of a character.

2 A specific letter form from a specific font. An uppercase C in Palatino font is a glyph.

**Related terms**

character, font

**grandchild class**

*See* descendant class.

## **grandparent class**

*See ancestor class.*

## **grid**

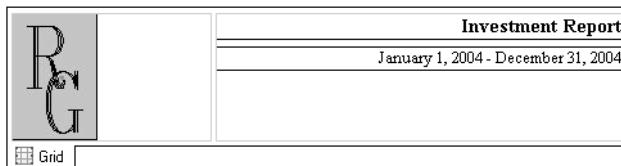
*See grid element.*

## **grid element**



A report item that contains and displays other report elements in a static row and column format. A grid element aligns the cells horizontally and vertically.

Figure G-9 shows a report title section that consists of an image element and two text elements that are arranged in a grid element with one row and two columns.



**Figure G-9** Grid element

### **Related terms**

cell, column, element, image element, report, report item, row, text element

### **Contrast with**

list element, table element

## **group**

A set of data rows that have one or more column values in common. For example, in a sales report, a group consists of all the orders that are placed by a single customer.

### **Related terms**

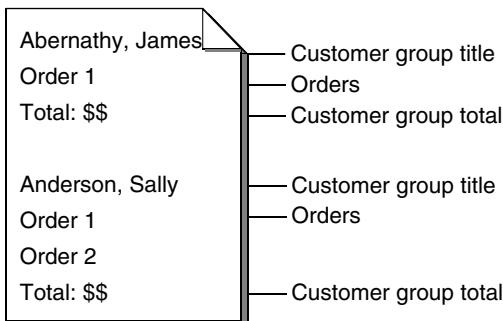
column, data row, report, value

### **Contrast with**

group key, grouped report

## **grouped report**

A report that organizes data in logical groups. Figure G-10 shows a grouped report.



**Figure G-10** Grouped report

<b>Related terms</b>	
data, group, report	
<b>group key</b>	A data set column that is used to group and sort data in a report. For example, a report developer can group and sort customers by credit rank.
<b>Related terms</b>	
column, data, data set, group, report, sort	
<b>header</b>	<p>1 A unit of information that appears at the top of every page.</p> <p>2 A group header is a unit of information that appears at the beginning of a group section.</p>
<b>Related terms</b>	
group, section	
<b>Contrast with</b>	
footer	
<b>hexadecimal number</b>	A number in base 16. A hexadecimal number uses the digits 0 through 9 and the letters A through F. Each place represents a power of 16. By comparison, base 10 numbers use the digits 0 through 9. Each place represents a power of 10.
<b>Contrast with</b>	
character set, octal number	
<b>hierarchy</b>	Any tree structure that has a root and branches that do not converge.
<b>HTML</b>	<i>See hypertext markup language (HTML).</i>
<b>HTML element</b>	<i>See element.</i>
<b>HTTP</b>	<i>See hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP).</i>
<b>hyperlink</b>	 A connection from one part of a report to another part of the same or different report. Typically, hyperlinks support access to related information within the same report, in another report, or in another application. A change from the standard cursor shape to a cursor shaped like a hand indicates a hyperlink. <p><b>Related terms</b></p> <p>application, report</p>
<b>hypertext markup language (HTML)</b>	A specification that determines the layout of a web page. HTML is the markup language that tells a parser that the text is a certain portion of a document on the web, for example, the title, heading, or body text. A web browser parses HTML to display a web page.
<b>Related terms</b>	
layout, web page	

**Contrast with**

dynamic hypertext markup language (DHTML), extensible markup language (XML)

**hypertext markup language page**

See web page.

**hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP)**

An internet standard that supports the exchange of information using the web.

**Contrast with**

protocol

**identifier**

The name that is assigned to an item in a program such as a class, function, or variable.

**Related terms**

class, function, variable

**image**

A graphic that appears in a report. BIRT Report Designer supports .bmp, .gif, .jpg, and .png file types.

**Related terms**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Designer, report

**Contrast with**

image element

**image element**

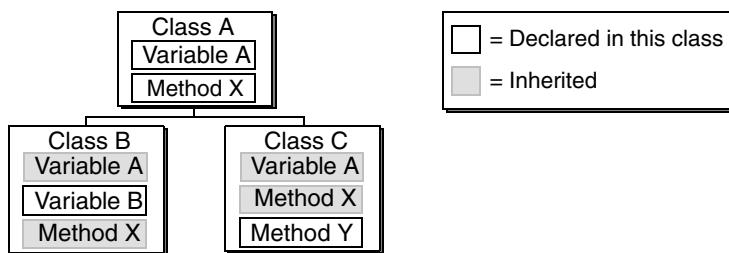
A report item that adds an image to a report design.

**Related terms**

design, element, image, report, report item

**inheritance**

A mechanism whereby one class of objects can be defined as a special case of a more general class and includes the method and variable definitions of the general class, known as a base or superclass. The superclass serves as the baseline for the appearance and behavior of the descendant class, which is also known as a subclass. In the subclass, the appearance and behavior can be further customized without affecting the superclass. Typically, a subclass augments or redefines the behavior and structure of its superclass or superclasses. Figure G-11 shows an example of inheritance.



**Figure G-11** Inheritance

**Related terms**

class, descendant class, file types, method, object, subclass, superclass, variable

**Contrast with**

abstract base class

**inner join**

- 1 A type of join that returns records from two tables that are based on their having specified values in the join fields. The most common type of inner join is one in which records are combined and returned when specified field values are equal. For example, if customer and order tables are joined on customer ID, the result set contains only combined customer and order records where the customer IDs are equal, excluding records for customers who have no orders.
- 2 When creating a joint data set in BIRT, a type of join that returns all rows from both data sets if the specified field values are equal. For example, if customer and order data sets are joined on customer ID, the joint data set returns only combined customer and order rows where the customer IDs are equal.

**Related terms**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) technology, data set, field, join, result set, row, table, value

**Contrast with**

outer join

**input source**

*See* data source.

**instance**

*See* object.

**instance variable**

A variable that other instances of a class do not share. The run-time system creates a new copy of an instance variable each time the system instantiates the class. An instance variable can contain a different value in each instance of a class, for example, the customerID variable in a Customer class.

**Related terms**

class, value, variable

**Contrast with**

class variable, dynamic variable, field variable, global variable, local variable, member variable, static variable

**instantiation**

The action of creating an object.

**Related term**

object

**Contrast with**

class

- interface**
- 1 The connection and interaction among hardware, software, and the user. Hardware interfaces include plugs, sockets, wires, and electrical pulses traveling through them in a particular pattern. Hardware interfaces include electrical timing considerations such as Ethernet and Token Ring, network topologies, RS-232 transmission, and the IDE, ESDI, SCSI, ISA, EISA, and Micro Channel. Software or programming interfaces are the languages, codes, and messages that programs use to communicate with each other and to the hardware and the user. Software interfaces include applications running on specific operating systems, SMTP e-mail, and LU 6.2 communications protocols.
  - 2 In Java, an interface defines a set of methods to provide a required functionality. The interface provides a mechanism for classes to communicate in order to execute particular actions.

**Related terms**

application, class, Connection, Java, method, protocol

## internationalization

The process of designing an application to work correctly in multiple locales.

**Related terms**

application, locale

**Contrast with**

localization

## IP address

The unique 32-bit ID of a node on a TCP/IP network.

**Related term**

node

## J2EE

*See Java 2 Enterprise Edition (J2EE).*

## J2SE

*See Java 2 Runtime Standard Edition (J2SE).*

## JAR

*See Java archive (.jar) file.*

## Java

A programming language that is designed for writing client/server and networked applications, particularly for delivery on the web. Java can be used to write applets that animate a web page or create an interactive web site.

**Related terms**

applet, application, web page

**Contrast with**

JavaScript

## Java 2 Enterprise Edition (J2EE)

A platform-independent environment that includes APIs, services, and transport protocols, and is used to develop and deploy web-based enterprise applications. Typically, this environment is used to develop highly scalable

web-based applications. This environment builds on J2SE functionality and requires an accessible J2SE installation.

**Related terms**

application, application programming interface (API), enterprise, enterprise reporting, Java 2 Runtime Standard Edition (J2SE), protocol

**Contrast with**

Enterprise JavaBean (EJB), Java Development Kit (JDK)

## **Java 2 Runtime Standard Edition (J2SE)**

A smaller-scale, platform-independent environment that provides supporting functionality to the capabilities of J2EE. The J2SE does not support Enterprise JavaBean or enterprise environment.

**Related terms**

enterprise, Enterprise JavaBean (EJB), Java 2 Enterprise Edition (J2EE)

**Contrast with**

Java Development Kit (JDK)

## **Java archive (.jar) file**

A file format that is used to bundle Java applications.

**Related terms**

application, Java

**Contrast with**

web archive (.war) file

## **Java Database Connectivity (JDBC)**

A standard protocol that Java uses to access database data sources in a platform-independent manner.

**Related terms**

data source, Java, protocol

**Contrast with**

data element, schema

## **Java Development Kit (JDK)**

A Sun Microsystems software development kit that defines the Java API and is used to build Java programs. The kit contains software tools and other programs, examples, and documentation that enable software developers to create applications using the Java programming language.

**Related terms**

application, application programming interface (API), Java

**Contrast with**

Java 2 Enterprise Edition (J2EE), Java 2 Runtime Standard Edition (J2SE), JavaServer Page (JSP)

## **Java Naming and Directory Interface (JNDI)**

A naming standard that provides clients with access to EJBs.

**Related term**

Enterprise JavaBean (EJB)

**Java Virtual Machine (JVM)**

The Java SDK interpreter that converts Java bytecode into machine language for execution in a specified software and hardware configuration.

**Related terms**

Java, SDK (Software Development Kit)

**JavaBean**

A reusable, standards-based component that is written in Java that encapsulates the business logic of an application. A JavaBean can provide access to data or model the data itself.

**Related terms**

application, data, encapsulation, Java

**Contrast with**

Enterprise JavaBean (EJB), enterprise reporting

**JavaScript**

An interpreted, platform-independent language that is used to enhance web pages and provide additional functionality in web servers. For example, JavaScript can interact with the HTML of a web page to change an icon when the cursor moves across it.

**Related terms**

hypertext markup language (HTML), web page, web server

**Contrast with**

Java

**JavaServer Page (JSP)**

A standard Java extension that simplifies the creation and management of dynamic web pages. The code combines HTML and Java code in one document. The Java code uses tags that instruct the JSP container to generate a servlet.

**Related terms**

hypertext markup language (HTML), Java, servlet, tag, web page

**JDBC**

*See Java Database Connectivity (JDBC).*

**JDK**

*See Java Development Kit (JDK).*

**JNDI**

*See Java Naming and Directory Interface (JNDI).*

**join**

A SQL query operation that combines records from two tables and returns them in a result set that is based on the values in the join fields. Without additional qualification, join usually refers to one where field values are equal. For example, customer and order tables are joined on a common field such as customer ID. The result set contains combined customer and order records in which the customer IDs are equal.

**Related terms**

field, query, result set, SQL (Structured Query Language), table, value

**Contrast with**

inner join, join condition, outer join, SQL SELECT statement

**join condition**

A condition that specifies a match in the values of related fields in two tables. Typically, the values are equal. For example, if two tables have a field called customer ID, a join condition exists where the customer ID value in one table equals the customer ID value in the second table.

**Related terms**

field, join, table, value

**joint data set**

A data set that combines data from two data sets.

**Related terms**

data, data set

**JSP** *See JavaServer Page (JSP).*

**JVM** *See Java Virtual Machine (JVM).*

**keyword** A reserved word that is recognized as part of a programming language.

**label element**

 A report item that displays a short piece of static text in a report.

**Related terms**

report, report item

**Contrast with**

data element, text element

**layout** The designed appearance of a report. Designing the layout of a report entails placing report items on a page and arranging them in a way that helps the report user analyze the information easily. A report displays information in a tabular list, a series of paragraphs, a chart, or a series of subreports.

**Related terms**

chart, listing report, report, report item, subreport

**layout editor**

A window in a report designer in which a report developer arranges, formats, and sizes report elements.

**Related terms**

design, report

**Contrast with**

previewer, Property Editor, report editor, script editor

**lazy load**

The capability in a run-time environment to load a code segment to memory only if it is needed. By lazily loading a code segment, the run-time environment minimizes start-up time and conserves memory resources. For example, BIRT

Report Engine builds a registry at startup that contains the list of available plug-ins, then loads a plug-in only if the processing requires it.

**Related terms**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Engine, plug-in

**library**

A collection of reusable and shareable report elements. A library can contain embedded images, styles, visual report items, JavaScript code, data sources, and data sets. A report developer uses a report designer to develop a library and to retrieve report elements from a library for use in a report design.

**Related terms**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Designer, data set, data source, design, JavaScript, report element, report item, style

**Contrast with**

file types

**library (.rptlibrary) file**

In BIRT Report Designer, an XML file that contains reusable and shareable report elements. A report developer uses a report designer to create a library file directly or from a report design (.rptdesign) file.

**Related terms**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Designer, design, extensible markup language (XML), report design (.rptdesign) file, report element

**Contrast with**

file types, report design (.rptdesign) file, report document (.rptdocument) file, report template (.rpttemplate) file

**link**

*See* hyperlink.

**listener**

*See* event listener.

**list element**



A report item that iterates through the data rows in a data set. The list element contains and displays other report items in a variety of layouts.

**Related terms**

data, data row, data set, element, layout, report item,

**Contrast with**

grid element, table element

**listing report**

A report that provides a simple view of data. Figure G-12 shows a listing report.

Customer List		
Customer	Phone	Contact
ANG Resellers	(91) 745 6555	Alejandra Camino
AV Stores, Co.	(171) 555-1555	Rachel Ashworth
Alpha Cognac	61.77.6555	Annette Roulet

**Figure G-12** Listing report

**Related terms**  
data, report

## local variable

A variable that is available only at the current level in an application. A local variable stays in memory in the scope of an executing procedure until the procedure terminates. When the procedure ends, the run-time system destroys the variable and returns the memory to the system.

**Related terms**  
application, procedure, scope, variable

**Contrast with**  
field variable, global variable

## locale

A location and the language, date format, currency, sorting sequence, time format, and other such characteristics that are associated with that location. The location is not always identical to the country. There can be multiple languages and locales within one country. For example, China has two locales: Beijing and Hong Kong. Canada has two language-based locales: French and English.

**Contrast with**  
localization

## localization

The process of translating database content, printed documents, and software programs into another language. Report developers localize static text in a report so that the report displays text in another language that is appropriate to the locale configured on the user's machine.

**Related terms**  
locale, report  
**Contrast with**  
internationalization

## manifest

A text file in a Java archive (.jar) file that describes the contents of the archive.

**Related term**  
Java archive (.jar) file

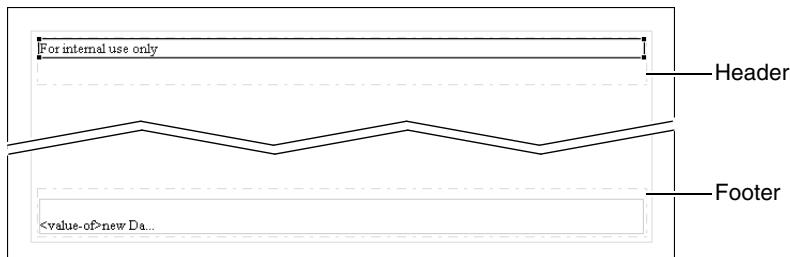
## master page



A predefined layout that specifies a consistent appearance for all pages of a report. A master page typically includes standard headers and footers that display information such as page numbers, a date, or a copyright statement.

The master page can contain report elements in the header and footer areas only, as shown in Figure G-13.

The master page's header and footer content appears on every page of the report in paginated formats, as shown in Figure G-14.



**Figure G-13** Master page layout

The screenshot shows a master page content area. At the top is a header section labeled "Header content" containing "For internal use only", "Customer List", "Report generated on Aug 23, 2005 12:14 PM", and a table with columns "Customer", "Phone", and "Contact". The table data includes:

Customer	Phone	Contact
ANG Resellers	(91) 745 6555	Alejandra Camino
AV Stores, Co.	(171) 555-1555	Rachel Ashworth
Alpha Cognac	61.77.6555	Annette Roulet
American Souvenirs Inc	2035557845	Keith Franco
Amica Models & Co.	011-4988555	Paolo Accorti

Below the table is another wavy line. At the bottom is a footer section labeled "Footer content" containing "Aug 23, 2005 12:14 PM".

**Figure G-14** Master page content

**Related terms**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Designer, footer, grid element, header, hypertext markup language (HTML), layout, previewer, report, template

**member**

A method or variable that is defined in a class and provides or uses information about the state of a single object.

**Related terms**

class, method, object, variable

**Contrast with**

global variable, instance variable, static variable

**member variable**

A declared variable within a class. A set of member variables in a class contains the data or state for every object of that class.

<b>Related terms</b>
class, data, declaration, object, variable
<b>Contrast with</b>
class variable, dynamic variable, field variable, global variable, instance variable, local variable, static variable
<b>metadata</b>
Information about the structure of data that enables a program to process information. For example, a relational database stores metadata that describes the name, size, and data type of objects in a database, such as tables and columns.
<b>Related terms</b>
column, data, data type, table
<b>method</b>
A routine that provides functionality to an object or a class.
<b>Related terms</b>
class, object
<b>Contrast with</b>
data, function
<b>modal window</b>
A window that retains focus until explicitly closed by the user. Typically, dialog boxes and message windows are modal. For example, an error message dialog box remains on the screen until the user responds.
<b>Contrast with</b>
modeless window
<b>mode</b>
An operational state of a system. Mode implies that there are at least two possible states. Typically, there are many modes for both hardware and software.
<b>modeless window</b>
A window that solicits input but permits users to continue using the current application without closing the modeless window, for example, an Eclipse view.
<b>Related terms</b>
application, Eclipse view
<b>Contrast with</b>
modal window
<b>multithreaded application</b>
An application that handles multiple simultaneous users and sessions.
<b>Related term</b>
application
<b>Navigator</b>
In BIRT Report Designer, an Eclipse view that shows all projects and reports within each project. Each project is a directory in the file system. Use Navigator to manage report files, for example, deleting files, renaming files, or moving files from one project to another. Figure G-15 shows Navigator.



**Figure G-15** Navigator

**Related terms**

Eclipse project, Eclipse view, report

**node** A computer that is accessible on the internet.

**Contrast with**

domain name

**null** A value that indicates that a variable or field contains no data.

**Related terms**

data, field, value, variable

**numeric data type**

A data type that is used for calculations that result in a value that is a number. Report items that contain expressions or fields with a numeric data type display numbers, based on the formats and locale settings that are specified by your computer and the report design.

**Related terms**

data type, design, expression, field, format, locale, report, report item, value

**numeric expression**

A numeric constant, a simple numeric variable, a scalar reference to a numeric array, a numeric-valued function reference, or a sequence of these items, that are separated by numeric operators. For example:

```
row["price"] * row["quantity"]
```

**Related terms**

array, constant, function, operator, variable

**Contrast with**

Boolean expression

**object** An instance of a particular class, including its characteristics, such as instance variables and methods.

**Related terms**

class, instance variable, method, variable

**object-oriented programming**

A technique for writing applications using classes, not algorithms, as the fundamental building blocks. The design methodology uses three main concepts: encapsulation, inheritance, and polymorphism.

**Related terms**

application, class, encapsulation, inheritance, polymorphism

**Contrast with**  
object

**octal number**

A number in base 8. An octal number uses only the digits 0 through 7. Each place represents a power of 8. By comparison, base 10 numbers use the digits 0 through 9. Each place represents a power of 10.

**Contrast with**  
hexadecimal number

**ODA** *See open data access (ODA).*

**online help**

Information that appears on the computer screen to help the user understand an application.

**Related term**  
application

**open data access (ODA)**

A technology that enables accessing data from standard and custom data sources. ODA uses XML data structures and Java interfaces to handle communication between the data source and the application that needs the data. Using ODA to access data from a data source requires an ODA driver and typically also includes an associated tool for designing queries on the data source. ODA provides interfaces for creating data drivers to establish connections, access metadata, and execute queries to retrieve data. ODA also provides interfaces to integrate query builder tools within an application designer tool. In BIRT, ODA is implemented using plug-ins to the Eclipse Data Tools Project.

**Related terms**  
application, Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), Connection, data, data source, driver, extensible markup language (XML), interface, Java, metadata, open data access (ODA) driver, plug-in, query

**open data access (ODA) driver**

An ODA driver communicates between an arbitrary data source and an application during report execution. An ODA driver establishes a connection with a data source, accesses metadata about the data, and executes queries on the data source. Each ODA driver consists of a configuration file and classes that implement the ODA run-time Java interfaces that conform to ODA. In BIRT, ODA drivers are implemented as an Eclipse plug-in to the Data Tools Platform project.

**Related terms**  
application, BIRT technology, class, Connection, data, data source, driver, Eclipse, interface, Java, metadata, open data access (ODA), plug-in, query

## **open database connectivity (ODBC)**

A standard protocol that is used by software products as one of the database management system (DBMS) interfaces to connect reports to databases that comply with this specification.

### **Related terms**

database management system (DBMS), interface, protocol, report

### **Contrast with**

Connection, data source, Java Database Connectivity (JDBC)

## **operator**

A symbol or keyword that performs an operation on expressions.

### **Related terms**

expression, keyword

## **outer join**

- 1 A type of join that returns records from one table even when no matching values exist in the other table. The two kinds of outer join are the left outer join and the right outer join. The left outer join returns all records from the table on the left in the join operation, even when no matching values exist in the other table. The right outer join returns all records from the table on the right in the join operation. For example, if customers and orders tables are left outer joined on customer ID, the result set will contain all customer records, including records for customers who have no orders.
- 2 When creating a joint data set in BIRT, a type of join that returns rows from one data set even when no matching values exist in the other data set. The two kinds of outer joins are the left outer join and the right outer join. The left outer join returns all rows from the data set in the join operation, even when no matching values exist in the other table. The right outer join returns all rows from the data set on the right in the join operation. For example, if customers and orders data sets are left outer joined on customerID, the joint data set returns all customer rows, including rows for customers who have no orders.

### **Related terms**

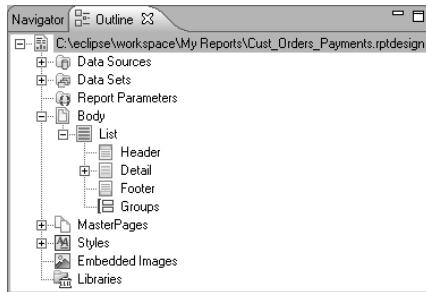
Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) technology, data set, join, query, result set, row, table, value

### **Contrast with**

inner join

## **Outline**

An Eclipse view that shows all report elements that comprise a report design, report library, or report template. Outline shows the report elements' containment hierarchy in a tree-structured diagram. Figure G-16 shows Outline.



**Figure G-16**    Outline

**Related terms**

design, Eclipse view, hierarchy, library, report, report element, template

**package**

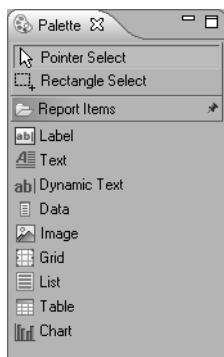
A set of functionally related Java classes that are organized in one directory.

**Related terms**

class, Java

**Palette**

An Eclipse view that shows the visual report elements for organizing and displaying data in a report. Figure G-17 shows Palette.



**Figure G-17**    Palette

**Related terms**

data, Eclipse view, report, report element

**parameter**

A report element that provides input to the execution of the report. Parameters provide control over report data selection, processing, and formatting.

**Related terms**

data, format, report, report element

**Contrast with**

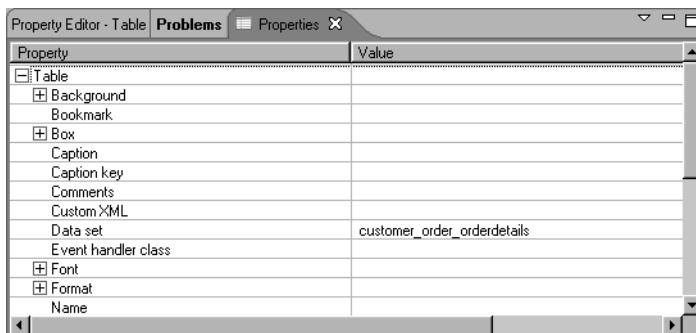
cascading parameters, data set parameter, report parameter

**parent class**

*See superclass.*

<b>password</b>	An optional code that restricts user name access to a resource on a computer system.
<b>pattern</b>	A template or model for implementing a solution to a common problem in object-oriented programming or design. For example, the singleton design pattern restricts the instantiation of a class to only one object. The use of the singleton pattern prevents the proliferation of identical objects in a run-time environment and requires a programmer to manage access to the object in a multithreaded application.
	<b>Related terms</b> class, design, instantiation, multithreaded application, object, object-oriented programming
<b>perspective</b>	<i>See Eclipse perspective.</i>
<b>platform</b>	The software and hardware environment in which a program runs. Linux, MacOS, Microsoft Windows, Solaris OS, and UNIX are examples of software systems that run on hardware processors made by vendors such as AMD, Apple, Intel, IBM, Motorola, Sun, and Hewlett-Packard.
<b>plug-in</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1 An extension that is used by the Eclipse development environment. At run time, Eclipse scans its plug-in subdirectory to discover any extensions to the platform. Eclipse places the information about each extension in a registry, using lazy load to access the extension.</li><li>2 A software program that extends the capabilities of a web browser. For example, a plug-in gives you the ability to play audio samples or video movies.</li></ol> <b>Related terms</b> application, Eclipse, extension, lazy load <b>Contrast with</b> Eclipse Plug-in Development Environment (PDE)
<b>plug-in fragment</b>	A separately loaded plug-in that adds functionality to an existing plug-in, such as support for a new language in a localized application. The plug-in fragment manifest contains attributes that associate the fragment with the existing plug-in. <b>Related terms</b> application, localization, manifest, plug-in
<b>polymorphism</b>	The ability to provide different implementations with a common interface, simplifying the communication among objects. For example, defining a unique print method for each kind of document in a system supports printing any document by sending the instruction to print without concern for how that method is actually carried out for a given document.

	<b>Related terms</b> interface, method, object
<b>portal</b>	A web page that serves as a starting point for accessing information and applications on the internet or an intranet. The basic function of a portal is to aggregate information from different sources.
	<b>Related terms</b> application, web page
	<b>Contrast with</b> portlet
<b>portlet</b>	A window in a browser that provides a view of specific information that is available from a portal.
	<b>Related term</b> portal
<b>previewer</b>	A design tool that supports displaying a report or data.
	<b>Related terms</b> data, design, report
	<b>Contrast with</b> layout editor, script editor, Standard Viewer
<b>procedure</b>	A set of commands, input data, and statements that perform a specific set of operations. For example, methods are procedures.
	<b>Related terms</b> data, method, statement
<b>process</b>	A computer program that has no user interface. For example, the process that runs a BIRT report is a process.
	<b>Related terms</b> Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), interface, report
<b>project</b>	<i>See Eclipse project.</i>
<b>Properties</b>	A grouped alphabetical list of all properties of visual report elements in a report design. Experienced report developers use this Eclipse view to modify any property of a report item. Figure G-18 shows Properties.



**Figure G-18** Properties

**Related terms**

design, Eclipse view, property, report, report element, report item

**Contrast with**

Property Editor

**property**

A characteristic of a report item that controls its appearance and behavior. For example, a report developer can specify a font size for a label element.

**Related terms**

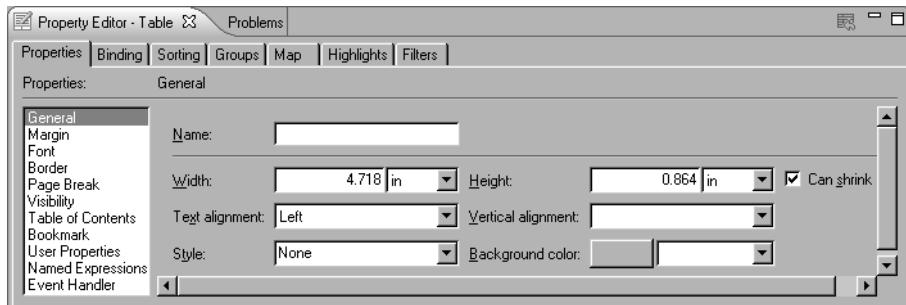
font, label element, report item, value

**Contrast with**

method

**Property Editor**

An Eclipse view that displays sets of key properties of visual report elements in a report design. The report developer uses Property Editor to modify the properties of report items. Figure G-19 shows Property Editor.



**Figure G-19**      Property Editor

**Related terms**

design, Eclipse view, property, report, report element, report item

**Contrast with**

Properties

**protocol**

A communication standard for the exchange of information. For example, in TCP/IP, the internet protocol (IP) is the syntax and order in which messages are received and sent.

**Related term**

syntax

**publish**

To copy files to a shared folder to make them available to report users and developers. Libraries and resource files are published to the resources folder. Templates are published to the templates folder.

**Related terms**

library, report executable file, resource file, template

<b>query</b>	A statement that specifies which data rows to retrieve from a data source. For example, a query that retrieves data from a database typically is a SQL SELECT statement.
	<b>Related terms</b> data row, data source, SQL SELECT statement
<b>range</b>	A continuous set of values of any data type. For example, 1–31 is a numeric range.
	<b>Related terms</b> data type, value
<b>regular expression</b>	A JavaScript mechanism that matches patterns in text. The regular expression syntax can validate text data, find simple and complex strings of text within larger blocks of text, and substitute new text for old text.
	<b>Related terms</b> data, expression, JavaScript, syntax
	<b>Contrast with</b> aggregate expression
<b>rendering extension</b>	A BIRT extension that produces a report in a specific format. For example, BIRT provides rendering extensions for HTML and PDF.
	<b>Related terms</b> Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) extension, extension, hypertext markup language (HTML), report
<b>report</b>	A category of documents that presents formatted and structured content from a data sources, such as a database or text file.
	<b>Related terms</b> data source, format, structured content
<b>report design (.rptdesign) file</b>	An XML file that contains the complete description of a report. The report design file describes the structure and organization of the report, its constituent report items and their style attributes, its data sets, its data sources, and its Java and JavaScript event handler code. BIRT Report Designer creates the report design file and the BIRT Report Engine processes it.
	<b>Related terms</b> Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Designer, Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Engine, data set, data source, design, event handler, extensible markup language (XML), Java, JavaScript, report, report item, style

**Contrast with**

file types, library (.rptlibrary) file, report document (.rptdocument) file, report template (.rpttemplate) file

**report document (.rptdocument) file**

A binary file that encapsulates the report item identifier and additional information, such as data rows, pagination information, and table of contents information.

**Related terms**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Engine, data row, report item

**Contrast with**

file types, library (.rptlibrary) file, report design (.rptdesign) file, report template (.rpttemplate) file

**report editor**

In BIRT Report Designer, the main window where a report developer designs and previews a report. The report editor supports opening multiple report designs. For each report design, the report editor displays these five pages: layout editor, master page editor, previewer, script editor and XML source editor.

**Related terms**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Designer, design, extensible markup language (XML), master page, layout editor, previewer, report, script editor

**Contrast with**

report design (.rptdesign) file

**report element**

A visual or non-visual component of a report design. A visual report element, such as a table or a label, is a report item. A non-visual report element, such as a report parameter or a data source is a logical component.

**Related terms**

data source, design, element, label element, report, report item, report parameter, table element

**report executable file**

A file that contains instructions for generating a report document.

**Related terms**

file types, report

**report item**

A report element that you add to a report design to display content in the report output. For example, a data element displays data from a data set when you run a report.

**Related terms**

data, data element, data set, design, report, report element, run

**report item extension**

A BIRT extension that implements a custom report item.

**Related terms**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) extension, extension, report, report item

**report library file**

*See* library (.rptlibrary) file.

**Report Object Model (ROM)**

The set of XML report elements that BIRT technology uses to build a report design file. ROM defines report elements for both the visual and non-visual components of a report. The complete ROM specification is at:

<http://www.eclipse.org/birt/ref/ROM>

**Related terms**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) technology, design, element, extensible markup language (XML), report, report element

**Contrast with**

Report Object Model (ROM) element

**Report Object Model definition file (rom.def)**

The file that BIRT technology uses to generate and validate a report design. rom.def contains property definitions for the ROM elements. rom.def does not include definitions for report items that are defined by report item extensions, such as the chart element.

**Related terms**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) technology, chart element, design, property, report, report item, report item extension

**Contrast with**

Report Object Model (ROM), Report Object Model (ROM) element, Report Object Model (ROM) schema

**Report Object Model (ROM) element**

An XML element in rom.def that defines a report element.

**Related terms**

element, extensible markup language (XML), report element, Report Object Model definition file (rom.def)

**Contrast with**

report item, Report Object Model (ROM) schema

## **Report Object Model (ROM) schema**

The XML schema that defines the rules for the structure of report design files. All BIRT report design files must conform to this schema. To validate a report design, open the file in a schema-aware XML viewer such as XML Spy. The ROM schema is at:

<http://www.eclipse.org/birt/2005/design>

### **Related terms**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), design, extensible markup language (XML), report, Report Object Model (ROM), schema

### **Contrast with**

Report Object Model definition file (rom.def)

## **report parameter**

- 1 *See* parameter.
- 2 A report element that contains a value. Report parameters provide an opportunity for the user to type a value as input to the execution of the report.

### **Related terms**

parameter, report, report element, value

### **Contrast with**

cascading parameters, data set parameter

## **report template**

*See* template.

## **report template (.rpttemplate) file**

An XML file that contains a reusable design that a report developer can employ when developing a new report.

### **Related terms**

design, extensible markup language (XML), file types, report, style, template

### **Contrast with**

file types, library (.rptlibrary) file, report design (.rptdesign) file, report document (.rptdocument) file

## **report viewer servlet**

A J2EE web application servlet that produces a report from a report design (.rptdesign) file or a report document (.rptdocument) file. When deployed to a J2EE application server, the report viewer servlet makes reports available for viewing over the web. The report viewer servlet is also the active component of the report previewer of BIRT Report Designer.

### **Related terms**

application, Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Designer, Java 2 Enterprise Edition (J2EE), previewer, report, report design (.rptdesign) file, report document (.rptdocument) file, servlet, web server

<b>request</b>	A message that an application sends to a server to specify an operation for the server to perform.
	<b>Related term</b> application <b>Contrast with</b> response
<b>reserved word</b>	<i>See</i> keyword.
<b>response</b>	A message that a server sends to an application. The response message contains the results of a requested operation.
	<b>Related term</b> application <b>Contrast with</b> request
<b>resource file</b>	A text file that contains the mapping from resource keys to string values for a particular locale. Resource files support producing a report with localized values for label and text elements.
	<b>Related terms</b> label element, locale, localization, resource key, text element, value
<b>resource key</b>	A unique value that maps to a string in a resource file. For example, the resource key, greeting, can map to Hello, Bonjour, and Hola in the resource files for English, French, and Spanish, respectively.
	<b>Related terms</b> label element, locale, localization, resource file, text element, value
<b>result set</b>	Data rows from an external data source. For example, the data rows that are returned by a SQL SELECT statement performed on a relational database are a result set.
	<b>Related terms</b> data, data row, data source, SQL SELECT statement
<b>Rich Client Platform (RCP)</b>	<i>See</i> Eclipse Rich Client Platform (RCP).
<b>ROM</b>	<i>See</i> Report Object Model (ROM).
<b>row</b>	<b>1</b> A record in a table. <b>2</b> A horizontal sequence of cells in a grid element or table element.
	<b>Related terms</b> cell, grid element, table, table element

**Contrast with**  
data row

## RPTDESIGN

*See report design (.rptdesign) file.*

## RPTDOCUMENT

*See report document (.rptdocument) file.*

## RPTLIBRARY

*See library (.rptlibrary) file.*

## RPTTEMPLATE

*See report template (.rpttemplate) file.*

**run** To execute a program, utility, or other machine function.

- schema**
- 1 A database schema specifies the structure of database objects and the relationships between the data. The database objects are items, such as tables.
  - 2 An XML schema defines the structure of an XML document. An XML schema consists of element declarations and type definitions that describe a model for the information that a well-formed XML document must contain. The XML schema provides a common vocabulary and grammar for XML documents that support exchanging data among applications.

**Related terms**

application, data, element, extensible markup language (XML), object, report, table, well-formed XML

**scope** The parts of a program in which a symbol or object exists or is visible. Where the element is declared determines the scope of a program element. Scopes can be nested. A method introduces a new scope for its parameters and local variables. A class introduces a scope for its member variables, member functions, and nested classes. Code in a method in one scope has visibility to other symbols in that same scope and, with certain exceptions, to symbols in outer scopes.

**Related terms**

class, function, member, method, object, parameter, variable

## script editor

In the report editor in BIRT Report Designer, the page where a report developer adds or modifies JavaScript for a report element.

**Related terms**

Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Designer, JavaScript, report, report editor, report element

**Contrast with**

layout editor, previewer

## **scripting language**

*See JavaScript and VBScript (Visual Basic Script Edition).*

## **SDK (Software Development Kit)**

A collection of programming tools, utilities, compilers, debuggers, interpreters, and APIs that a developer uses to build an application to run on a specified technology platform. For example, the Java SDK allows developers to build an application that users can download across a network to run on any operating system. The Java Virtual Machine (JVM), the Java SDK interpreter, executes the application in the specified software and hardware configuration.

### **Related terms**

application, application programming interface (API), Java, Java Virtual Machine (JVM), platform

## **section**

A horizontal band in a report design. A section structures and formats related report items. A section uses a grid element, list element, or table element to contain data values, text, and images.

### **Related terms**

data, design, grid element, image, list element, report, report item, table element, value

## **select**

- 1 To highlight one or more items, for example, in a report design. A user-driven operation then affects the selected items. Figure G-20 shows selected items.

Customer	Phone	Contact
Row["CUSTOMERNAM..."]	Row["PHONE"]	Row["CONTACTFIRS..."]
Footer Row		

**Figure G-20** Selected items

- 2 To highlight a check box or a list item in a dialog box.

### **Related terms**

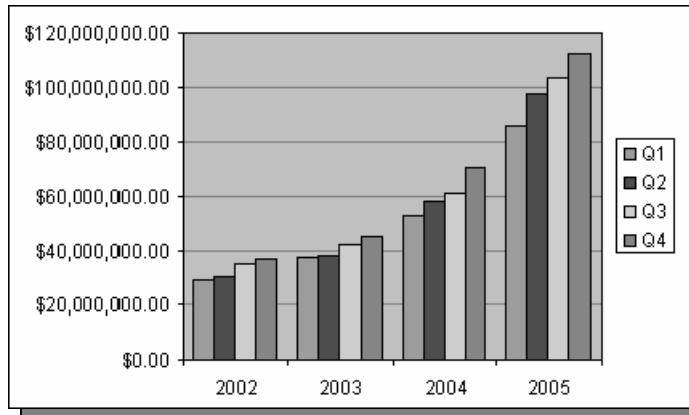
design, report

## **SELECT**

*See SQL SELECT statement.*

## **series**

A sequence of related values. In a chart, for example, a series is a set of related points. Figure G-21 shows a bar chart that displays a series of quarterly sales revenue figures over four years.



**Figure G-21** Series in a chart

**Related terms**

chart, value

**Contrast with**

category

**servlet**

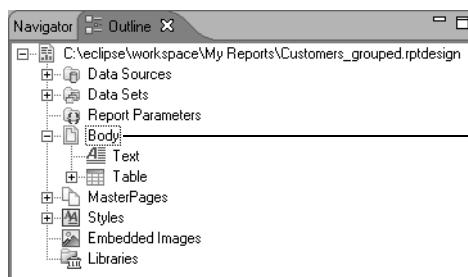
A small Java application that runs on a web server to extend the server's functionality.

**Related terms**

application, Java, web server

**slot**

A construct that represents a set of ROM elements that are contained within another ROM element. For example, the body slot of the report design element can contain one or more of any type of report item. Figure G-22 shows a body slot.



Body slot contains a text element and a table element

**Figure G-22** Body slot

**Related terms**

design, element, report, report element, report item, Report Object Model (ROM) element

**sort**

To specify the order in which data is processed or displayed. For example, customer names can be sorted in alphabetical order.

**Related term**

data

**Contrast with**

sort key

**sort key**

A list of one or more column names or expressions. The order of the items in the sort key specifies the sort order of data rows. For example, a sort by State and Date is different from a sort by Date and State.

**Related terms**

column, data row, expression, sort

## SQL (Structured Query Language)

A language that is used to access and process data in a relational database. For example, the following SQL query accesses a database's customers table and retrieves the customer name and credit limit values where the credit limit is less than or equal to 100000. The SQL query then sorts the values by customer name:

```
SELECT customers.customerName,  
       customers.creditLimit  
    FROM customers  
   WHERE customers.creditLimit >= 100000  
 ORDER BY customers.customerName
```

**Related terms**

data, query, sort, table, value

**Contrast with**

SQL SELECT statement

## SQL SELECT statement

A statement in SQL (Structured Query Language) that provides instructions about which data to retrieve for a report.

**Related terms**

data, report, SQL (Structured Query Language), statement

## Standard Viewer

A viewer that appears after the user runs a report. In the Standard Viewer, the user can perform basic viewing tasks, such as navigating the report, viewing parameter information, exporting data, and using a table of contents.

**Related terms**

data, parameter, report

**Contrast with**

previewer, report viewer servlet

**state**

*See* instance variable.

**statement**

A syntactically complete unit in a programming language that expresses one action, declaration, or definition.

## **static variable**

A variable that is shared by all instances of a class and its descendant classes. In Java, a static variable is known as a class variable. The compiler specifies the memory allocation for a static variable. The program receives the memory allocation for a static variable as the program loads.

### **Related terms**

class, class variable, descendant class, Java, variable

### **Contrast with**

dynamic variable, field variable, global variable, instance variable, local variable, member variable

## **String data type**

A data type that consists of a sequence of contiguous characters including letters, numerals, spaces, and punctuation marks.

### **Related terms**

character, data type

### **Contrast with**

string expression

## **string expression**

An expression that evaluates to a series of contiguous characters. Elements of the expression can include a function that returns a string, a string constant, a string literal, a string operator, or a string variable.

### **Related terms**

character, constant, expression, function, operator, variable

### **Contrast with**

String data type

## **structured content**

A formatted document that displays information from one or more data sources.

### **Related terms**

data source, format

### **Contrast with**

report

## **Structured Query Language (SQL)**

*See SQL (Structured Query Language).*

## **style**

A named set of formatting characteristics, such as font, color, alignment, and borders, that report designers apply to a report item to control its appearance.

### **Related terms**

design, font, format, report, report item

### **Contrast with**

cascading style sheet (CSS)

## **style sheet**

*See cascading style sheet (CSS).*

**subclass** The immediate descendant class.

### **Related terms**

class, descendant class

### **Contrast with**

superclass

**subreport** A report that appears inside another report. Typically, the subreport uses data values from the outer report.

### **Related terms**

data, report, value

## **superclass**

The immediate ancestor class.

### **Related terms**

ancestor class, class

### **Contrast with**

descendant class, subclass

**syntax** The rules that govern the structure of a language.

**tab** The label above a page in a dialog box that contains multiple pages.

### **Contrast with**

label element

**table** A named set of columns in a relational database.

### **Related term**

column

### **Contrast with**

table element

## **table element**

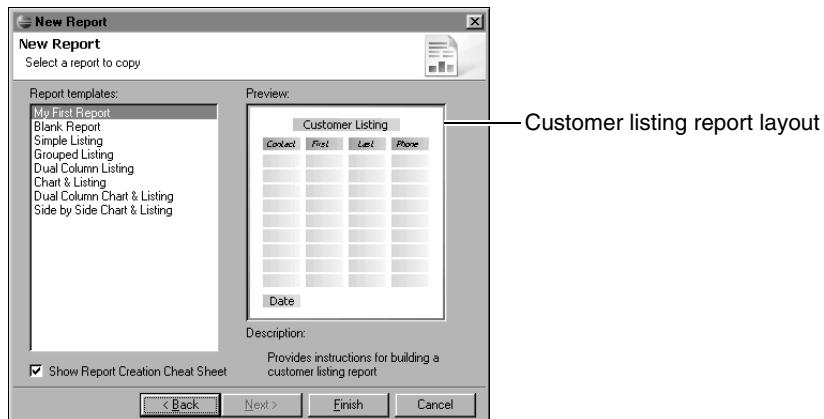


A report item that contains and displays data in a row and column format. The table element iterates through the data rows in a data set. Figure G-23 shows a table element.

Header Row			
Detail Row			
Footer Row			

**Figure G-23** Table element

<b>Related terms</b>	column, data, data row, data set, element, report item, row
<b>Contrast with</b>	grid element, list element, table
<b>tag</b>	An element in a markup language that identifies how to process a part of a document.
<b>Related term</b>	element
<b>Contrast with</b>	extensible markup language (XML)
<b>template</b>	In BIRT Report Designer, a predefined structure for a report design. A report developer uses a report template to maintain a consistent style across a set of report designs and for streamlining the report design process. A report template can describe a complete report or a component of a report. BIRT Report Designer also supports custom templates.
	In Figure G-24, New Report displays the available templates and Preview displays a representation of the report layout for the selected My First Report, a customer-listing-report template.



**Figure G-24** Template

**Related terms**  
Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT), Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) Report Designer, design, layout, listing report, report, report design (.rptdesign) file

**Contrast with**  
report template (.rpttemplate) file

## **text element**



A report item that displays user-specified text. The text can span multiple lines and can contain HTML formatting and dynamic values that are derived from data set fields or expressions.

### **Related terms**

data set, expression, field, format, hypertext markup language (HTML), report item, value

### **Contrast with**

data element, dynamic text element, label element

## **text file**

*See flat file.*

## **theme**

A set of related styles that are stored in a library (.rptlibrary) file. A theme provides a preferred appearance for the report items in a report design. A library file can store multiple themes. A report design can use styles from a single theme as well as styles defined in the report design itself.

### **Related terms**

design, library (.rptlibrary) file, report, report item, style

### **Contrast with**

cascading style sheet (CSS)

## **tick**

A marker that occurs at regular intervals along the x- or y-axis of a chart. Typically, the value of each tick appears on the axis.

### **Related term**

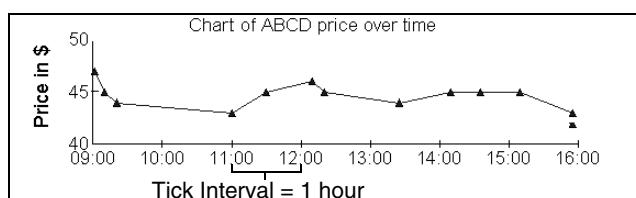
chart

### **Contrast with**

tick interval

## **tick interval**

The distance between ticks on an axis. Figure G-25 shows a tick interval in a chart.



**Figure G-25** Tick interval

### **Related terms**

chart, tick

## **toolbar**

A bar that contains various buttons that provide access to common tasks. Different toolbars are available for different kinds of tasks.

## **translator**

*See converter.*

<b>type</b>	<i>See</i> data type.
<b>Unicode</b>	A living language standard that is managed by the Technical Committee of the Unicode Consortium. The current Unicode standard provides code points for more than 65,000 characters. Unicode encoding has no dependency on a platform or software program and therefore provides a basis for software internationalization.
<b>Related terms</b>	code point, character, internationalization
<b>Uniform Resource Locator (URL)</b>	A character string that identifies the location and type of a piece of information that is accessible over the web. <code>http://</code> is the familiar indicator that an item is accessible over the web. The URL typically includes the domain name, type of organization, and a precise location within the directory structure where the item is located.
<b>Related terms</b>	character, domain name, hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP)
<b>Contrast with</b>	Universal Resource Identifier (URI)
<b>universal hyperlink</b>	<i>See</i> hyperlink.
<b>Universal Resource Identifier (URI)</b>	A set of names and addresses in the form of short strings that identify resources on the web. Resources are documents, images, downloadable files, and so on.
<b>Contrast with</b>	Uniform Resource Locator (URL)
<b>URL</b>	<i>See</i> Uniform Resource Locator (URL).
<b>value</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 A quantity that is assigned to a constant, variable, parameter, or symbol.</li> <li>2 A specific occurrence of an attribute. For example, blue is a possible value for the attribute color.</li> </ol>
<b>Related terms</b>	constant, parameter, variable
<b>variable</b>	A named storage location for data that can be modified while a program runs. Each variable has a unique name that identifies it within its scope. Each variable is capable of containing a certain type of data.
<b>Related terms</b>	data, data type, scope
<b>Contrast with</b>	class variable, dynamic variable, field variable, global variable, instance variable, local variable, member variable, static variable

## **VBScript (Visual Basic Script Edition)**

A Microsoft Windows scripting engine. VBScript is a subset of the Visual Basic language with some added functionality. Internet Explorer, Active Server Pages, and Windows Script Host support VBScript as a scripting language.

When used in Internet Explorer, VBScript processes code that is embedded in HTML. VBScript is similar in function to JavaScript. Stand-alone applications that were created using VBScript require Internet Explorer to run.

### **Related terms**

Active Server Page (ASP), hypertext markup language (HTML), JavaScript

## **view**

A predefined query that retrieves data from one or more tables in a relational database. Unlike a table, a view does not store data. Users can use views to select, delete, insert, and update data. The database uses the definition of the view to determine the appropriate action on the underlying tables. For example, a database handles a query on a view by combining the requested data from the underlying tables.

### **Related terms**

data, query, table

### **Contrast with**

Eclipse view

## **viewer**

*See* previewer and Standard Viewer.

## **Visual Basic Script Edition**

*See* VBScript (Visual Basic Script Edition).

## **web archive (.war) file**

A file format that is used to bundle web applications.

### **Related terms**

application, format

### **Contrast with**

Java archive (.jar) file

## **web page**

A page that contains tags that a web browser interprets and displays.

### **Related term**

tag

## **web server**

A computer or a program that provides web services on the internet. A web server accepts requests that are based on the hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP). A web server also executes server-side scripts, such as ASPs and JSPs.

### **Related terms**

Active Server Page (ASP), hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP), JavaServer Page (JSP), request, web page

## **well-formed XML**

An XML document that follows syntax rules that were established in the XML 1.0 recommendation. Well-formed means that a document must contain one or more elements and that the root element must contain all the other elements. Each element must nest inside any enclosing elements, following the syntax rules.

### **Related terms**

element, extensible markup language (XML), syntax

## **World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)**

An international, but unofficial, standards body that provides recommendations regarding web standards. The World Wide Web Consortium publishes several levels of documents, including notes, working drafts, proposed recommendations, and recommendations about web applications that are related to topics such as HTML and XML.

### **Related terms**

application, extensible markup language (XML), hypertext markup language (HTML)

## **workbench**

*See Eclipse Workbench.*

## **workspace**

*See Eclipse workspace.*

## **XML (extensible markup language)**

*See extensible markup language (XML).*

## **XML element**

*See element.*

## **XML PATH language (XPath)**

XPath is a subset of XSLT that supports addressing an element or elements within an XML document based on a path through the document hierarchy.

### **Related terms**

element, extensible markup language (XML)

## **XML schema**

*See schema.*

## **XPath**

*See XML PATH language (XPath).*

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