

BPS79- Sample Reports View

Functional Specifications

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Abstract

This document presents the functional specifications of a sample reports view. It makes a set of sample reports easily accessible to the first time users of BIRT.

Document Revisions

Draft	Date	Primary Author(s)	Description of Changes
1.0	Jan. 25, 2007	Hongchang Lin	Initial draft
1.1	Feb. 06, 2007	Hongchang Lin	Modified UI design; added plug-ins in packaging
1.2	Feb. 09, 2007	Hongchang Lin	Revised sample reports inclusion, open sample report action
1.3	Mar. 06, 2007	Hongchang Lin	Minor update on scripting sample
1.4	Apr. 03, 2007	David Michonneau	Updated mockup with new icon

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1. Introduction

1.1 Scope

This document provides a description about the sample reports view. It focuses on the packaging issues and UI design.

1.2 Goal

A sample reports view is to make the sample reports easily accessible to first time users of BIRT.

2. Packaging

2.1 `org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui.samplesview`

This is a new created plug-in that implements a new view within eclipse workbench.

2.2 `org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui.samples.ide`

This is a new created plug-in. It implements UI for the sample reports that only brought up on IDE version.

2.3 `org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.ui.samples.rcp`

This is a new created plug-in. It implements UI for the sample reports that only brought up on RCP version.

2.4 `org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.samplereports`

This is a plug-in that packages:

- Sample report design (.rptdesign) files
- Screenshot pictures of sample reports
- Java objects used in scripting sample reports

The currently existed plug-in “`org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.example.samplereport`” can be renamed and taken to use.

3. Resources

3.1 Sample report design and library files

Sample reports are taken from: <http://www.eclipse.org/birt/phoenix/examples/>, except for the “Integrating BIRT” category (because it demonstrates in Wiki instead of report designs). In the plug-in “`org.eclipse.birt.report.designer.samplereports`”, all the sample report design files are separated into different pre-defined folders following the categories. The report libraries will reside at same location with the sample report that

includes them. The sample reports that can only brought up in IDE version are saved separately, as shown in fig. 2.1.

3.2 Description texts

The description text of a sample report is also taken from BIRT official website. All the description texts are saved in a “descriptions.properties” file, each one is assigned with a key. So the description texts can be localized and UI gets them through the key.

3.3 Screenshot pictures

Screenshot pictures of sample reports are all in .png format, 800*600 resolution, no larger than 250KB, saved in different pre-defined folder, as shown in fig. 2.1.

3.4 Java Objects

The java objects are saved in the same folder with the sample report.



Fig. 2.1

4. UI Design

4.1 Show sample reports view

Select menus: Windows->Show View->Other..., then select “Report Examples” in “Report and Chart Design” category on the “Show View” dialog, shown as fig. 3.1. A new view named “Report Examples” will be opened on Lower-right part of eclipse workbench, shown as fig. 3.2.

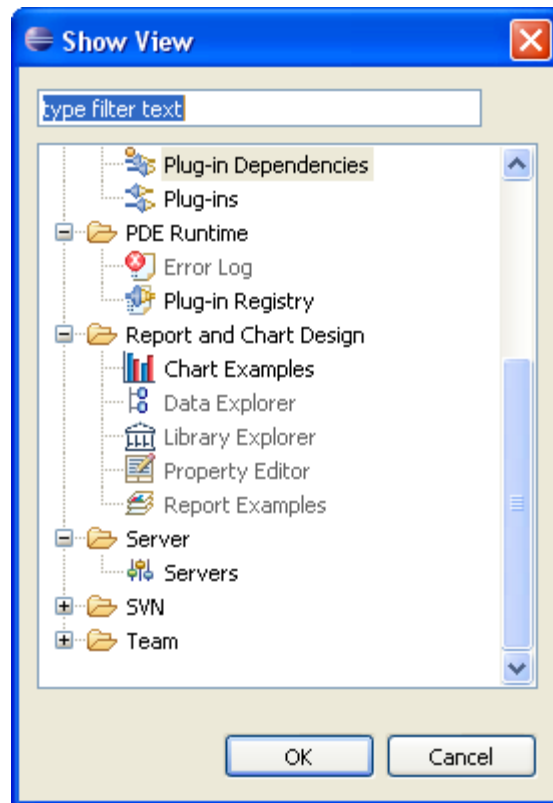


Fig. 3.1

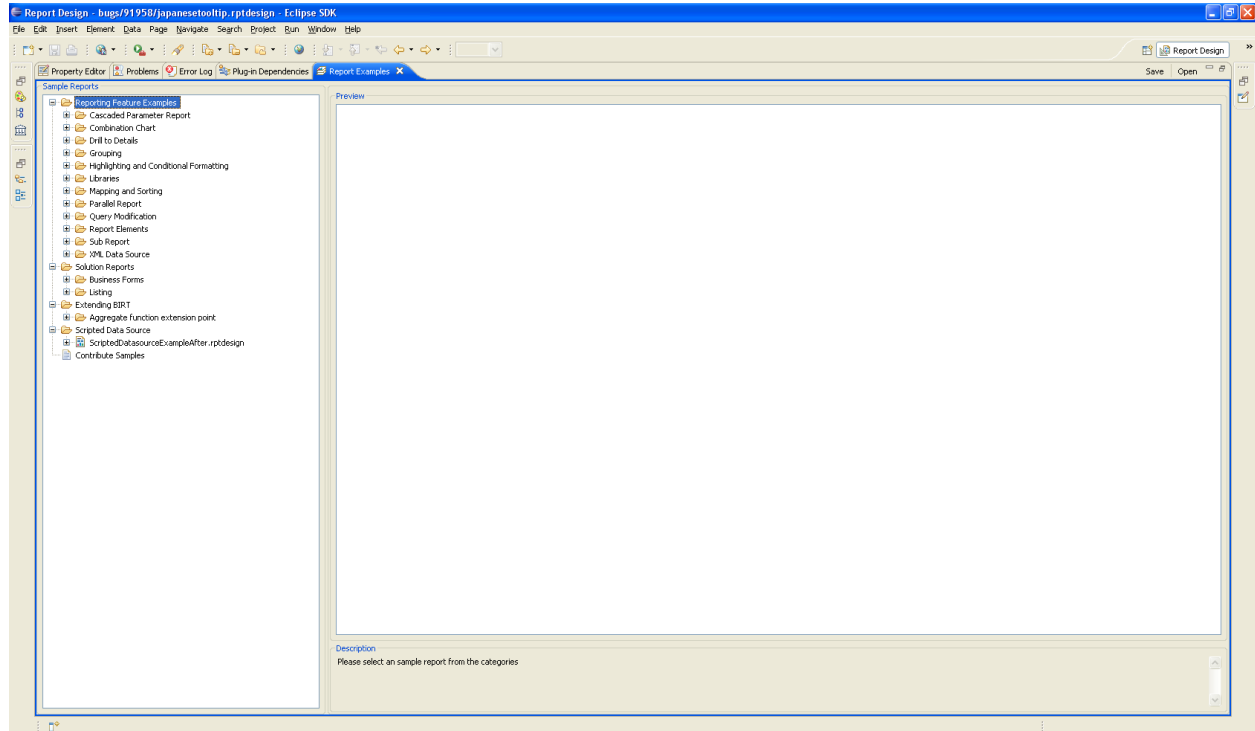


Fig. 3.2

The layout of samples reports view is divided into three parts: Sample reports explorer, Preview viewer and Description text. The layout is implements as SashForm type, thus user can resize each part through dragging the border.

4.2 Sample reports explorer

Sample reports explorer lists all the sample reports in categories. User can select a report node and expand it to examine the report elements. Show as fig. 3.3.

Since opening the scripting and extending BIRT sample reports requires bring up eclipse Java IDE or plug-in development IDE, the categories will be different for BIRT IDE version, as follows. Especially, the scripting examples with Java script only can be included in RCP version, but the scripted data source example which calls external Java objects is only included in IDE version.

- BIRT IDE version

Including sample report in categories: Reporting Feature Examples, Solution Reports, Extending BIRT, Scripted Data Source.

- BIRT RCP version

Including sample report in categories: Reporting Feature Examples, Solution Reports, Scripting.

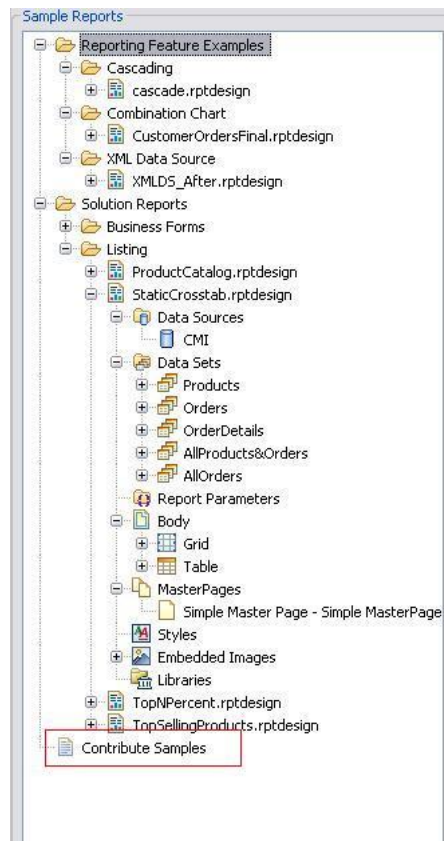


Fig. 3.3

An item named “Contribute Samples” is listed after all the sample report items, it displays description Text as following:

“Please submit a bugzilla entry at https://bugs.eclipse.org/bugs/enter_bug.cgi?product=BIRT&bug_severity=enhancement, attach the report design file and the screenshot of report output(in .png image format, 800*600 resolution, no larger than 250 KB) ”

4.3 Preview viewer

After selecting (single clicking) a report design, the screenshot image of report output is display on preview viewer. Show as fig. 3.4.

4.4 Sample report description text

Description Text displays the description of the sample report currently selected on sample reports explorer. Show as fig. 3.4.

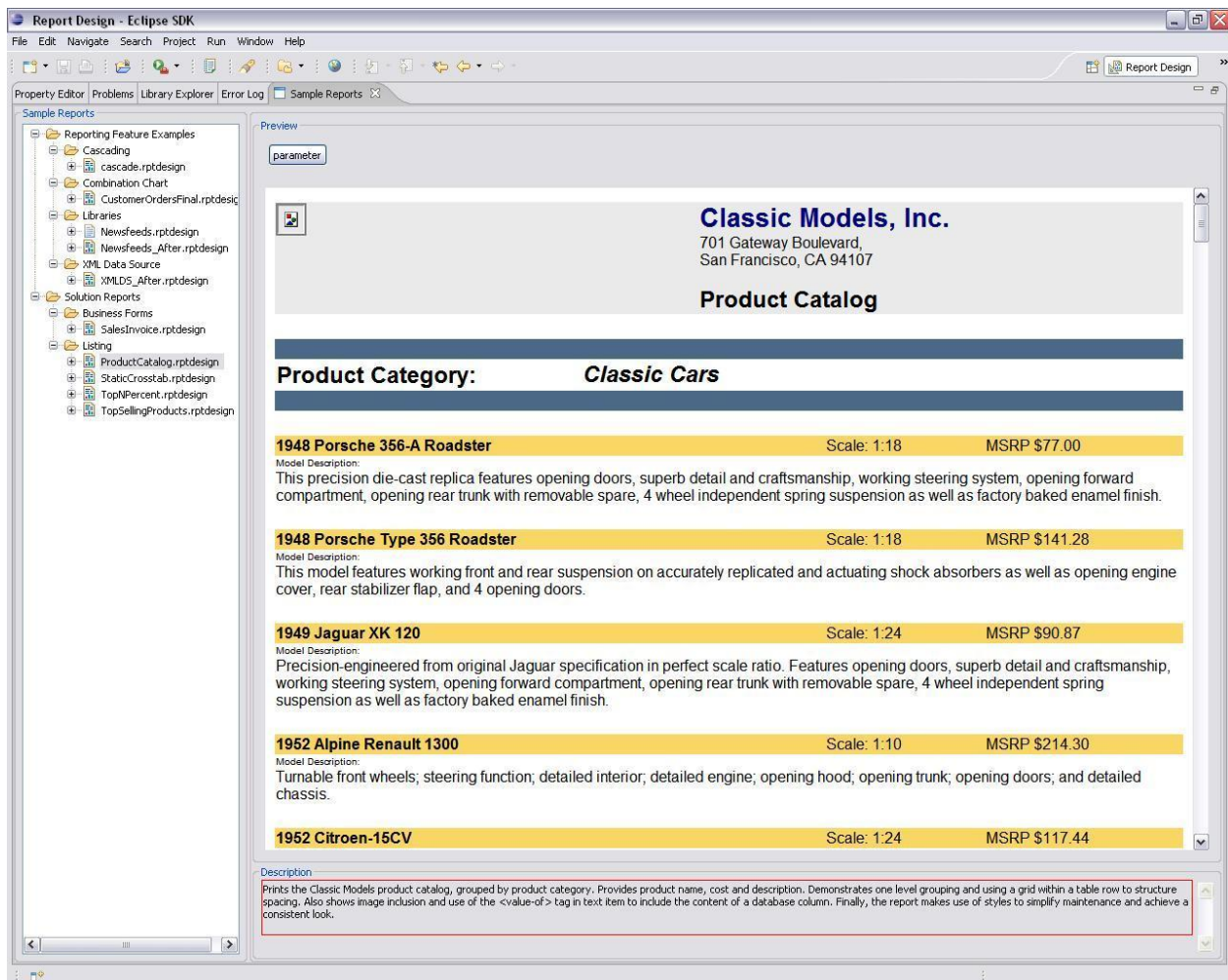


Fig. 3.4

4.5 Actions

Two actions are contributed on the tool bar of Sample Reports View. As shown in fig. 3.5.

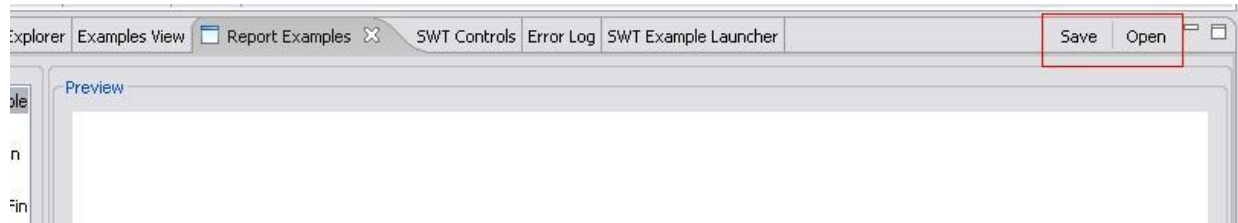


Fig. 3.5

4.5.1 Save sample report action

This action launches a file dialog allowing user to export the selected sample report to chosen location. As illustrated in fig. 3.6.

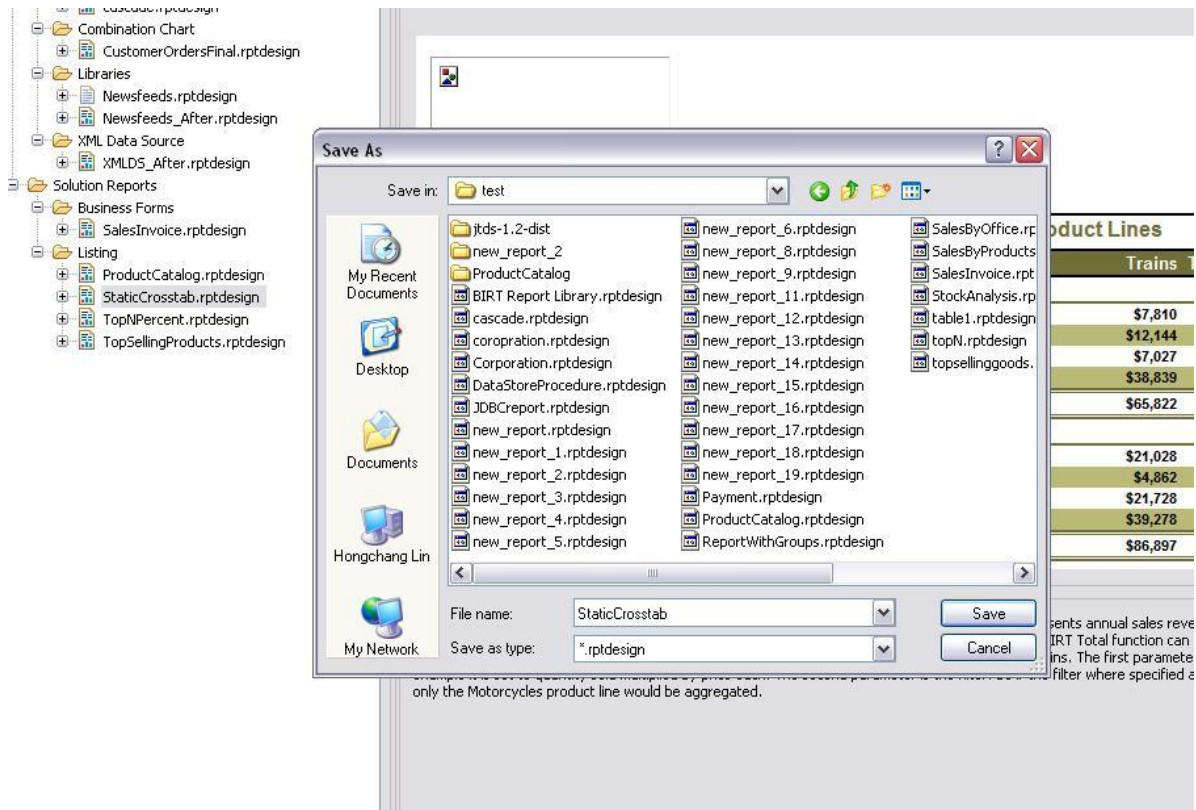


Fig. 3.6

4.5.2 Open sample report action

This action is different in BIRT IDE and RCP version. And implemented in two separated plug-ins depends on eclipse IDE and RCP platform respectively (can be referred to 2.1).

- BIRT IDE version

The action will create a project with a same name with the selected sample report, and export the sample report into the project folder. Specially, for scripting and extending BIRT samples, more actions happen.

Scripting sample report: Create an Eclipse Java Project and place the used java object into the source folder, for user to fully examine the sample. Mean while, in order

to load the exported java object and allow the scripting sample report using it, display a hint text to remind user to restart BIRT.

Extending BIRT sample report: Launch a file dialog to allow user to export extended plug-in into chosen path.

- BIRT RCP version:

The action will export the sample report and its included resources into the workspace folder directly.