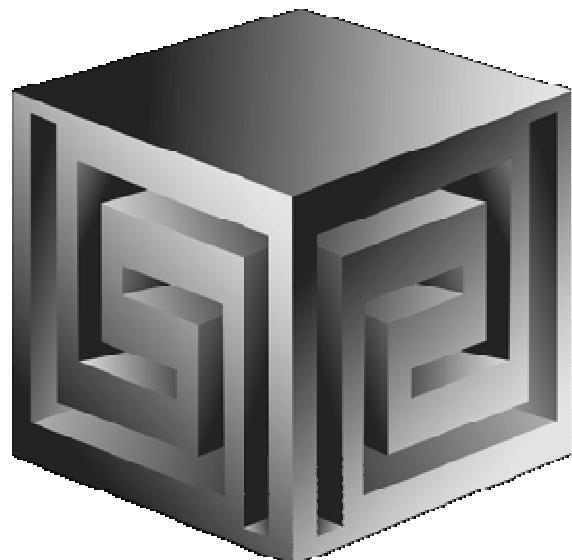


# **Front-End Tools to View OLAP Data**

## **IOUG Live! 2005**



**Dan Vlamis**

**dvlamis@vlamis.com**

**Vlamis Software Solutions, Inc.**

**816-781-2880**

**<http://www.vlamis.com>**

**Copyright © 2005, Vlamis Software Solutions, Inc.**



# **Vlamis Software Solutions, Inc.**

---

- **Founded in 1992 in Kansas City, Missouri**
- **Oracle Partner and reseller since 1995**
- **Specializes in ORACLE-based:**
  - Data Warehousing
  - Business Intelligence
  - Data Transformation (ETL)
  - Web development and portals
  - Express-based applications
- **Delivers**
  - Design and integrate BI and DW solutions
  - Training and mentoring
- **Expert presenter at major Oracle conferences**

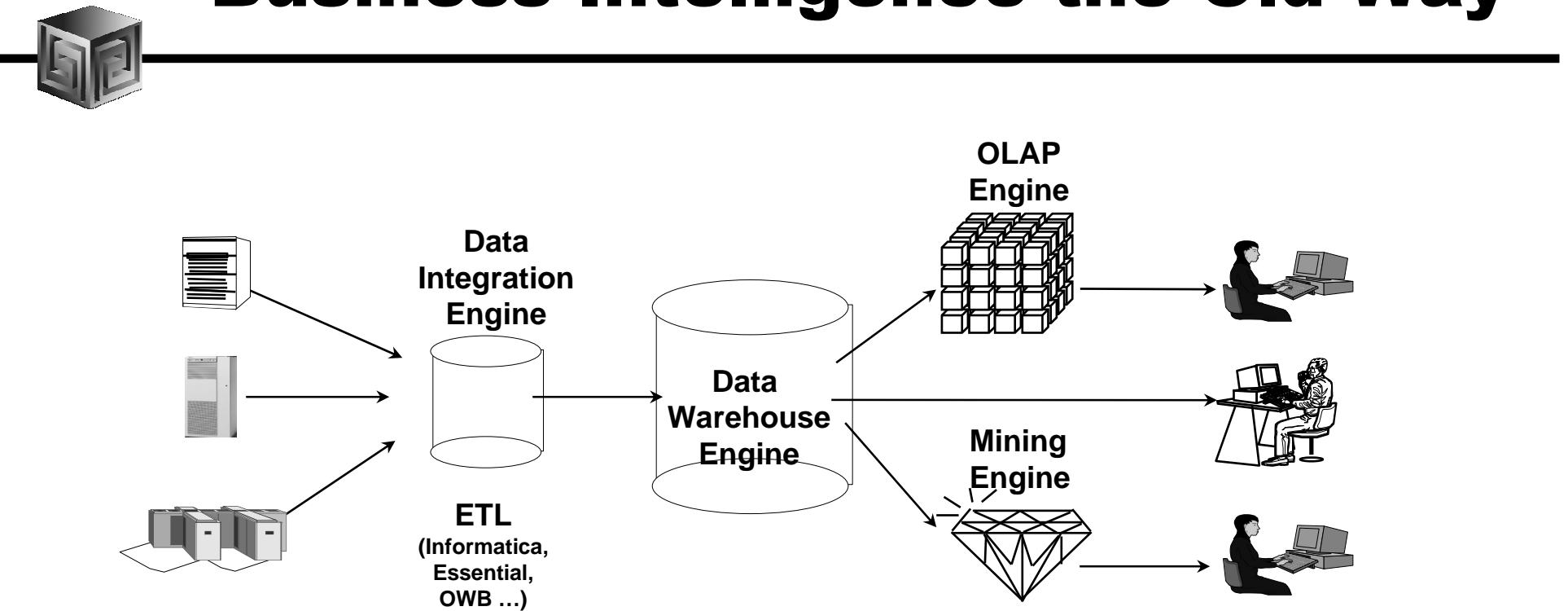


# **Outline**

---

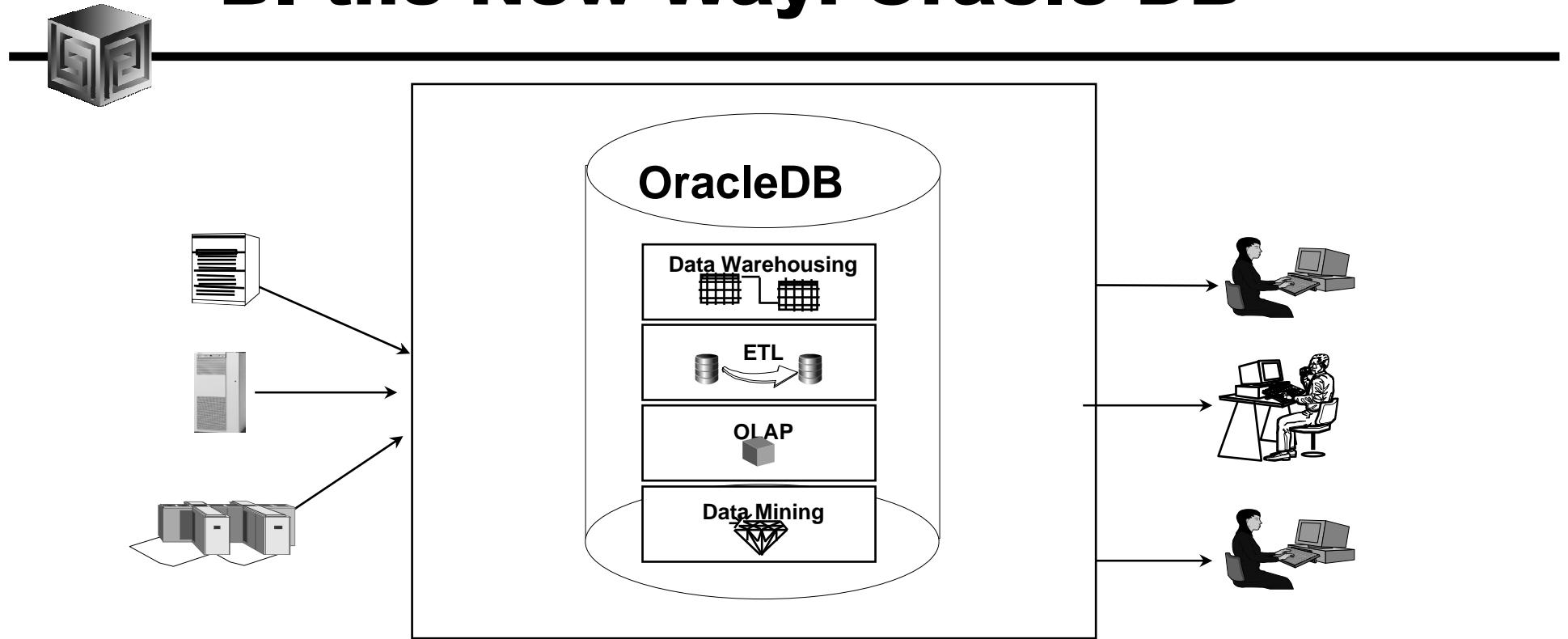
- **Introduction - History**
- **Overview of OLAP, BI Beans and Discoverer fit together**
- **Discoverer OLAP Specifics**
  - General Features of Discoverer OLAP
  - Plus or Viewer
  - Demo
- **BI Beans Specifics**
  - General Features of BI Beans Applications
  - Features Unique to BI Beans
  - Demo
- **Spreadsheet Add-in Specifics**
  - Demo
- **Which is Right for you?**

# Business Intelligence the Old Way



- Special purpose engines for differing tasks
- Metadata migration tools ease replication
- User interfaces generally different for different tools

# BI the New Way: Oracle DB



- Single business intelligence platform
  - Reduce administration, implementation costs
  - Faster deployment & Improved scalability and reliability



# **Why a Separate OLAP Tool?**

---

- **Empowers end-users to do own analysis**
- **Frees up IS backlog of report requests**
- **Ease of use**
- **Drill-down**
- **No knowledge of SQL or tables required**
- **Exception Analysis**
- **Variance Analysis**



# **What Does OLAP Add to a DW?**

---

- **Multidimensional user view of data**
- **Users create own reports**
- **Users create own measures**
- **Easy drill-down, rotate**
- **Iterative discovery process (not just reports)**
- **Ad-hoc analysis**
- **Easy selection of data with business terms**



# **What Does Oracle OLAP Add to a DW?**

---

- Multidimensional user view of data
- Users create own reports
- Users create own measures
- Easy drill-down, rotate
- Iterative discovery process (not just reports)
- Ad-hoc analysis
- Easy selection of data with business terms
- OLAP DML with what-if, forecasting
- Platform for extensions



**Not exposed with Discoverer**



# **What Makes a DW OLAP-Ready?**

---

- **Star schema design**
- **Simple dimension tables (level-based)**
- **All tables dimension or fact  
(no "auxiliary tables for dimension tables)**
- **Each child has single parent (no many-to-many)**
- **Total level at top of each dimension**
- **End\_date and Timespan attributes for TIME**
- **Unique descriptions across all levels**
- **Fact tables with additive measures**



# **Oracle BI – Getting the Data In**

---

- **Storing / calculating with the data**
  - Oracle RDBMS
  - Oracle OLAP (an option to the RDBMS)
- **Getting the data in / managing**
  - Oracle Warehouse Builder
  - Oracle Enterprise Manager
  - Analytic Workspace Manager

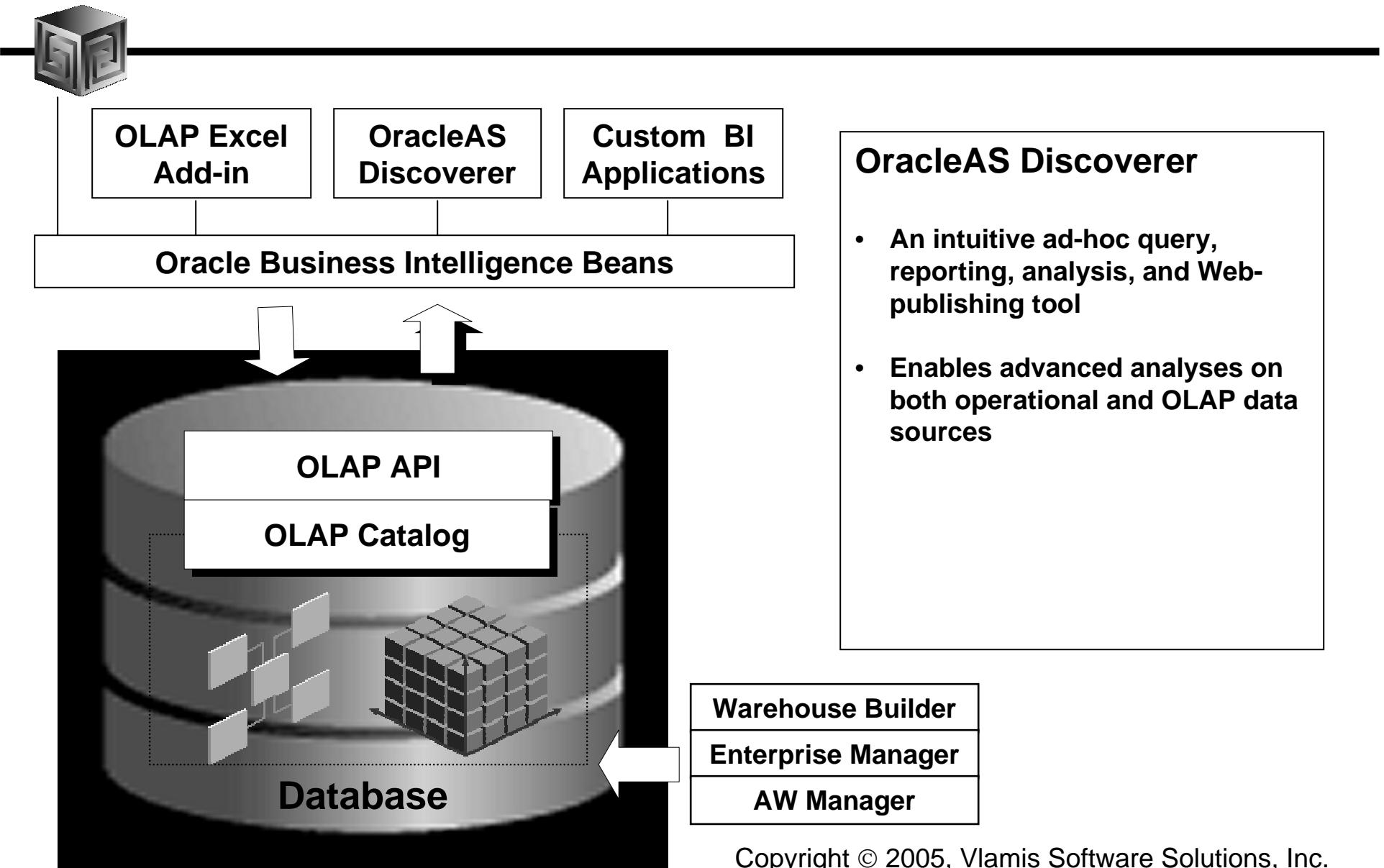


# **Getting the Data Out**

---

- **Once the Data is in OLAP how do we get the data out?**
- **Alternatives**
  - BI Beans applications (Custom or pre-built)
  - Discoverer
  - Oracle Reports
  - SQL Access from any SQL tool
  - Spreadsheet Add-in
  - Any except Spreadsheet add-in can be in a portal and with web interface

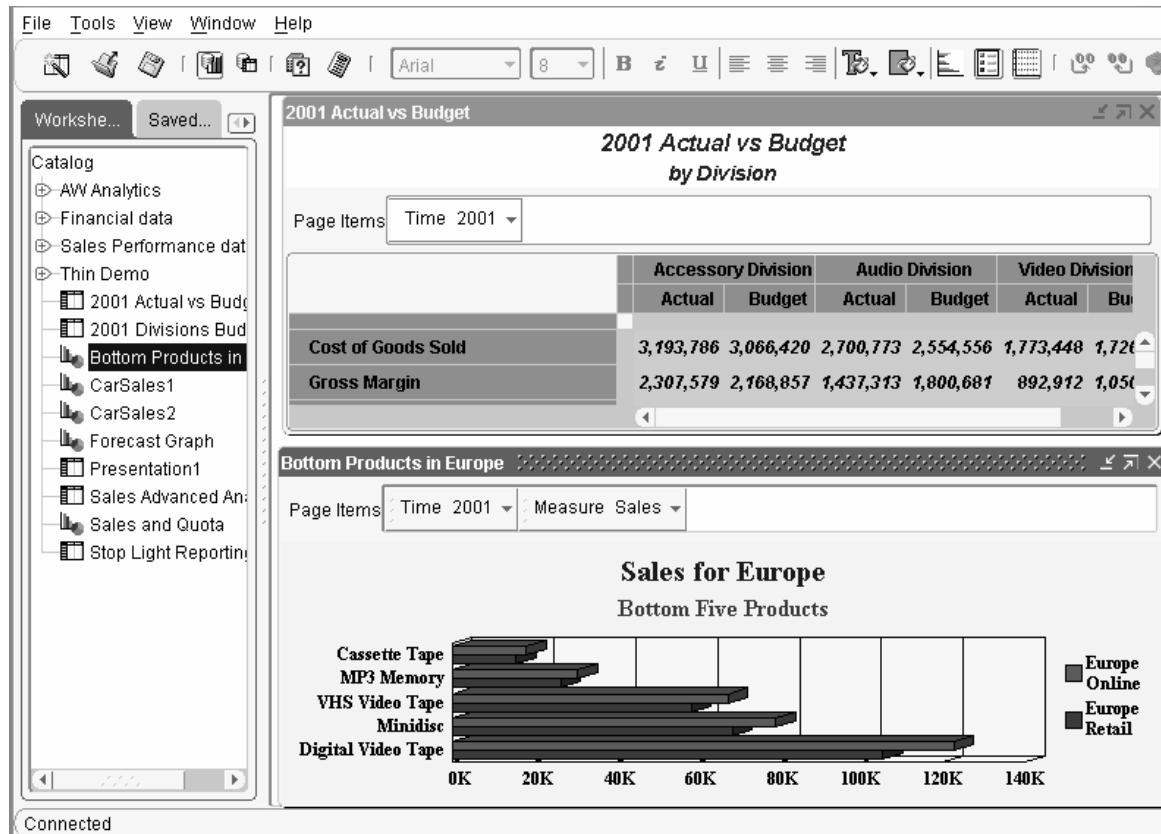
# Ad-hoc Access OLAP via Discoverer



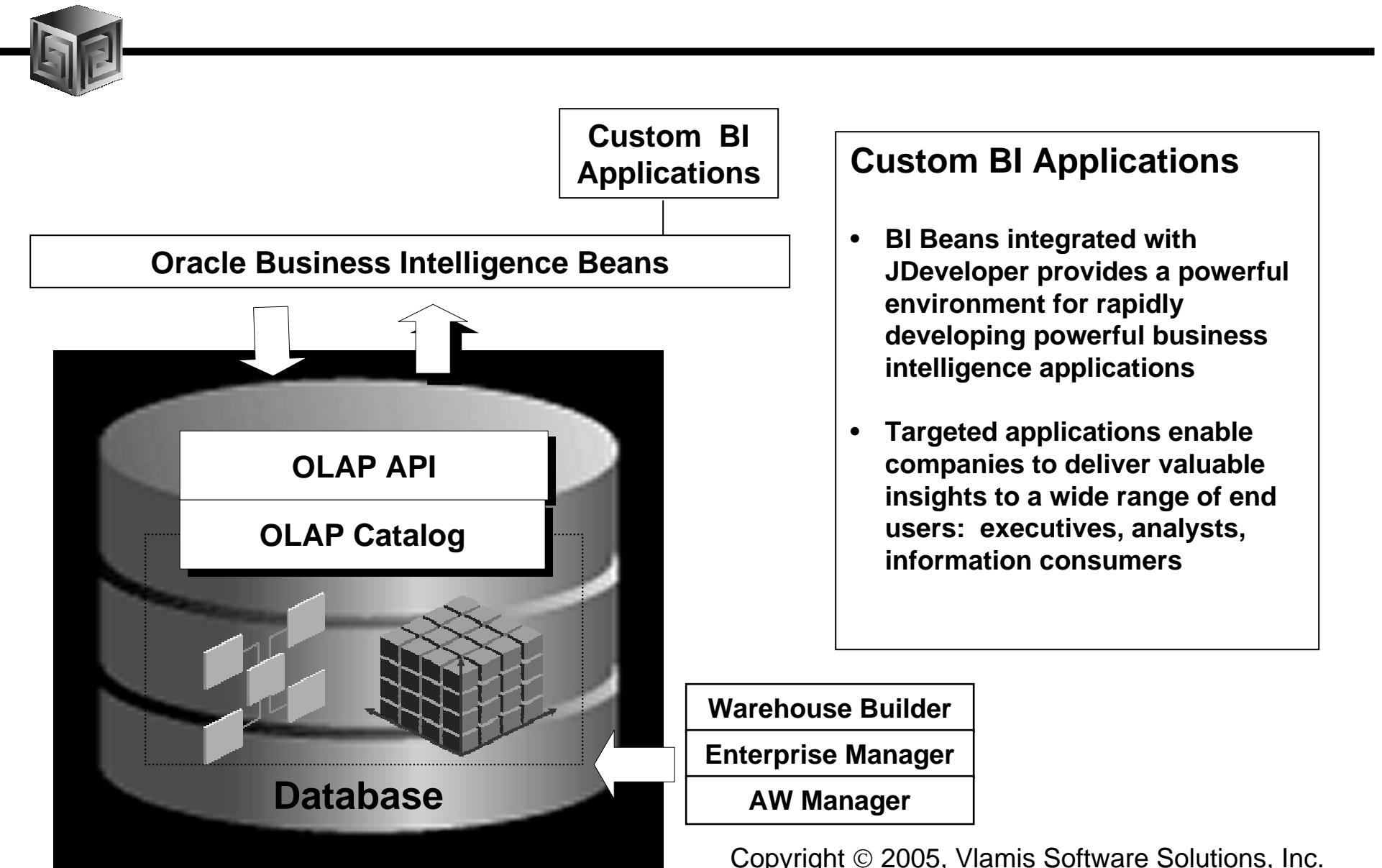
# Discoverer 10g – Discoverer OLAP



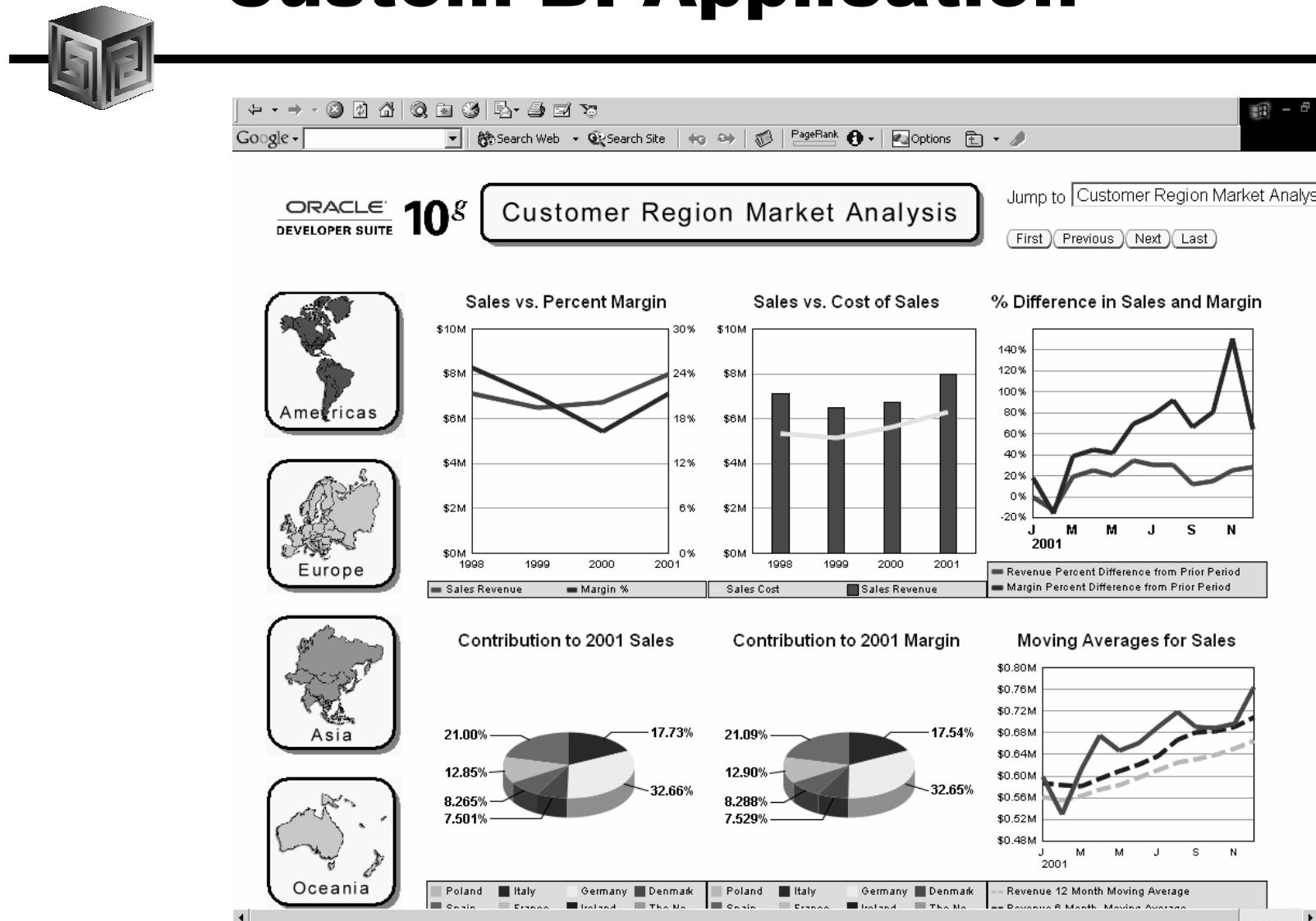
- Currently AWM creates EUL for SQL Access
- Disco 10g adds Direct Access to OLAP



# Custom Development via BI Beans

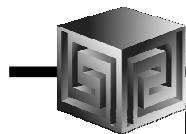


# Custom BI Application



Copyright © 2005, Vlamis Software Solutions, Inc.

# BI Beans Applications



**Thick  
Client**

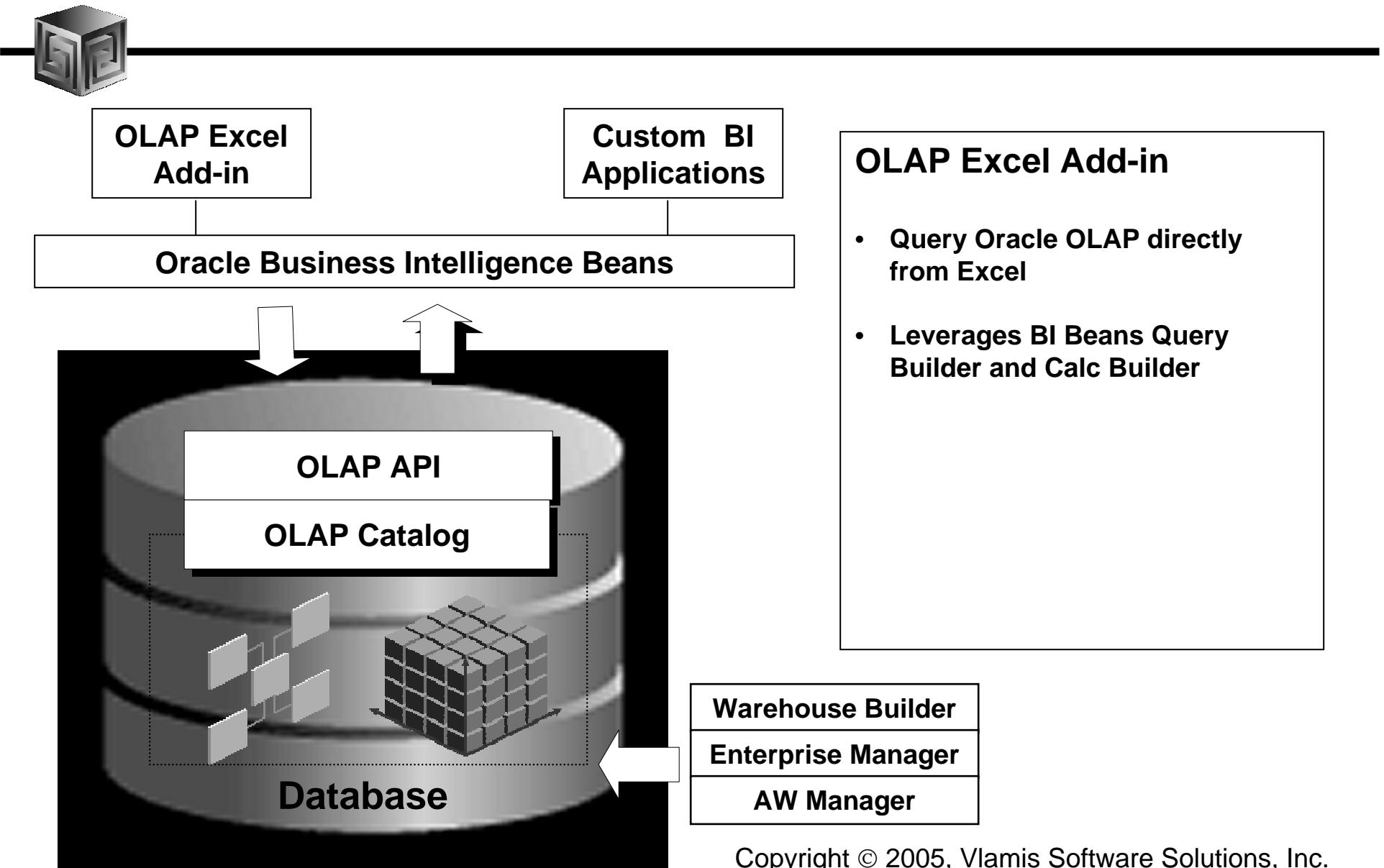
The screenshot shows the VSS Business Analyzer 1.50 interface. On the left, there is a sidebar with various financial metrics: Cost of Goods Sold, Gross Margin, Marketing Expense, Net Income, and Operating Income. Below this is another set of metrics: Page Items, Measure, Budget. A bar chart titled 'Accessory Division' is displayed, showing values from 0K to 6,000K. On the right, a catalog tree under 'root' includes items like AW Analytics, Financial data, Sales Performance data, Thin Demo, 2001 Actual vs Budget, 2001 Divisions Budget, Presentation1, Sales Advanced Analysis, Stop Light Reporting, Bottom Products in Europe, CarSales1, CarSales2, Forecast Graph, and Sales and Quota. A status bar at the bottom indicates 'Internet'.

The screenshot shows the VSS Business Analyzer 2.0:Analyze interface running in Microsoft Internet Explorer. The title bar says 'VSS Business Analyzer 2.0:Analyze - Microsoft Internet Explorer'. The main content area displays a report table with columns: Sales Revenue, % Sales Variance, and Quota. The data rows are: Areas in the Americas (460,710, 451,616), Argentina (11,881, 8,665), Brazil (18,005, 17,330), Sao Paulo, Brazil (18,005, 17,330), Canada (154,529, 147,136), Colombia (5,778, 8,665), Mexico (31,198, 25,995), and United States of America (239,518, -1.77%). The status bar at the bottom indicates 'Internet'.

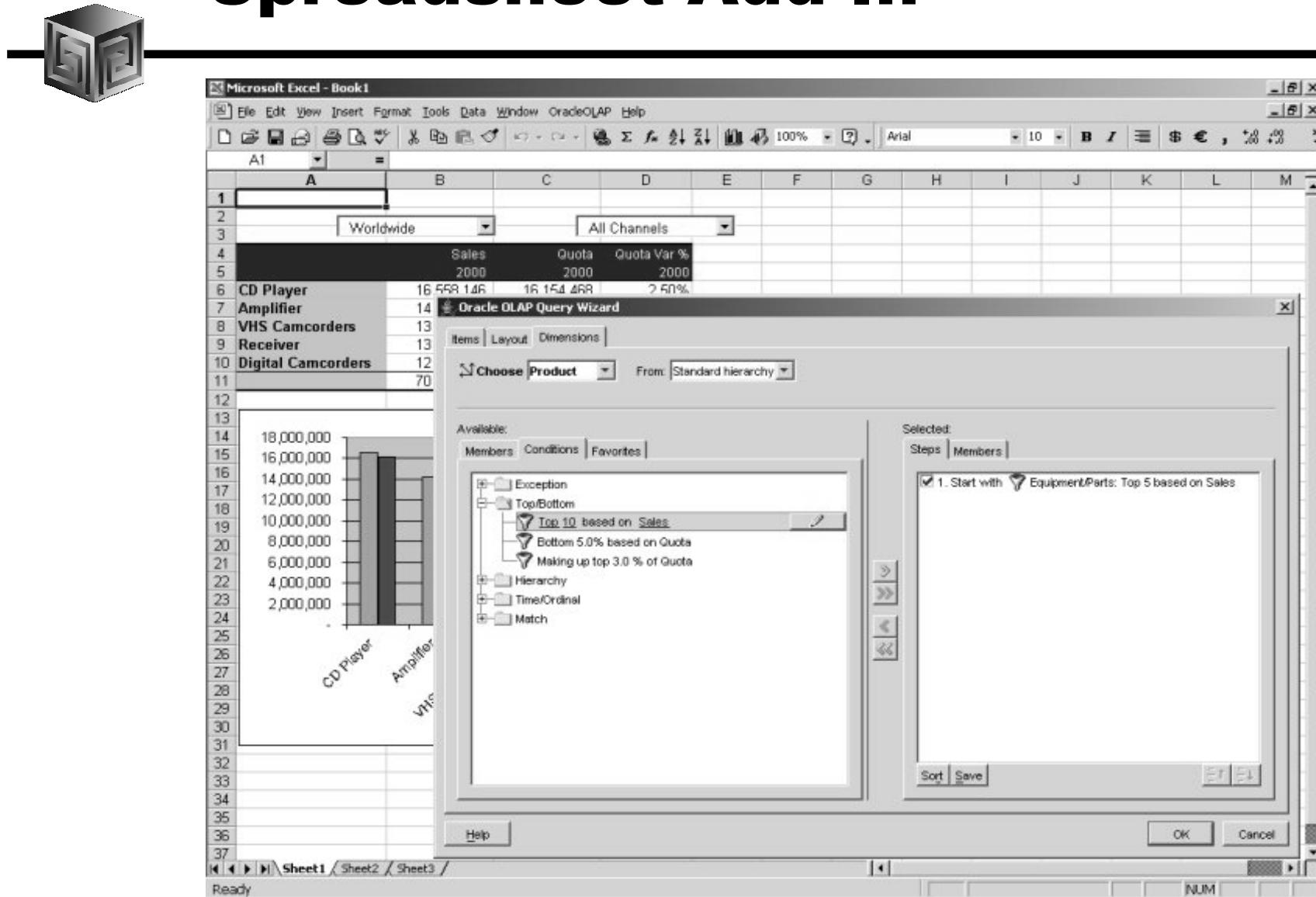
**Thin Client**

Copyright © 2005, Vlamis Software Solutions, Inc.

# Access to All OLAP Data from Excel



# Spreadsheet Add-In



Copyright © 2005, Vlamis Software Solutions, Inc.

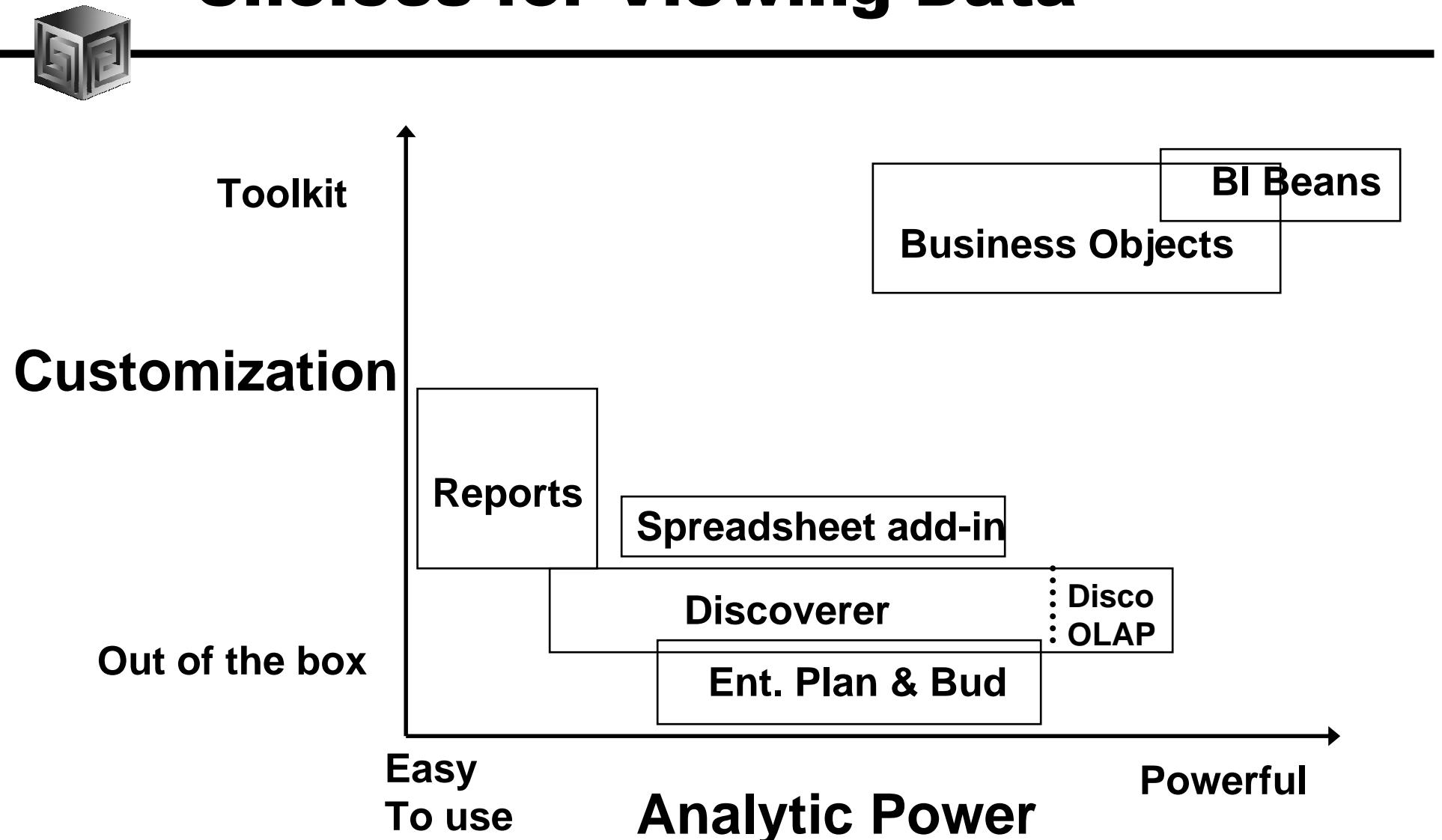


# **What Access Tool?**

---

- **Java OLAP API designed for products**
- **Discoverer for ad hoc analysis**
- **BI Beans for custom applications (using JDev)**
- **Spreadsheet Add-in for access from Excel**
- **Oracle Reports for highly formatted reports**
- **Oracle Apps for analysis of Apps data**
- **3rd Party tools fill in gaps**

# Choices for Viewing Data





# **Discoverer Specifics**

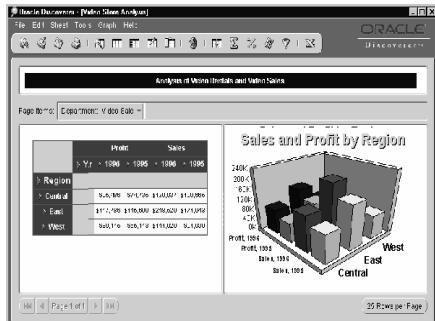
---

- Discoverer "Classic" still there
- Discoverer OLAP built with BI Beans
- Integrated Relational and Multidimensional access to data
- Discoverer OLAP uses BI Beans repository with Discoverer extensions
- Uses "Workbook" metaphor to organize crosstabs and graphs into screens

# Three Deployments of Discoverer

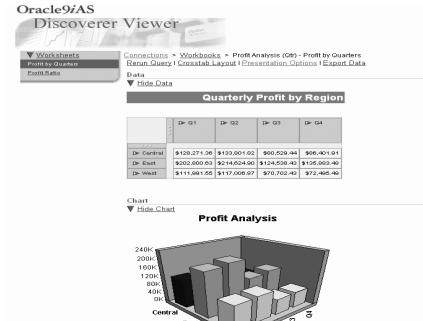


## Discoverer Plus



**Power user tool**  
**Creates new workbooks**  
**Runs via applet**

## Discoverer Viewer



**Casual user tool**  
**Existing workbooks**  
**Launched from Browser**  
**Zero footprint**

## Discoverer Portlets



**Casual user tool**  
**Existing workbooks**  
**Part of Portal**  
**Launches Viewer**  
**Zero footprint**



# **Discoverer Development Themes**

---

- **Single tool for both relational and multidimensional analysis**
- **Easy access to powerful analytics of the database**
- **Highly customizable display**
- **Support collaboration**

# Query Building



The image displays two side-by-side windows of the Worksheet Wizard:

**Worksheet Wizard (Left Window):**

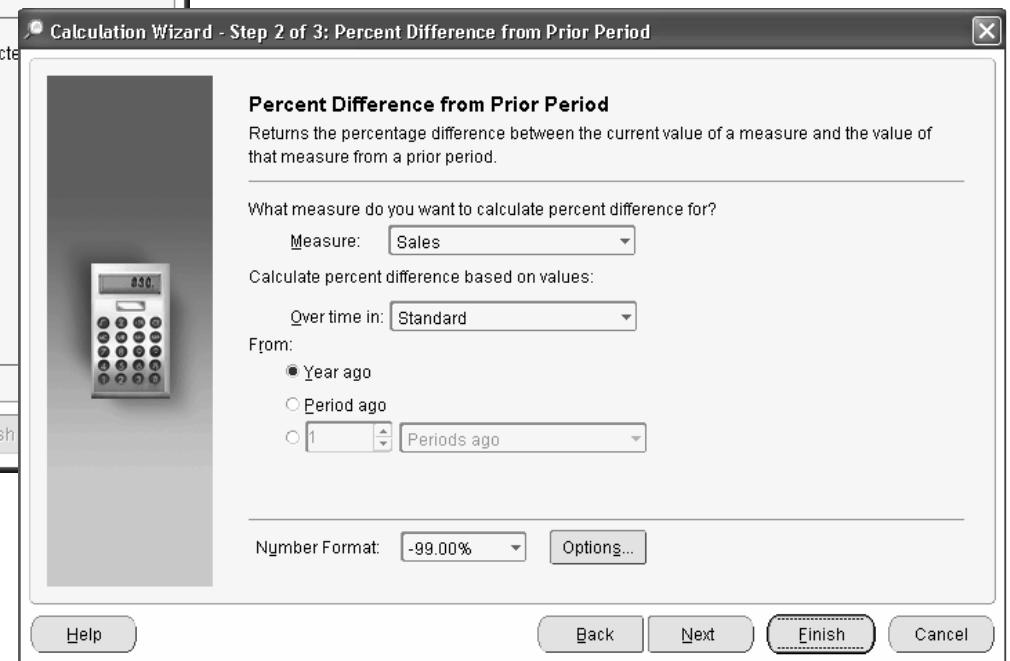
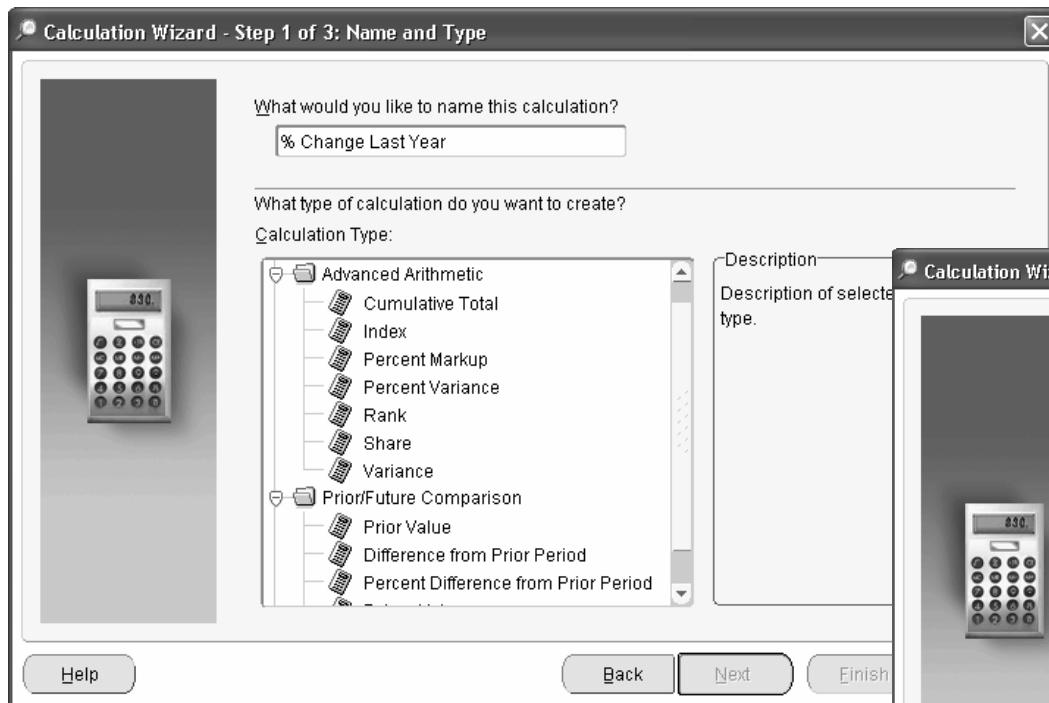
- Available:** A tree view showing categories like Comparison Measures, Financial data, Profitability Measures, Sales Performance data (with sub-items Costs, Promotion, Quota, Sales, Units), Channel, Geography, Product, and Time.
- Selected:** A tree view showing items selected from the Available list, such as Sales, Sales Year Ago, % Change Sales, Channel, Standard, Geography, Standard, Product, Standard, and Time, Standard.
- Buttons:** Items, Dimensions, Hidden Dimensions, Help, and a checkbox for "Automatically add/remove dimensions".

**Worksheet Wizard (Right Window):**

- Items Tab:** Shows a dropdown menu set to "Product" and "From: 'Standard' hierarchy".
- Available:** A tree view showing Members, Conditions, and Saved Selections. Under Members, it lists Exception, Top/Bottom (with sub-options Top 3 based on Sales, Bottom 5.0% based on Sales Year Ago, Making up top 3.0 % of Sales Year Ago), Hierarchy, Time/Ordinal, and Match.
- Selected:** A tree view showing Steps and Members. The Steps section contains a sequence of steps: 1. Start with Video Division, 2. Add Equipment/Parts: Top 3 based, Then Add, Then Keep, Then Remove. The Members section is empty.
- Buttons:** Help, Sort, Save, Apply, OK, Cancel.

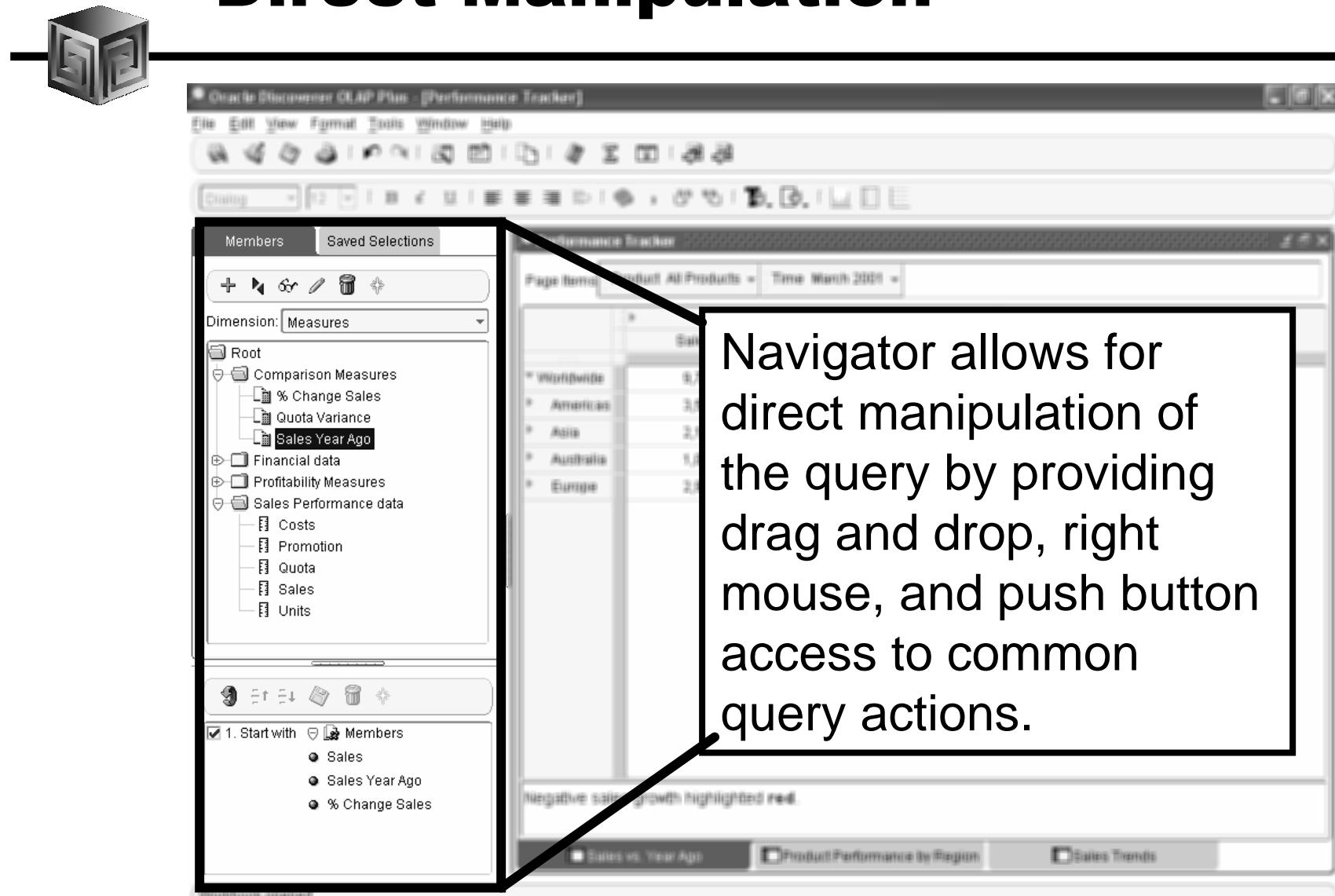
**Simplified access to analytics**

# Custom Calculations



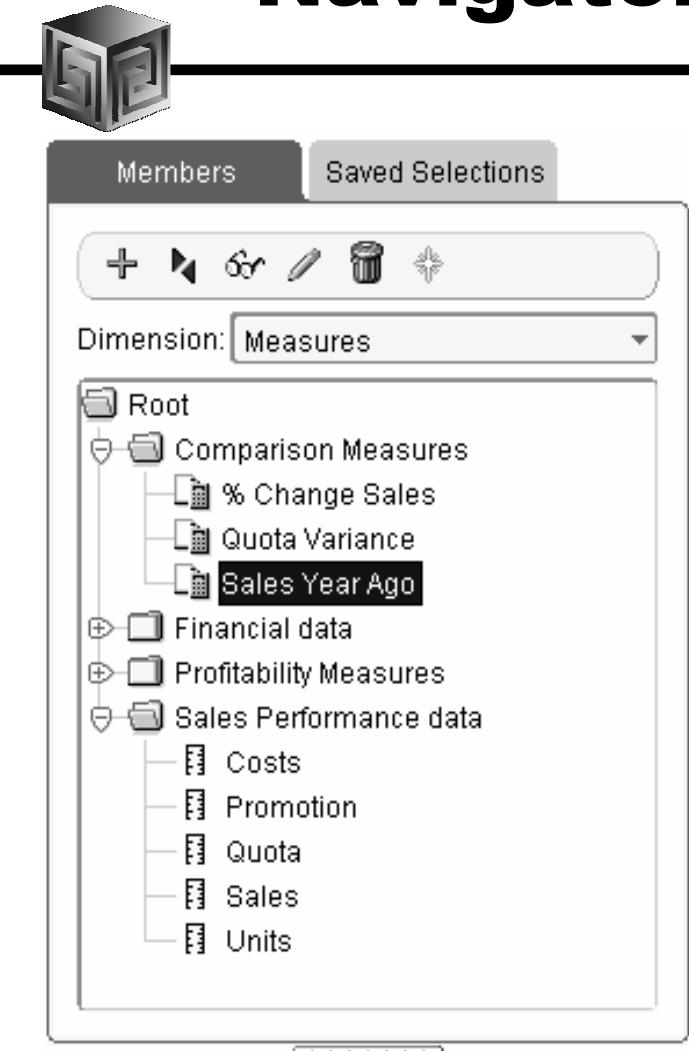
Powerful calculations,  
simple user interface

# Direct Manipulation



Copyright © 2005, Vlamis Software Solutions, Inc.

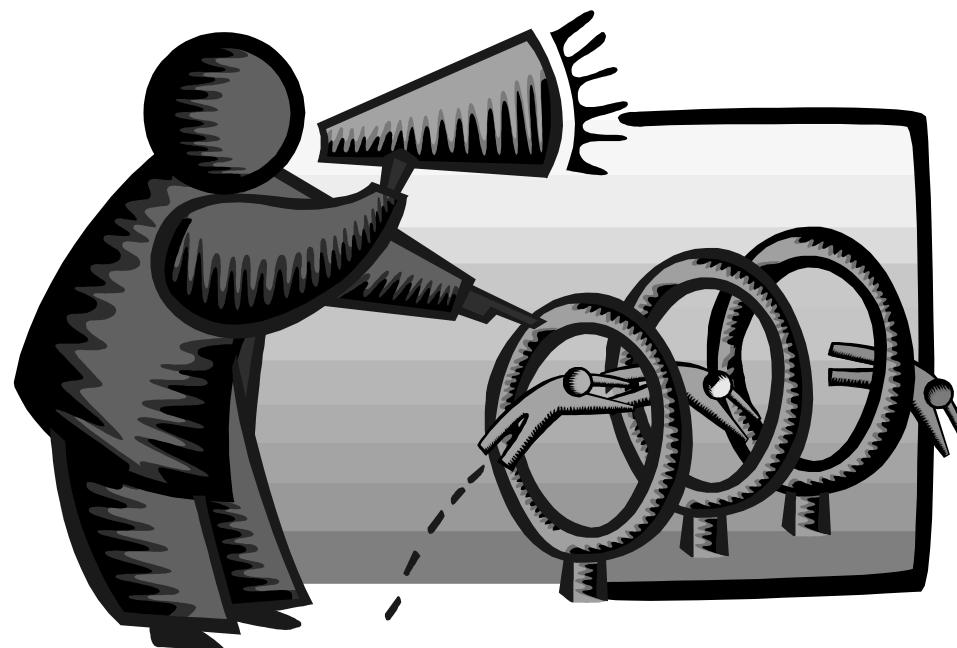
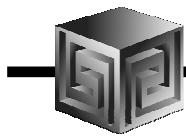
# **Navigator – Member Selection**



- **Dimension members and measures can be selected and applied to the worksheet**

# **Demonstration of Discoverer OLAP**

---





# **Discoverer Plus Features Over Vanilla BI Beans Application**

---

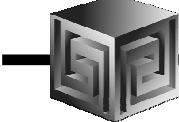
- **Multiple deployments**
  - Thick applet
  - Thin viewer
  - Portlet
- **Worksheet metaphor**
- **Export to PDF**
- **Undo**
- **Drag and Drop selection changes**
- **Totals at bottom or right**
- **Other features as well**



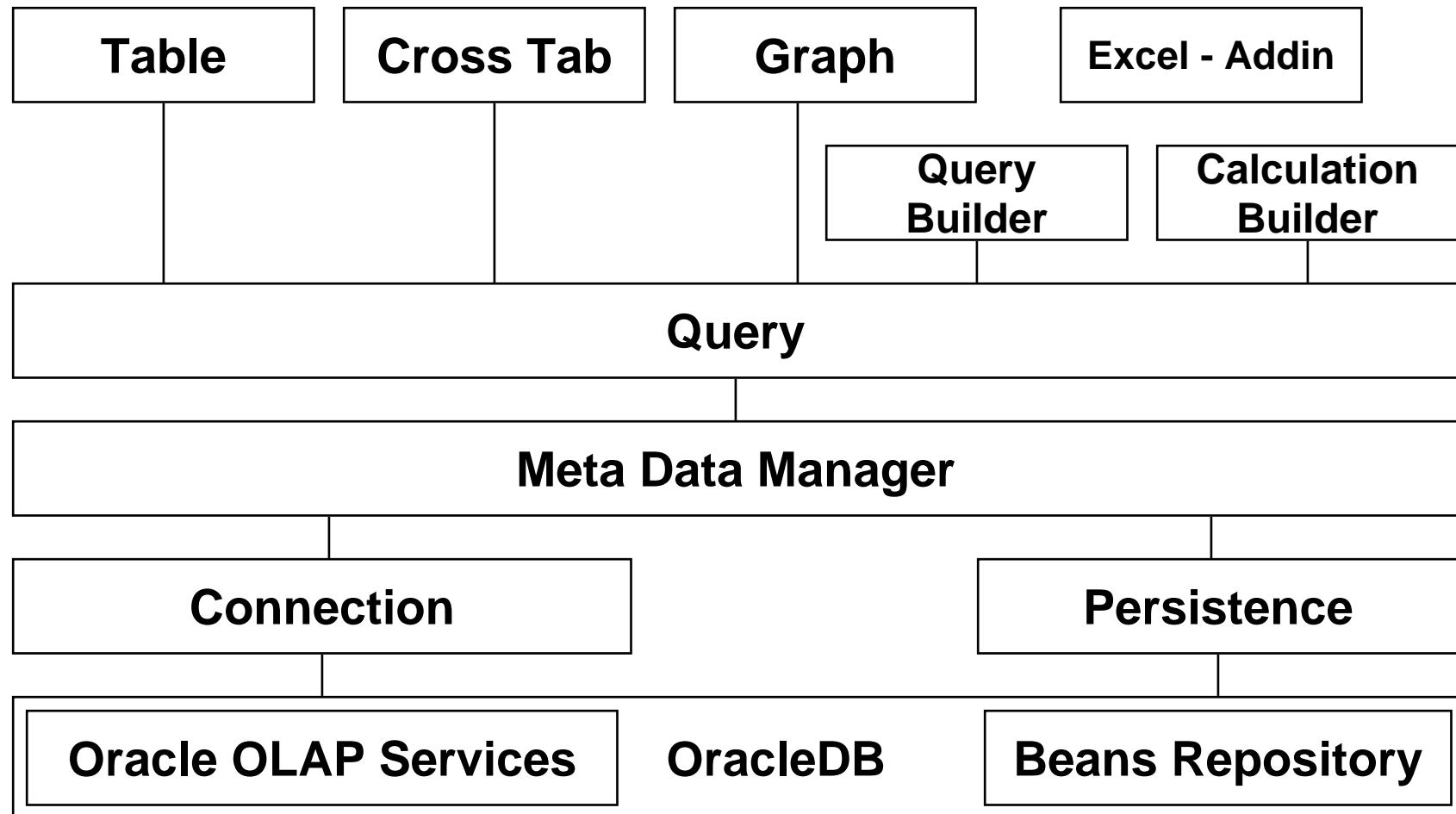
# **BI Beans Specifics**

---

- **Can look like anything**
- **Since custom coded, can do anything**
- **Generally, use Cross-tab and Graph bean to present data**
- **Can integrate other data easily**
- **JDeveloper not required, but helpful**
- **No deployment license necessary**
- **Requires Oracle OLAP to run**

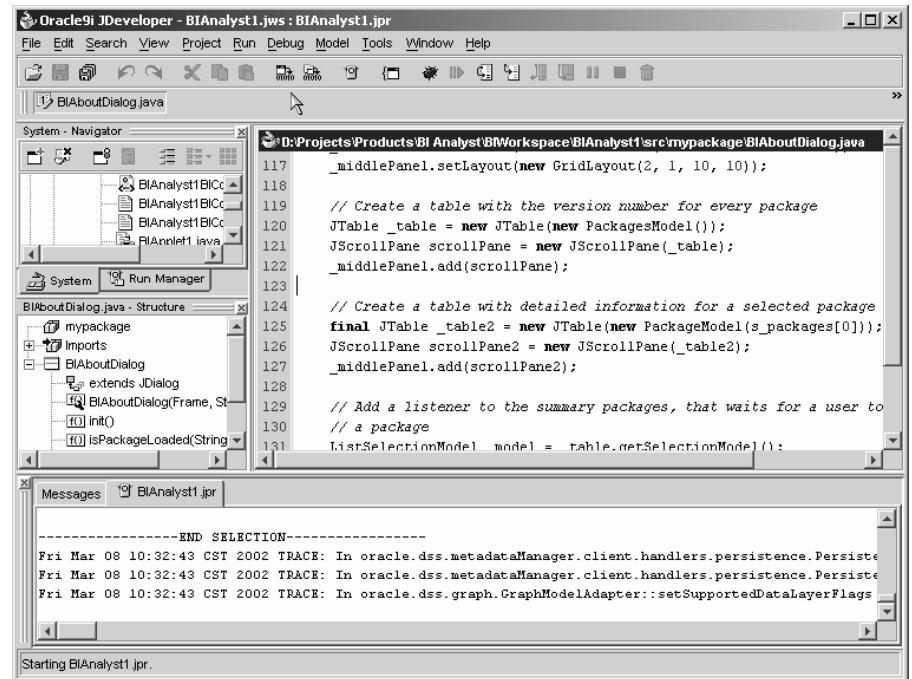


# **Business Intelligence Beans**

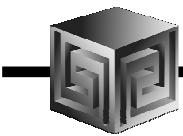


# JDeveloper Integration

- Single Development tool for Relational and OLAP dev
- Design-time integration objectives
  - Use JDeveloper concepts; extend when necessary
  - Live data access
  - Run application objects
  - Extensive use of Wizards to support rapid development
  - Use BI Beans runtime repository to enable multiple deployment options



# JDeveloper Environment



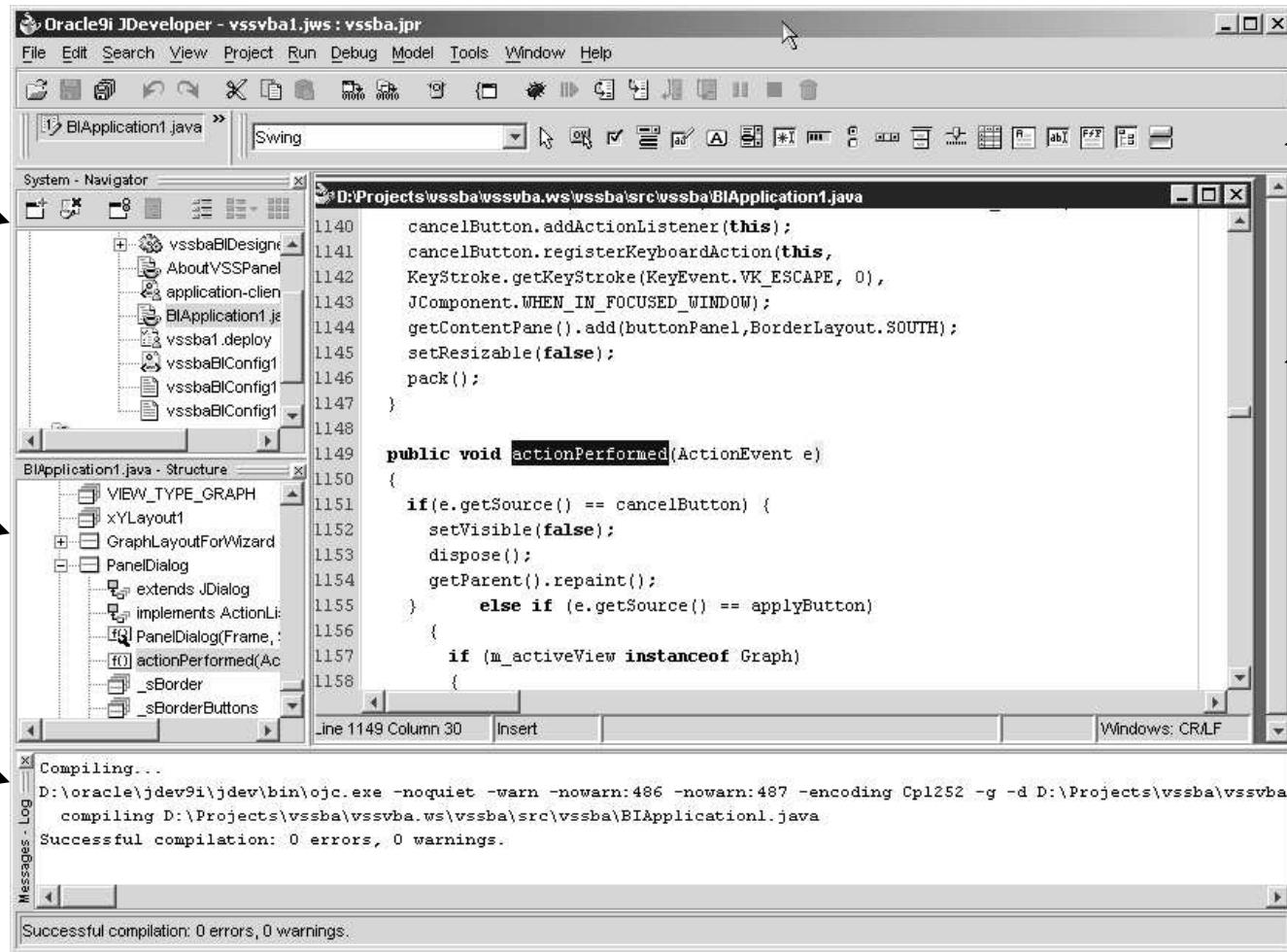
**System Navigator**

**Structure Window**

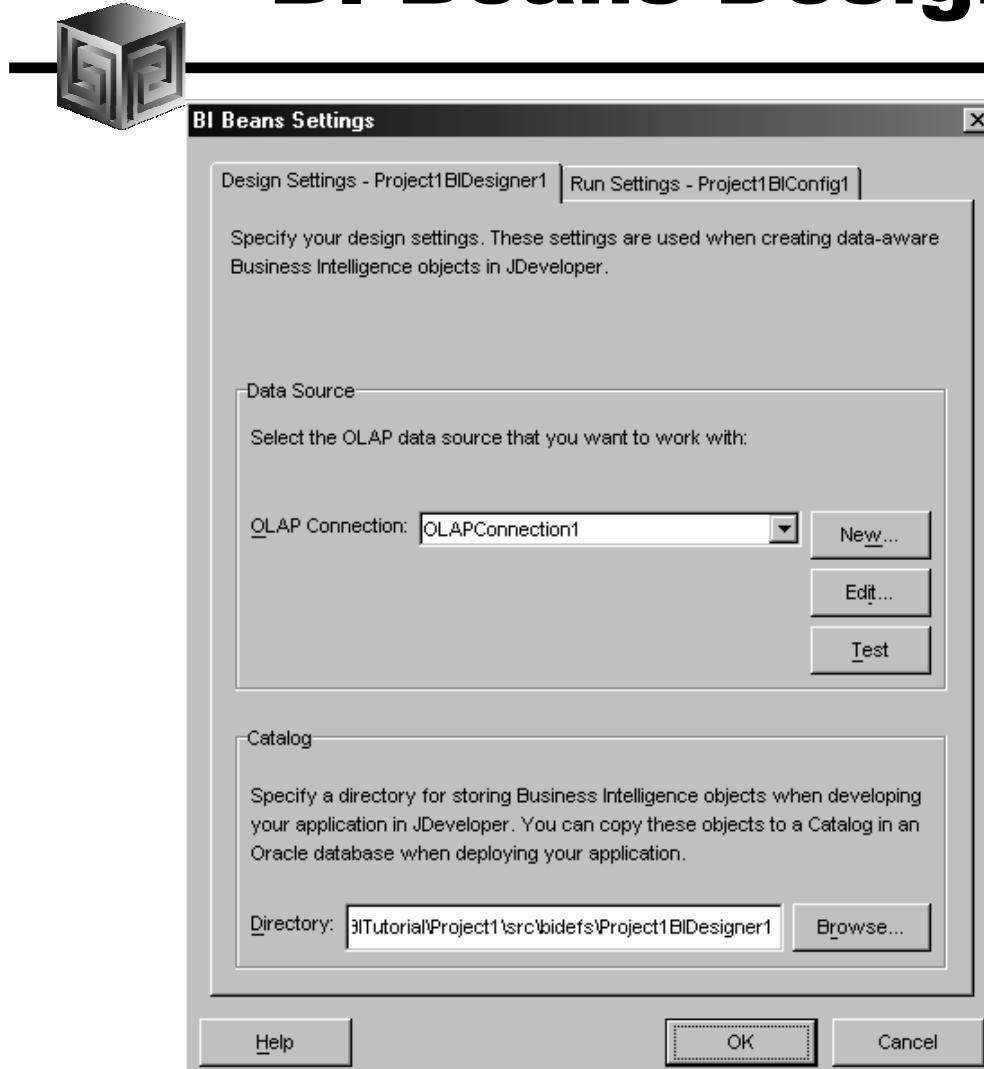
**Log Window**

**Component Toolbar**

**Code Window**

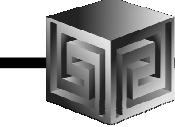


# BI Beans Designer Settings



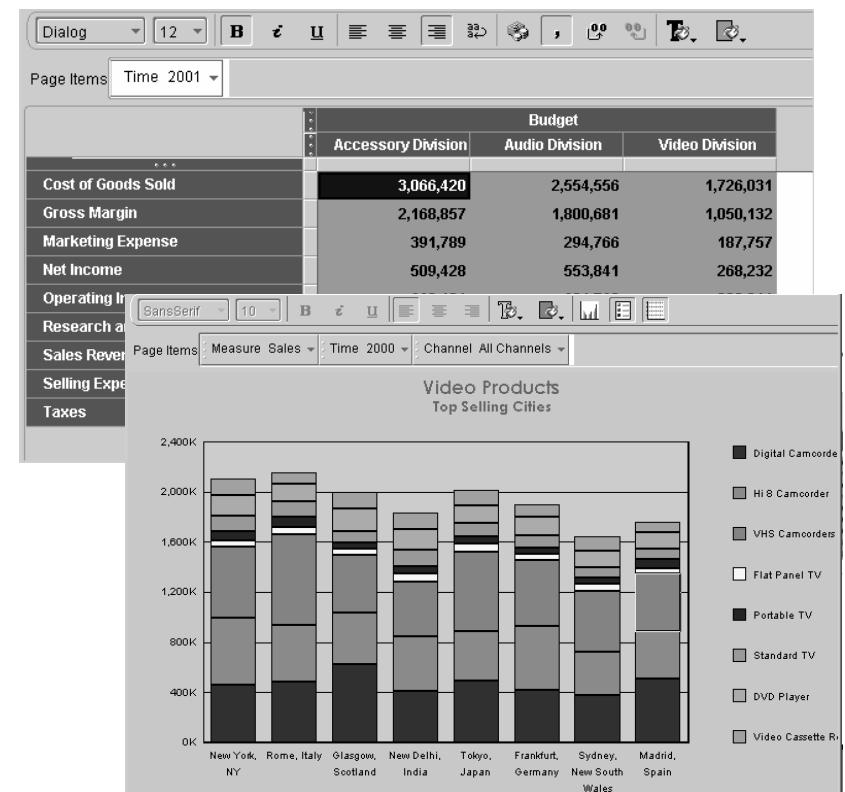
- **Container for Business Intelligence Objects**
- **References information needed to connect:**
  - to Oracle OLAP**
  - and the BI Beans Catalog.**
- **Design Settings - Lets you view and edit settings in your BI Designer object**
- **Run Settings - Lets you view and edit settings in your BI Configuration file**

# Presentation Beans



- Provides common user interface across Oracle BI products
- Translate UI gestures into OLAP events
- Graph
  - Over 50 graph types
  - Can modify appearance
- Crosstab/Table
  - Cell level formatting
- View toolbar enables simple access to formatting capabilities
- Customers: Discoverer, Reports, Portal, CRM, Enterprise Planning and Budgeting, Balanced Scorecard

...





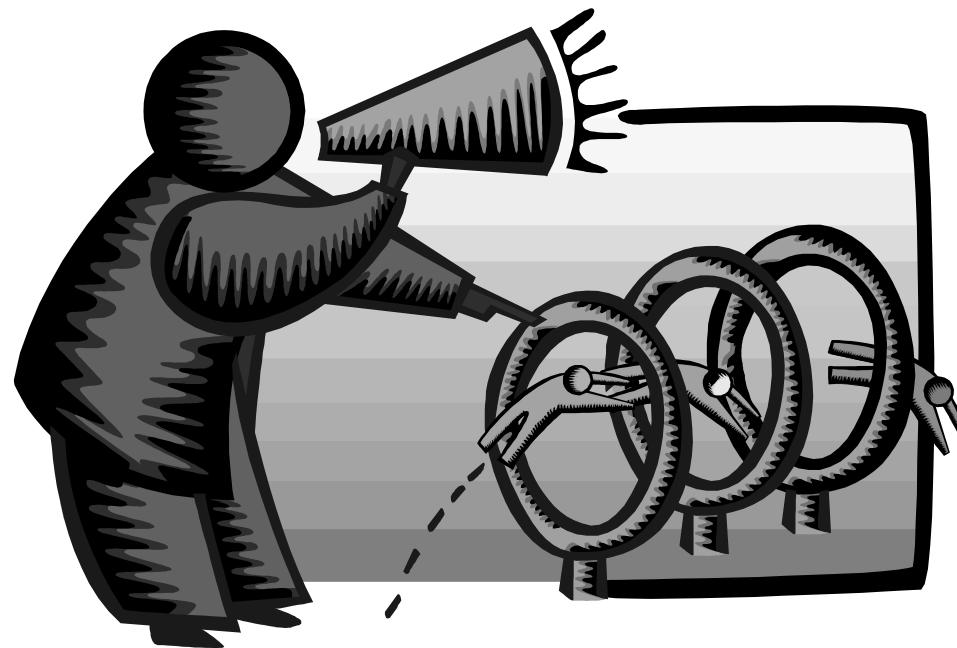
# **Business Intelligence Wizards**

---

- **Specialized Wizards Built into JDeveloper**
  - Connection Wizard**
  - Calculation Wizard**
  - Query Wizard**
  - Presentation Wizard**
  - Java Client Application Wizard**
  - Servlet (JSP) Application Wizard**

# Demonstration of BI Beans Application

---





# **Spreadsheet Add-in Specifics**

---

- **Use instead of Discoverer as ETL OLAP Tool**
- **Allows access directly from Excel to entire OLAP cube**
- **Allows access to Query Editor**
- **Allows access to Calc Builder**
- **Presents data in familiar Excel interface**
- **Breaks down perception OLAP data "closed"**
- **Users love access from Excel!**

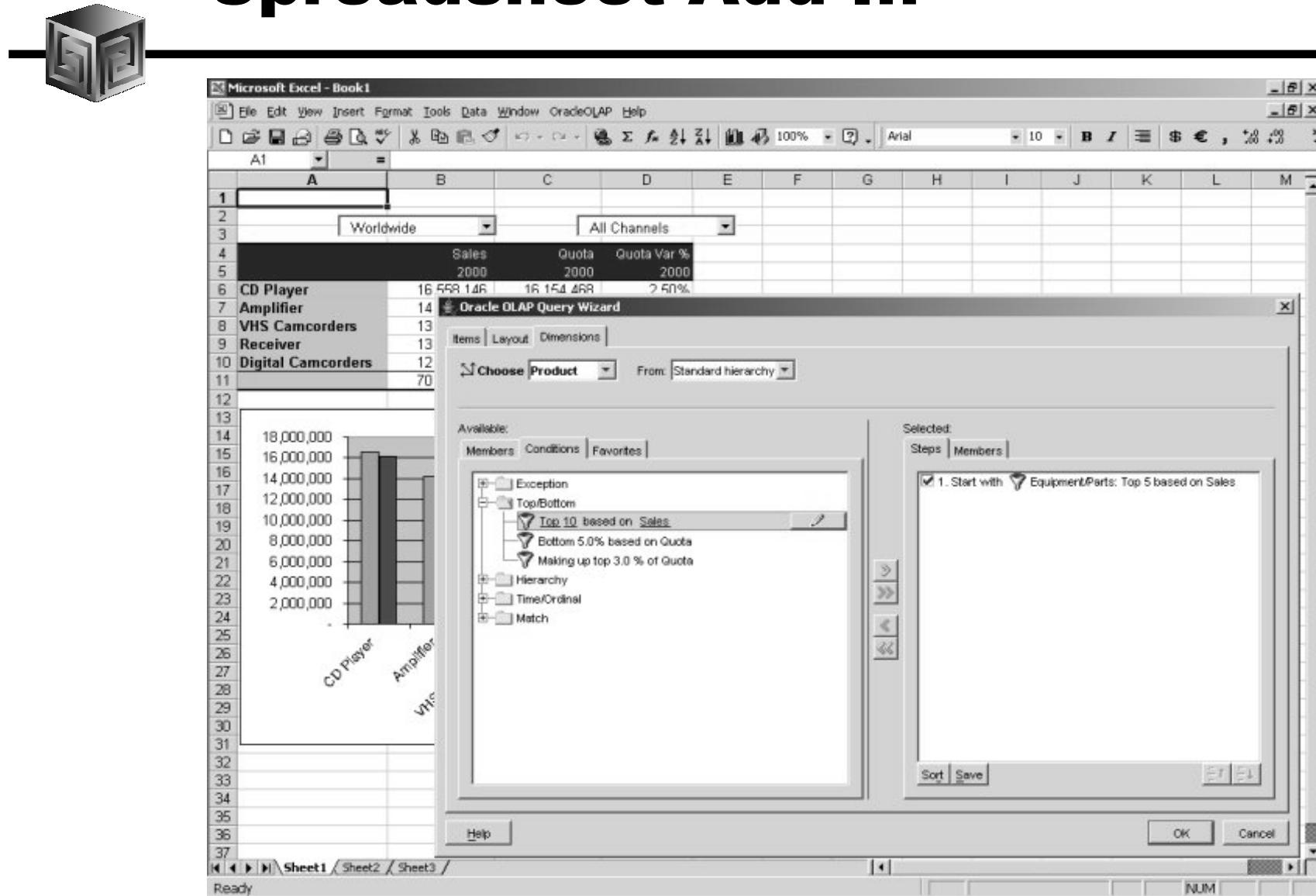


# **What Does Spreadsheet Add-in Do?**

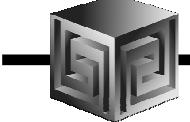
---

- **Adds OracleOLAP menu to Excel menu**
- **New Query gets data into Excel**
- **Edit Query changes selection in Excel**
- **Add New Calculation calls Calculation Wizard**
- **Allows for drilling and paging on OLAP data**
- **Saves queries between sessions**
- **Refresh Query refreshes queries from server**
- **Several options to modify behavior**

# Spreadsheet Add-In

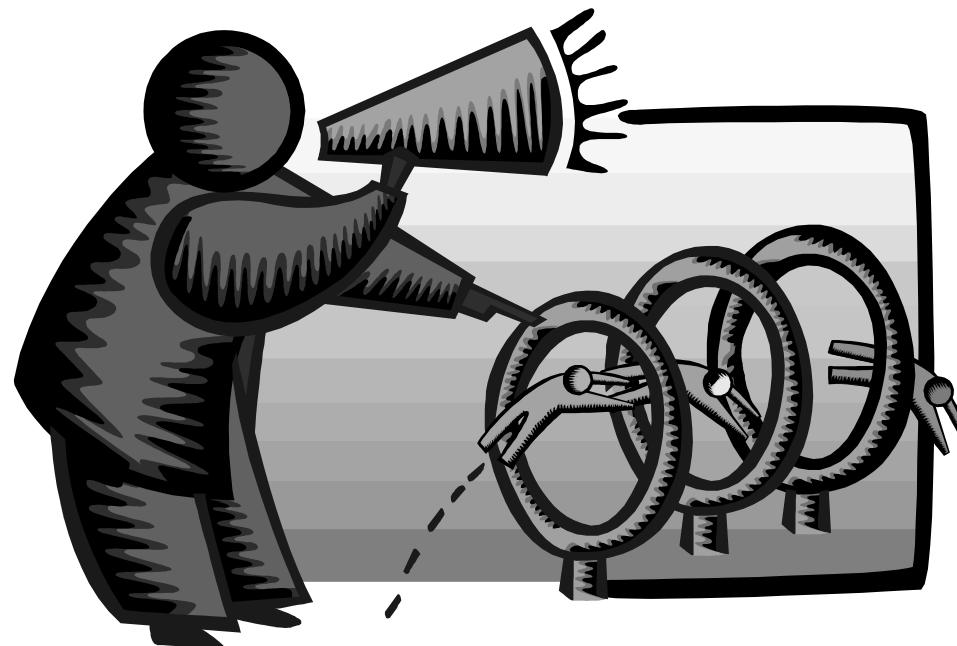


Copyright © 2005, Vlamis Software Solutions, Inc.



# **Demonstration of Spreadsheet Add-in**

---





# **Which Is Right For You?**

---

## **BI Beans**

- Need customizations
- Integrate with other non-Oracle Applications
- Need to extend in future
- Have Java programmers
- No problem with:
  - Documentation
  - Installation
  - Support
  - Training

## **Discoverer**

- Want out-of-the-box setup
- Already have Discoverer
- Want Portal integration
- Like Discoverer functionality

## **Excel Add-in**

- Want to drive from Excel
- Free (with Oracle OLAP)
- Users OK with creating own



# **Enterprise Planning and Budgeting (EPB)**

---

- **Part of Oracle E-Business Suite (Oracle Apps)**
- **Integrated security**
- **Workflow oriented**
- **Extends calc templates**
- **Includes custom aggregates**
- **Thin BI Beans deployment**
- **Worksheets enable writeback**
- **Migration tools from OFA/OSA eventually**



# Other OLAP Presentations

---

## **U3: Managing Oracle OLAP**

*Chris Claterbos, Dan Vlamis, Vlamis Software Solution, Inc.*

Sunday, May 01, 2005 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

## **502: Oracle OLAP--How Does it Really Work?**

*Dan Vlamis, Vlamis Software Solutions, Inc.*

Monday, May 02, 2005 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

## **505: Developing Advanced Business Intelligence Applications with BI Beans 10g**

*Chris Claterbos, Vlamis Software Solution, Inc.*

Monday, May 02, 2005 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

## **520: Introducing the Oracle BI Discoverer 10g "Drake"**

*Steve Illingworth, Oracle Corporation*

Tuesday, May 03, 2005 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

## **512: Front-End Tools to View OLAP**

*Dan Vlamis, Vlamis Software Solutions, Inc.*

Tuesday, May 03, 2005 4:45 PM - 5:45 PM

## **521: Oracle Warehouse Builder 10g**

*Steve Illingworth, Oracle Corporation*

Wednesday, May 04, 2005 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

## **617: The Art and Science of Discoverer 10.1.2**

*Michael Armstrong Smith, Armstrong-Smith Consulting*

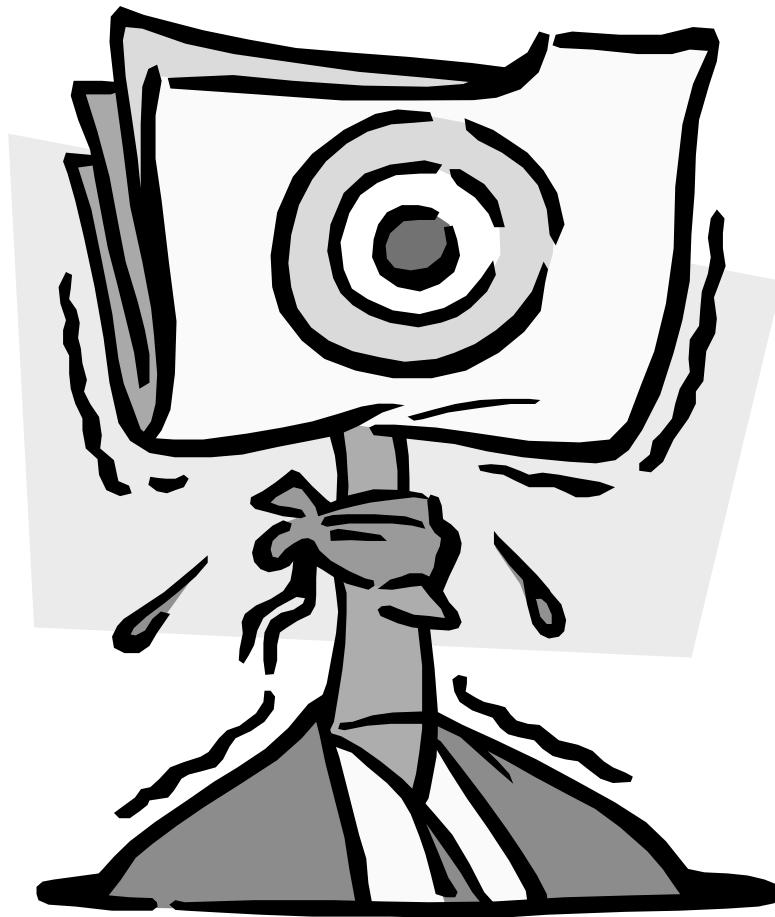
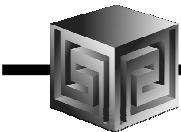
Wednesday, May 04, 2005 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

## **508: Oracle Warehouse Builder 10g and OLAP - What's New?**

*Chris Claterbos, Vlamis Software Solution, Inc.*

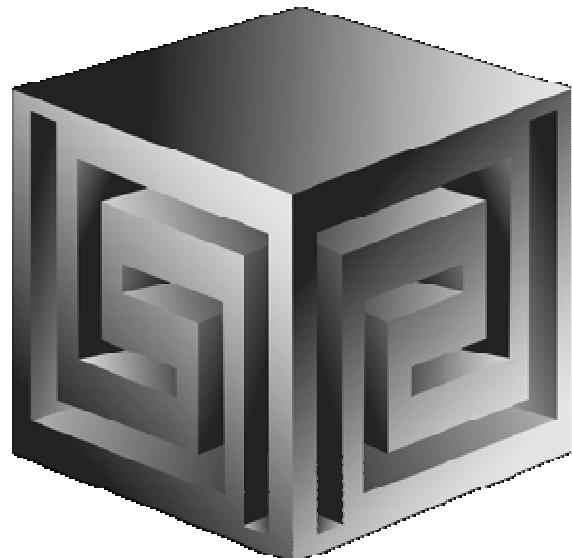
Wednesday, May 04, 2005 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

# **QUESTIONS?**



# **Front-End Tools to View OLAP Data**

**IOUG Live! 2005**



**Dan Vlamis**

**dvlamis@vlamis.com**

**Vlamis Software Solutions, Inc.**

**816-781-2880**

**<http://www.vlamis.com>**

**Copyright © 2005, Vlamis Software Solutions, Inc.**