WebFOCUS Business User Edition

Key Capabilities
At the foundation of Business User Edition (BUE) is the WebFOCUS BI and analytics platform:
- Server infrastructure for multiple users
- Re-engineered user interface improves user workflow
- Group and role-based security model
- Data governance and metadata management
- Access to an extensive set of data adapters
- Governed content collaboration and distribution

WebFOCUS Business User Edition opens up self-service BI and analytics to a new generation of users, whether reporting rookies or data-savvy analysts.

BUE features multiple innovations for self-service:
- Self-Service data management
- Analytics content generator
- In-document analytics
- Automated content distribution
- High-performance columnar storage
- Governed collaboration

WebFOCUS Business User Edition (BUE) is a self-service analytics solution for groups of business users and analysts. It is a multi-user, server-based product with an interface and workflow designed for self-service users. BUE is completely browser-based and incorporates many workgroup-oriented capabilities. It offers a rich array of analytics and collaboration features that are not found in a desktop self-service analytics tool.

Analytics Autonomy for Self-Service Users
Self-service is permeating most BI and analytics conversations, to the point that many people actually think that all analytics content is created via self-service tools. That isn’t the case, but increasing numbers of business users wish to create their own reports, charts, dashboards, and explore their data for new opportunities – without needing someone to do it for them.

This is where BUE offers the most value – to workgroups of up to 100 business users, and analysts who want to create, manage, and share their own analytical content in order to make better decisions and conduct smarter business. Business User Edition is also an intuitive authoring tool for an organization’s ‘go-to’ business people, who are responsible for delivering reports and intelligence to management. They can easily access data from many sources to produce various types of intelligence for decision-makers. If distribution to more than 100 users is required, then consider moving to WebFOCUS Application or Enterprise Editions.
Based on a Proven BI and Analytics Platform

Business User Edition is based on the proven WebFOCUS BI and analytics platform, which provides a complete server infrastructure to manage the multi-user needs of workgroups. The platform supports a comprehensive security model, data governance and metadata management, access to hundreds of data sources via adapters, and content collaboration and distribution. A centralized platform ensures that analytical content is delivered via a governed system so that decisions are made with credible data sources and content.

What Are the Components of Business User Edition?

Business User Edition is a web-based environment consisting of InfoAssist and a personal Portal, two components that create a powerful self-service environment.

Within InfoAssist, users can create a variety of views, including reports, charts, dashboards, and visualizations (foreground). The BUE portal (background) allows users to manage their own BI and analytical content.

InfoAssist Self-Service Analytics Tool

WebFOCUS InfoAssist, a functionally rich analytics tool, gives self-service users governed reporting, analysis, and discovery capabilities. It uniquely supports the two major categories of self-service analytics: Reporting and Analysis and Data Discovery.

Reporting and Analysis. There are business users with a predetermined need to create ad hoc queries, reports, charts, documents, and other types of analytical views. With InfoAssist, users can create a wide variety of views for personal usage, or for sharing and distribution via static or interactive formats. More advanced users can also produce sophisticated information assets, such as multi-page analytic documents and multi-source dashboards, and share them with other business users. A key differentiator with BUE is the inclusion of a comprehensive report writer, which should not be underestimated as the majority of users still run their businesses on a wide variety of reports.
Data Discovery. There are business users who do not start with a specific outcome in mind, but who would like to ask questions and explore their data for trends, patterns, and new insight.

InfoAssist also supports complete data discovery and visualization of business data, running against a high-speed data sandbox and many other data sources, often combined to create new data contexts. Visualizations can be saved, shared, published, and even delivered into PowerPoint presentations for building business cases via storytelling.

WebFOCUS BUE has extensive visualization and charting capabilities, including a new Insight mode, which enables instant visual discovery from a standard chart. It provides quick and easy visual exploration of data, either from an existing view, or from scratch with metadata.
Business User Edition Portal

The second component is the BUE Portal, which enables users to control their governed content, select actions, assemble analytics pages, and share findings. It consists of a home page, a ‘Getting Started’ page, and any custom pages that users create with their analytical views, and views from others within the workgroup. The Portal is a slimmed-down version of the full enterprise portal in WebFOCUS Application and Enterprise Editions.

BUE includes the new WebFOCUS Designer tool that enables both BI specialists and self-service users to create a variety of analytical pages, such as dashboards and InfoApps in a matter of minutes. These pages can be used standalone, in a portal, or embedded in a third-party application. Several innovative methods for auto-creating filters and controls make BI authoring and analytics content assembly a cinch. Fully responsive web page templates provide a way of dropping content into visual containers, whether reports, charts, maps, or controls. Analytics authoring is now simple, intuitive, and fast with Designer.

Previously created views can be dragged and assembled on a user’s personal page.

BUE can create and automatically distribute reports that can be burst to multiple people and destinations. WebFOCUS reports and dashboards can be scheduled or triggered for secure distribution of static or interactive content. BUE also features auto-drill, which allows navigation up and down a dimensional hierarchy, and auto-linking, which allows users to link multiple reports automatically based on a common parameter. Over time, related views from others in your workgroup can be linked as drill-downs, so that libraries of analytics are available to expand exploration options in the future.

The combination of the InfoAssist analytics creation tool, the Business User Edition Portal, and the underlying multi-user platform provides an extremely rich set of capabilities from which a group of business users or analysts can securely maximize their ability to create impact from data.