How to Implement Simplified Reporting in the Controlling Component

from the book

Controlling with SAP® ERP: Business User Guide
by Janet Salmon

"The step-by-step guide for all your CO tasks!"
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This appendix explains how to work with your system administrator to find the reports delivered with simplified reporting that we used to illustrate Chapter 2, Chapter 3, and Chapter 8 and configure them for productive use.

In Chapter 2, we introduced the idea of simplified reporting and showed lists of reports in Chapter 2, Figure 2.3 (cost centers), Figure 2.12 (internal orders), Figure 2.16 (product costing), and Figure 2.20 (production orders) that were delivered in the context of Simplified Reporting. We also showed specific examples of such reports in Chapter 2 (cost center line items) and Chapter 3 (master data lists). In Chapter 8, we discussed your options for reporting in the SAP Business Warehouse (BW) and using SAP Business-Objects tools. This appendix will help you work with your system administrator to implement such reports.

Report Launchpad

If you look at the role structure for role SAP_EP_RW_CO_KSMN, you’ll notice that the last folder doesn’t have a corresponding folder in the SAP Easy Access menu. This folder is called Information System and contains an application called Report Launchpad (see Figure B.1). A report launchpad is simply a list of role-specific reports. If you are using a release prior to EHP 5, this report list is offered alongside the reports in the Information System folder. If you are using EHP 5 or later, then the new reports are merged with the classic
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reports in one folder (see Cost Centers Information System in Figure B.1). SAP delivers a few examples for each role, but you’ll almost certainly want to change the contents of these report launchpads to meet your specific business requirements because most organizations end up using some nonstandard reports. We’ll now look at how to identify the report launchpad assigned to each role and change the contents to meet your requirements.

Figure B.1 shows the role for Cost Center Accounting. To display this role, select Transaction PFCG or Tools • Administration • User Maintenance • Role Administration • Roles and enter the role SAP_EP_RW_CO_KSMN. Select the bottom folder, Analytics. Instead of a transaction code such as KA01 appearing on the right, as we saw in the previous appendix, a Web Dynpro application appears: APB_LAUNCHPAD. This launches the Web page that contains the list of reports. You’ll find the same launchpad application in the role SAP_EP_RW_CO_KAMN that we used to show the internal orders, SAP_EP_RW_CO_CK00 for Product Cost Planning, and so on.

Figure B.1 Report Launchpad in Role
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**Report Launchpads in Web Dynpro ABAP and Web Dynpro Java**

The application APB_LAUNCHPAD calls the Web Dynpro ABAP version of the report launchpad. Versions of Manager Self-Service delivered before SAP ERP 6.0 include a Web Dynpro Java version of the report launchpad that has fewer functions. If you’ve been using this earlier version of the launchpad, then you can adjust the report settings for use with the Web Dynpro ABAP version by executing report APB_LPDLPA_CUST_TO_LPDLUST.

To find out what reports will be shown in the report launchpad, right-click on **Cost Centers Information System** (see Figure B.1) and select **Execute**. The report settings delivered for use with the role will appear, as shown in **Figure B.2**. You won’t be able to use these links to navigate from here (your user will have to be assigned to the role to execute the reports), but it’s a good way of checking whether you’re satisfied with the reports currently included in the role.

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**Figure B.2 Delivered Settings for Cost Center Accounting Role**
To find out what the settings for your role are, close the web page in Figure B.2, right-click on Cost Centers Information System, and select Details. Figure B.3 shows the parameters for this launchpad. The role is RWCOKSMN and the instance is RWCOKSMN. The second parameter is included to allow you to define more than one report launchpad for each role. This often makes sense in the Controlling component of SAP ERP Financials (CO), in which you can have so many reports that you might want to differentiate between reports used as part of the period close and reports used during planning. To do this, define one instance for period close and one for planning and then call the report launchpad twice in the same role, once with the instance for the period-close reports and once with the instance for the planning reports.

![Image of display roles](image)

**Figure B.3** Link between Report Launchpad and Role Settings
In EHP 3 for SAP ERP 6.0, the standard reports are delivered as a report launchpad with the parameters role FINREP and the instance ERP63. If you’re using EHP 5 or later, you’ll find that some of the reports are delivered as part of the standard launchpads that we looked at in Chapter 2. Assuming that you are on a lower enhancement package, we’ll now look at how to copy the relevant settings for simplified reporting into the Cost Center Accounting role.

To look at the settings for the role RWCKSMN and the instance RWCKSMN, select Transaction LPD_CUST and scroll down to the RWCO* settings, as shown in Figure B.4.

![Figure B.4 Report Launchpad Overview (Transaction LPD_CUST)](image-url)
To see the report list for this role, double-click on the line for the role RWCOKSMN and the instance RWCOKSMN_PFCG (the settings we saw in Figure B.3). Figure B.5 shows the settings for the reports we saw in Figure B.2.

![Figure B.5 Delivered Launchpad Settings for Role RWCOKSMN](image)

We’re now going to copy the reports for Cost Center Accounting from the delivered role FINREP and instance ERP63 into the role RWCOKSMN. Before you do this, check the settings delivered for simplified reporting by selecting this role and instance from the list of launchpads in Figure B.3.

Figure B.6 shows all the reports delivered for simplified reporting. We’ve selected the folder Cost Center Accounting (CO-OM-CCA), because it’s the contents of this folder that we want to link with the Cost Center Accounting role.
Now go back to the settings for the role RWCOKSMN and the instance RWCOKSMN, and click on the **Copy from Other Launchpad** button. A list of existing launchpads will appear, as shown in [Figure B.7](#).

Select the role FINREP and instance ERP63 from the list. The complete list of reports delivered for simplified reporting will appear on the left side of the screen, as shown in [Figure B.8](#). Click on the **Cost Center Reporting (CO-OM-CCA)** folder and drag it into the right-hand list. You’ll see an arrow next to the folder for Cost Center Reporting. To view the assigned reports, click on this arrow. When you are satisfied with your entries, save the report launchpad. These settings will give you the report list shown in Chapter 2, Figure 2.3. You can add any of the other reports your organization uses to this list, as we’ll show in the next section.
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Figure B.7 Copy Launchpad

Figure B.8 Copy Settings for Cost Center Reporting from Role FINREP
Now that we have the technical settings for the reports in place, you’ll be able to run the master data list report we saw in Chapter 3, Figure 3.11 immediately. However, for the other reports, there are a few more things to do.

**Types of Reports**

If you refer back to Figure B.6, you’ll see that three types of reports are delivered in the report launchpad: list reports, analysis reports, and formatted reports. You set the type of report using the Application Category field in Figure B.6. Our example shows a list report built using Web Dynpro ABAP.

The different types of reports can be described as follows:

- **List reports**
  The list reports we used for analyzing line items (Chapter 2, Figure 2.8) and for checking the master data (Chapter 3, Figure 3.11) all have the application category Web Dynpro ABAP and can be run just like transactions in SAP ERP with no extra effort other than activating the business function FIN_REP_SIMPL_1 (see Appendix C).

- **Analysis reports**
  The analysis reports use SAP BW (see Chapter 8). You have to activate the relevant business content either in your SAP BW system or by activating the SAP BW business content on your SAP ERP system. You will also need to activate the data extractors by activating the business functions FIN_REP_SIMPL_1 and FIN_REP_SIMPL_2 in your SAP ERP system.

- **Formatted reports**
  The formatted reports use SAP Crystal Reports (see Chapter 8) and are delivered as part of the business function FIN_REP_SIMPL_3 in EHP 5. The delivered Crystal Reports are covered in your SAP ERP license, and you can also call SAP Crystal Reports from SAP List Viewer, as we saw in Chapter 8. Provided that you only want to use Crystal Reports as an alternative viewer to look at your report data, you won’t have additional license requirements. However, if you want to use the Crystal Report Designer to build your own reports, you’ll have to license SAP Crystal Reports.
List Reports

Figure B.9 shows the settings for the master data report we looked at in Chapter 3, Figure 3.11. This report has the application category Web Dynpro ABAP. To be sure that the report launchpad can call the application correctly, make sure it uses the system alias SAP_ECC_FINANCIALS. This tells the web application that the relevant data is on the core SAP ERP system. You’ll only need to change the alias if, for example, you’re calling a report on a separate SAP ERP HCM system. Notice in the figures in the sections that follow that the analysis reports use the aliases SAP_BI or SAP_BW, because these reports run on SAP BW. Normally, you won’t need to make any changes to the settings for the list reports other than cosmetic changes to the description text.

Analysis Reports

Analysis reports use SAP BW to provide multidimensional reporting (see Chapter 8). Figure B.10 shows the settings for the Cost Center: Plan/Actual Variance Report that we used to illustrate cost center reporting in Figure
8.25. Before you can use this report, you need to ensure that the system alias in the report settings calls the SAP BW system rather than your ERP system. Under **Advanced Parameters**, also notice that these reports are delivered with SAP BW 7.0. The data extractors used for these reports are delivered in SAP ERP, so you will also need to activate the business functions `FIN_REP_SIMPL_1` and `FIN_REP_SIMPL_2` in your SAP ERP system. Let’s now cover how to make the web template run.

![Image](image.png)

**Figure B.10** Settings for an Analysis Report

Provided that your SAP BW system is on the correct release, you have to activate the business content delivered for InfoArea `FIN_REP_SIMPL_1_EhP3` (Reporting Financials EHP 3), as shown in **Figure B.11**. This will activate Info-Provider `OCCA_M20`, used to provide data for query `OCCA_M20_Q0001` (the query we used as our example when we looked at cost center reporting in SAP BW in Chapter 8) and web template `0TPL_CCA_M20_Q0001` (the setting we saw in the report launchpad).
You can check whether the InfoProvider is active by selecting Transaction RSA1 or SAP Business Information Warehouse • Administration • Data Warehousing: Workbench Administration • Modeling in your SAP BW system and searching for InfoArea FIN_REP_SIMPL_1_EhP3 in the list of InfoProviders.

You can check whether the query is active by calling Transaction RSRT or following the menu path SAP Business Information Warehouse • Business Explorer • BEx Monitor • Query Monitor in your SAP BW system and executing the query OCCA_M20/OCCA_M20_Q0001 (the first part of the string is the InfoProvider and the second part the query).

Figure B.11 Business Content for Simplified Reporting
Analysis Reports in SAP S/4HANA

For general recommendations as to how reporting will evolve in SAP S/4HANA refer to SAP Note 2349293 (S4 TWL Reporting/Analytics in Controlling).

The business content delivered with FIN_REP_SIMPL_4 is based on online data provides (ODPs) and cannot be used in combination with the newer HANA reporting options. SAP Note 2235984 (Content Bundle FIN_REP_SIMPL_4 cannot be activated with SAP Simple Finance 1503) describes your options if you want to carry on using the older technology.

Crystal Reports

If you now compare the settings for the web template in the previous section with the settings for SAP Crystal Report OCR_CCA_M20_Q0004 shown in Figure B.12, you’ll notice that the name of the key is almost the same. The report uses the same InfoProvider, CCA_M20, and executes query CCA_M20_Q0004. The difference is that an SAP Crystal Report calls the query rather than a web template. This option is available from EHP 5. To run this report, you’ll have to ensure that SAP Crystal Reports is installed. The viewer is available for download according to a procedure described in SAP Note 1353044.

Figure B.12 Settings for a Crystal Report
That completes the basic settings to run the simplified reports. If your organization has implemented an enterprise portal, you can configure your roles in the portal and use the report launchpad to call exactly the same report lists.

**Running Reports in SAP Enterprise Portal**

Access to the report launchpad in the portal is delivered as part of the Simplified Reporting business package. Your portal administrator can find it in the portal content directory *(Content Administration)* under *Portal Content* • *Content Provided by SAP* • *Content for Specialists* • *Worksets for Reuse in Roles* • *Simplified Reporting* • *Worksets* • *Financial Reporting*, as shown in *Figure B.13*.

![Figure B.13 Entry in Portal Content Directory for Simplified Reporting](image)

**Figure B.13** Entry in Portal Content Directory for Simplified Reporting
Your portal administrator can find the connection between the iView containing the report launchpad and the settings for the launchpad that we just looked at by using the portal content directory (see previous instructions) to navigate to the iView Financial Reporting and then checking the application parameters for the iView by clicking on **Financial Reporting.** Figure B.14 shows the parameters for the Financial Reporting iView, including the application parameters role **FINREP** and instance **ERP63.** This will call the complete launchpad for simplified reporting. You can use the procedure described previously to copy the relevant folders into new roles and instances and then adjust the iView parameters to make these launchpads part of the relevant roles.

![Figure B.14 iView Settings for Report Launchpad](image)

**Figure B.14** iView Settings for Report Launchpad
Summary

If you’re using one of the newer releases, working with the simplified reporting business content can be a quick and easy way of modernizing the look and feel of the reports you use in CO. Once you understand how to configure the report launchpad, you can easily add the custom reports that your organization has written over the years to the new reports to provide a single point of entry for each role in your organization.