

How to use the BI Commentary feature in Webi Reports

Version 1.0

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BI Commentary

BI Commentary is a new feature introduced in the Product Version BI 4.2. It allows users to collaborate by commenting on any of the data/statistics available in a given report. With BI Commentary, users can post comments on data/statistics within the reports.

BI Commentary is currently available for Web Intelligence application. Users working with Web Intelligence reports can now use BI Commentary for collaboration.

To use BI commentary, you need to configure and make sure the below things are in place:

1. An Adaptive Processing Server (APS) hosting the Commentary Service.
2. A Commentary database, which will store the comments and its metadata.
By default, the current Auditing Database is used, but this can be changed to use another database by configuring a JDBC connection in CMC -> Applications-> BI Commentary.
3. Make sure you have appropriate rights assigned.

Supported Databases for Commentary Services

By default, BI Commentary creates and maintains its tables in the Audit database. However, SAP recommends that you configure a new database to store the comments from BI Commentary application. Databases supported for BI Commentary are the same as those supported for Auditing.

What if Audit is not enabled

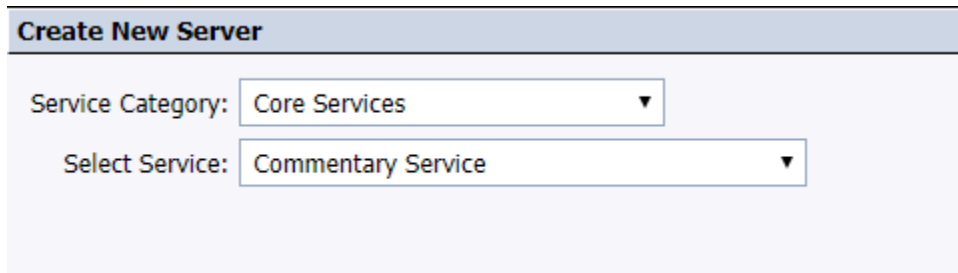
If the Audit database is not configured/enabled by default, then BI Commentary does not work unless you manually configure a new database for BI Commentary. The Audit database uses either ODBC or native database driver types. To configure a new Commentary database, you require a JDBC driver.

The databases supported for BI Commentary include:

- IBM DB2 Workgroup Edition
- Microsoft SQL Server
- MySQL
- Oracle
- SAP HANA
- Sybase Adaptive Server Enterprise
- Sybase SQL Anywhere

Configuring a New BI Commentary Database

- Create APS service with Commentary Service from CMC > Servers > New Server. Select the appropriate Service Category and Service as shown below.



Create New Server

Service Category: Core Services ▼

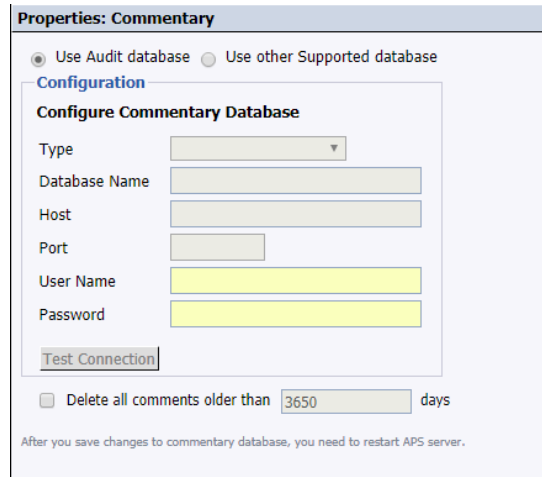
Select Service: Commentary Service ▼

- Start and Enable newly created APS Commentary service
- Download the jar file from below link
<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=11774>
- Create a folder named “jdbc” under <INSTALL_DIR\SAP BusinessObjects\SAP BusinessObjects Enterprise XI 4.0\java\lib\external>
- Placed the jar file under the newly created “jdbc” folder.
- Restart SIA.

To configure a new database for BI Commentary, proceed as follows:

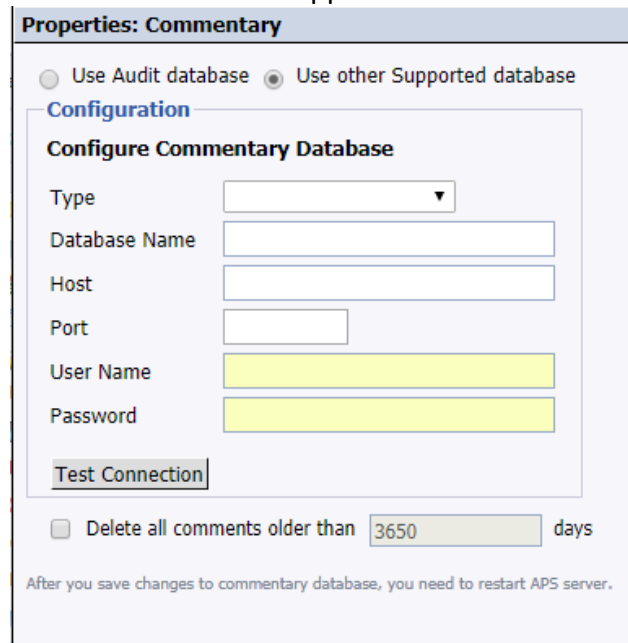
1. Log on to the CMC.
2. From the CMC Home page, select Applications from the dropdown menu.
3. In the Application Name list, choose BI Commentary Application.

The BI Commentary popup window appears. By default, the Use Audit Database radio button is selected.



The screenshot shows the 'Properties: Commentary' window. At the top, there are two radio buttons: 'Use Audit database' (selected) and 'Use other Supported database'. Below this is a 'Configuration' section titled 'Configure Commentary Database'. It contains several input fields: 'Type' (a dropdown menu), 'Database Name', 'Host', 'Port', 'User Name', and 'Password'. The 'User Name' and 'Password' fields are highlighted in yellow. There is a 'Test Connection' button below these fields. At the bottom, there is a checkbox labeled 'Delete all comments older than' followed by a text box containing '3650' and the word 'days'. A small note at the very bottom states: 'After you save changes to commentary database, you need to restart APS server.'

4. Select the Use other supported database radio button.

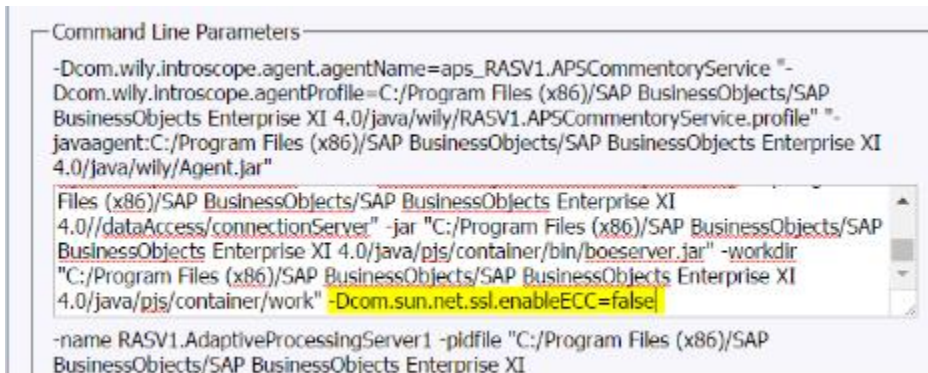


This screenshot is identical to the previous one, but the 'Use other Supported database' radio button is now selected. The 'Configure Commentary Database' section remains the same, with the 'User Name' and 'Password' fields highlighted in yellow. The 'Test Connection' button and the 'Delete all comments older than 3650 days' checkbox are also visible. The same note about restarting the APS server is at the bottom.

5. Enter the Type, Database Name, Host, Port, User Name, and Password in the Configure Commentary Database pane.
6. Don't click "Test Connection". Simply choose Save & Close.

You have now configured a new database to store comments from the BI Commentary application.

- Navigate to CMC > Servers.
- Open Commentary service and add -Dcom.sun.net.ssl.enableECC=false switch. This is required as we are using JDBC driver and JDK 1.7 requires JCE cryptographic provider to implement ECC (Elliptic 1Curve Cryptography)



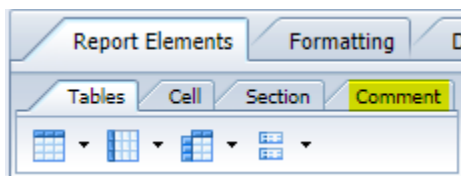
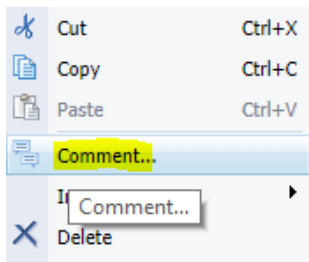
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Command Line Parameters
-Dcom.wily.introscope.agent.agentName=aps_RASV1.APSCommentaryService "-
Dcom.wily.introscope.agentProfile=C:/Program Files (x86)/SAP BusinessObjects/SAP
BusinessObjects Enterprise XI 4.0/java/wily/RASV1.APSCommentaryService.profile" "-
javaagent:C:/Program Files (x86)/SAP BusinessObjects/SAP BusinessObjects Enterprise XI
4.0/java/wily/Agent.jar"
Files (x86)/SAP BusinessObjects/SAP BusinessObjects Enterprise XI
4.0//dataAccess/connectionServer" -jar "C:/Program Files (x86)/SAP BusinessObjects/SAP
BusinessObjects Enterprise XI 4.0/java/pjs/container/bin/boeserver.jar" -workdir
"C:/Program Files (x86)/SAP BusinessObjects/SAP BusinessObjects Enterprise XI
4.0/java/pjs/container/work" -Dcom.sun.net.ssl.enableECC=false
-name RASV1.AdaptiveProcessingServer1 -pldfile "C:/Program Files (x86)/SAP
BusinessObjects/SAP BusinessObjects Enterprise XI
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- Save & close. Restart APS Commentary service.
- Goto CMC > Applications > Open BI Commentary Application and click "Test Connection". Test connection must be success to work Commentary service.

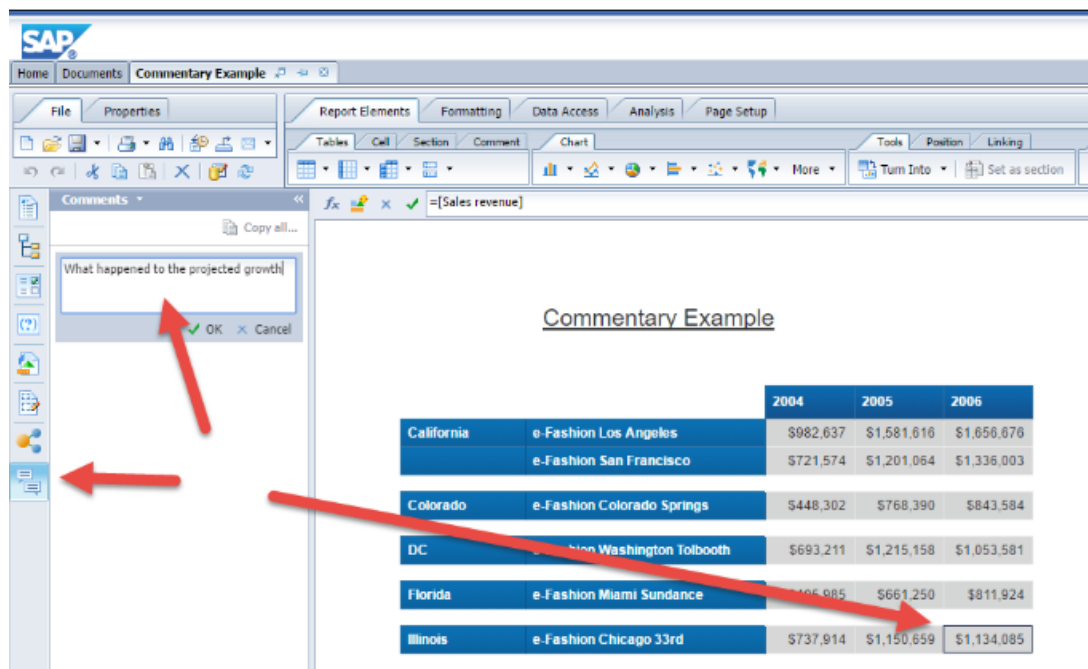
How to add comments in Webi Reports

Follow below steps to add comments:

1. Login to BI Launchpad.
2. View a Webi Report and select Design mode.
3. You can insert comment by either using the right click menu, Insert -> Comment or from the Report Elements menu here, Comments -> Insert Comment.



4. A text box will appear, enter the comment, and click on ok.

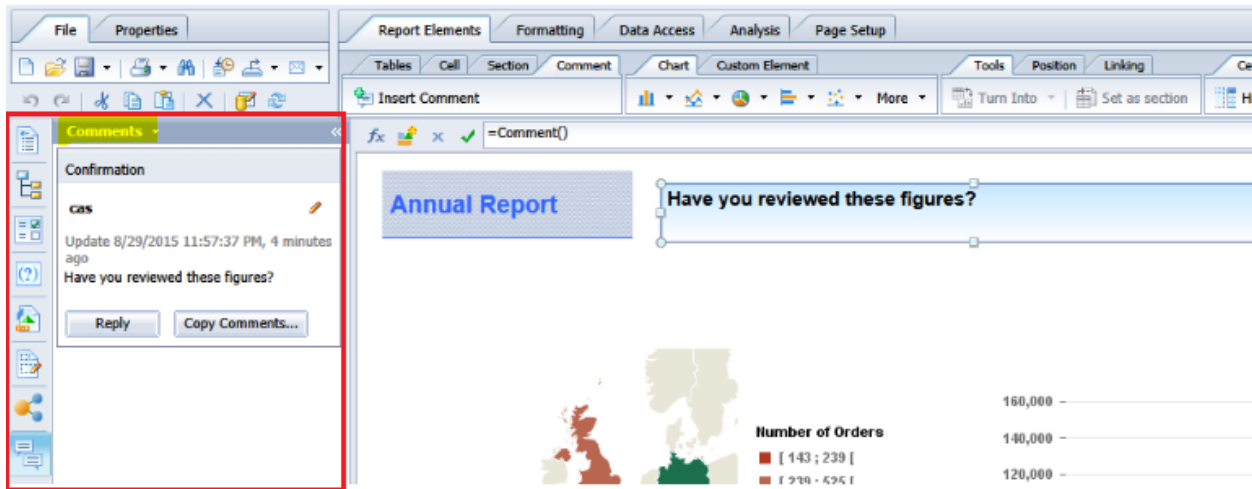


5. This comment will be visible in the left section of the report, in Comments.

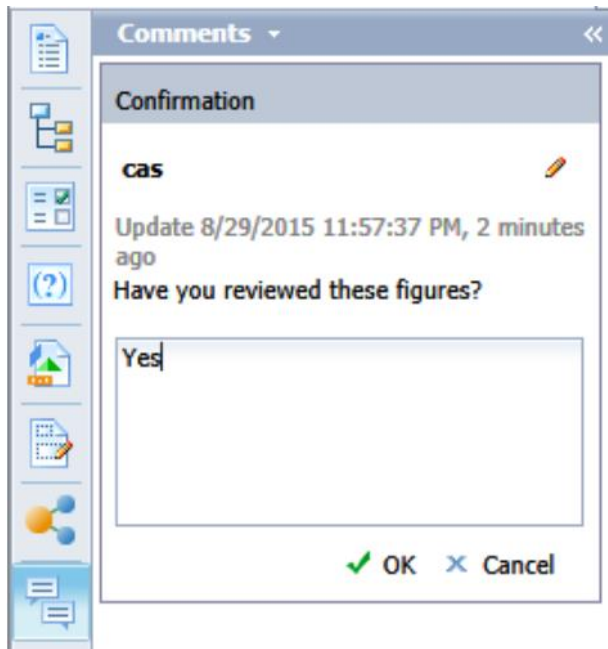
6. You can add a reply to this comment or modify it.
7. Save the report.
8. While viewing it again, you can see the comments in the report.

Managing Comment

A new side panel Comments is available to manage the document's comments. This side panel is available in Reading and Design modes. When you select a comment in the report, it also appears in this side panel.



From this side panel, you can edit the comment or copy its content. You can also reply to the comment created by other users if you have appropriate security rights, the comment is seen as a thread where several users can exchange.



A new property in the Web intelligence document can be used to set which comments of the thread must be displayed in the report comment:

- The last comment in the thread, by default
- The first comment in the thread

Comments

Comment displayed in the Report comment

☒ Last comment (default)

☐ First comment