

INNO SETUP - CRYSTAL REPORT INSATALLATION

I would like to talk about the utter frustration of using to develop with Crystal Reports and perhaps help to some developers who want to use Crystal Reports and INNO setup.

Crystal Reports

has a high market share - and which has maintained market leadership for such a long time. Well, the product has changed hands a few times (its now owned by SAP) and even the latest version CR 12 SUCKS!

I was forced to develop several applications with Crystal Reports and since I really believe in sharing knowledge there is my experience :

1. Never ever use Crystal Reports with Delphi. You get horrible a support and as you can see in my example you CAN NOT even change the datasource at the runtime! (Delphi developers think about using Report Builder)
2. Try to avoid Crystal Reports with .NET. Again poor support and bad experience
3. Installation is VERY painfull and therefore this article could be usefull.

Crystal Reports installation

is done through the merge module and just to get this things done is frustrating. I googled Internet and I didn't find a good example of **Crystal Report Installation without Merge modules**

My favourite installation software is **Inno Setup** so I developed my own Crystal Report 09 and 11 installation. It could be easily adapt to any Install-ware. The biggest chalenge was to find out what dll's needed to be installed/registered and what was the rubbish. I focused on the minimal installation so you might find there are missing some of the web modules. Please feel free to add desired files into th Inno script to edhanced the process.

Simple Crystal Report Application.

- 1) I took the sample application originated from CR and made it slimmer.

Inno Setup Crystal Report Deployment

Written by Administrator

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2) I tried to make CSV file as datasource and realized latter on there is no way to change the datasource to a different file !!?

3) **SAP** no longer support **Delphi** but they still have no problems to sell **unsupported components** . [..Frank leaving and a few other random circumstances we lost our membership in Borland's technology partnership program ...](#)

INTERNAL LINKS FOR CRYSTAL REPORT 09

[Inno Script for CRYSTAL REPORTS 9](#)

* Inno Script source code

[Inno Script Crystal Report 09 \(includes inno instalation script + CR all files\)](#)

1. RAR executable(no installation)
2. all files you need to make you own installation
3. you need to download and install Inno Script

[Sample\(tutorial\) Application for Script Crystal Report 09 \(includes simple example + Crystal Report all files\)](#)

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1. Sample Crystal Report Application
2. Delphi Source Code
3. all files you need to make you own installation
4. you need to download and install Inno Script

INTERNAL LINKS FOR CRYSTAL REPORT 11

[Inno Script for CRYSTAL REPORT 11](#)

* Inno Script source code

[Inno Script Crystal Report 11 \(includes inno instalation script + CR all files\)](#)

1. RAR executable(no installation)
2. all files you need to make you own installation
3. you need to download and install Inno Script

[Sample\(tutorial\) Application for Script Crystal Report 11 \(includes simple example + Crystal Report all files\)](#)

1. Sample Crystal Report Application

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2. Delphi Source Code
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It's hard to believe they dominate the market with such a bad product. If somebody knows why, please give me a mail.