

Administrative work bench

Purpose

- The Administrator Workbench is the tool for controlling, monitoring and maintaining all of the processes connected with data staging and processing in the Business Information Warehouse.

- The Administrator Workbench encompasses the following functional areas:

- Modeling
- Monitoring
- Reporting Agent
- Transport Connection
- Business Content
- Where-Used List
- Translation
- Metadata Repository

- When you call the Administrator Workbench, a navigation menu appears on the left of the screen.
- You can use the pushbuttons to open the individual areas of the Administrator Workbench, and in turn display the views and functions you can use in these areas. With one click you can call up the views and functions on the right-hand area of the screen.

Modelling

Purpose

- In modeling, you can create and edit all the objects and rules of the Administrator Workbench that are needed for data transport, update and analysis.
- The objects are displayed in modeling in a tree structure.
- The objects are sorted here according to hierarchical criteria.
- You can select the corresponding maintenance dialog or carry out the relevant functions from the context menu (right mouse click).
- Double clicking on an object brings you to the corresponding maintenance dialog.

Process

- The basic information store's in BW are InfoObjects. Using InfoObjects, Information is mapped in a structured form.
- This is required for constructing Data targets. Data is transferred into BW from specified SourceSystems.
- By applying transfer rules, InfoObjects that logically belong together are grouped into InfoSources.
- The data is then updated into data targets, if necessary using update rules.
- The data is finally made available to the InfoProvider so that it can be evaluated in queries.

Components of Modelling

- Info Objects.
- Data Targets.
- Source Systems.
- InfoSources.
- InfoProvider.

Data Targets

Definition

- A Data Target is an object into which data is loaded. Data Targets are the physical objects that are relevant during data modeling and when loading the data.

Structure

- Data targets are:
 - * Basic InfoCubes
 - * Transactional InfoCubes
 - * ODS Objects
 - * InfoObjects (characteristics with attributes, texts or hierarchies).

InfoObjects

Definition

- Business evaluation objects (for example, customers, and sales) are referred to as InfoObjects in BW.
 - There are different types of InfoObjects.
 - These are characteristics, key figures, units, time characteristics, and technical characteristics (for example, request number).

Use

- InfoObjects are the smallest components in BW.
- They are used to structure the information that is needed to create larger BW objects, such as InfoCubes or ODS Objects.
- InfoObjects with attributes or texts can be pure data targets or InfoProviders (if they are being used for reporting purposes).

A distinction is made between

- * Pure data targets for which no queries can be created or executed.
 - An ODS object can be defined so that queries are not possible (if the BEx Reporting indicator is not set in the ODS object maintenance).
 - In this case, it is a pure data target.
 - A transactional ODS object is always a pure data target, for which a BEx query cannot be defined directly, but only by way of an InfoSet created for it.
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- * Data targets for which queries can be defined.
 - These are called InfoProviders.
 - Queries can always be defined with Basic InfoCubes.
 - A Basic Cube is therefore never a pure data target, but both a data target and an InfoProvider.

Source System

Definition

- All systems that provide the SAP Business Information Warehouse with data are described as source systems. These can be:
 1. SAP systems
 2. SAP Business Information Warehouse systems,
 3. Flat files, through which metadata is manually maintained,
 4. A database management system into which data is loaded from a database supported by SAP, using DB Connect and not an external extraction program.
 5. External systems, in which data and metadata is transferred using staging BAPIs.

- Use the Create function in the source system tree of the Administrator Workbench to specify the type of source system.

Integration

- DataSources are responsible for extracting and staging data from source systems.
- The DataSources subdivide the data that is provided by a source system into self-contained business areas.
- In SAP source systems, the DataSources are assigned to applications, for example HR (Human Resources).
- The advantage here is that you are able to specifically access data evaluation for this application.

InfoSource

Definition

- In BW, an InfoSource describes the quantity of all the data available for a business transaction or a type of business transaction (for example, cost center accounting).
- An InfoSource is a quantity of information that logically belongs together, summarized into a single unit.
- InfoSources contain either transaction data or master data (attributes, texts and hierarchies).
- An InfoSource is always a quantity of InfoObjects that logically belong together.
- The structure in which these are stored is called a communication structure.

Use

- Data that logically belongs together is stored in the source systems as DataSources.
- A DataSource is an object that, at the request of BW, makes data available in one of its predetermined structures.
- The properties of a DataSource relevant to BW are copied into the BW system.
- In the BW Transfer rules Maintenance, individual DataSource fields are assigned to the corresponding InfoObject of the InfoSource.
- You also determine here, which data is actually transferred from an extract structure of a DataSource to the communication of an InfoSource.
- The transfer structure is used for the data transfer.
- The data is transferred 1:1 from the transfer structure of the source system into the BW transfer structure.

Integration

- If fields that logically belong together exist in various source systems, they can be grouped together into a single InfoSource in BW.
- The source system release is not important here.
- If you are dealing with an InfoSource with flexible updating, then the data is loaded from the communication structure into the InfoCube with the aid of the
- Update Rules. InfoSources with direct updating permit master data to be written directly (without update rules) into the master data tables.
- InfoSources are listed in the InfoSource tree of the Administrator Workbench under an application component.

InfoProviders

Definition

- An InfoProvider is an object for which queries can be created or executed in BEx. InfoProviders are the objects or views that are relevant for reporting.

Use

- InfoProviders are Meta objects in the database that can be uniformly seen as data providers within a query definition, and whose data can also be reported uniformly.
- The type of data retrieval, the degree of detail or "proximity" to the source system in the dataflow diagram differs from InfoProvider to InfoProvider.
- These differences do not affect Reporting.
- In Reporting, these are objects containing data that is suitable for evaluation using a BEx query.

- Structure
- The term InfoProvider encompasses objects that physically contain data:
 - Basic InfoCubes
 - Transactional InfoCubes
 - ODS Objects
 - InfoObjects (characteristics with attributes, texts or hierarchies).
- A characteristic is thus an InfoProvider if it has master data and is assigned to an InfoArea. It must be explicitly defined as an InfoProvider in the InfoObject maintenance.