



Advanced Seminars for QuickBooks® Users

ODBC Part 1

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- Chuck Vigeant, M.Ed. ACQA Managing Partner
- Former controller with 30 Years of experience in the Accounting Technology Field
- Creator and “Grandfather” of Crystal Reports for QuickBooks
- Data Analyst, Schema Architect, Business Objects Technical Specialist for **Intuit Business Analysis ES**

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Today's Objectives

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- What is ODBC and QODBC
- What it does
- How it works
- How to install it
- What you need to know to use it
- Quick Look at the Schema
- Sample queries



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What is ODBC?

- Stands for Open Database Connectivity
- Standard devised by Microsoft in 1992
 - Connect in the same manner with any ODBC compliant program
 - No need to “re-compile” your data to get a report



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What is QODBC?

- ODBC driver developed exclusively for QuickBooks data
- Created by FLEXquarters, LLC in 2001
- Molded using the Software Development Kit



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Is this a direct connection?

- NO
- SDK was created in 2001:
 - Safe, consistent, single point of entry solution to both read and write data
 - Bridge that connects QuickBooks to other applications
 - Uses XML (eXtensible Markup Language) – sister of HTML
- There will never be a direct connection
- IPP is the new QB data offering <http://developer.intuit.com/>



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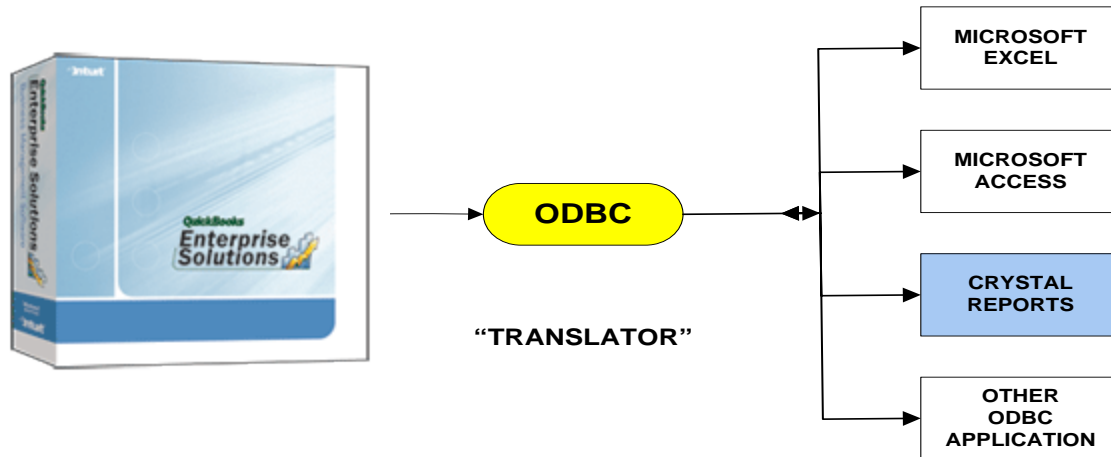
Flavors of QODBC

- Works with Pro, Premiere, Enterprise since 2004
- It is a DESKTOP application
 - Read Only Version
 - Read Write Version
 - Server Version
- The Read Only Version is free with Enterprise



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How does it work?





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How does it work?

- Talks to QuickBooks via the SDK
- To speed up reports, it uses a cache (“Optimizer”)



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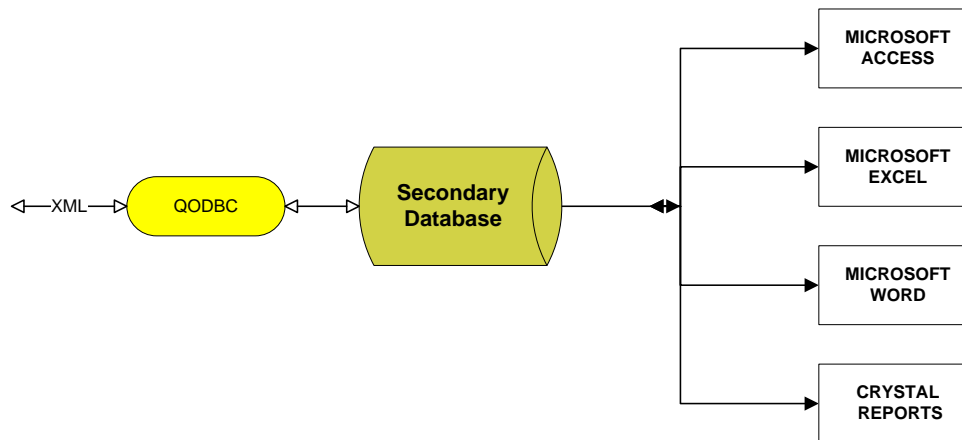
What is the “Optimizer”

- Secondary encrypted database that sits outside QuickBooks ON THE DESKTOP
- Sequence of Events
 - First time – loads all data into the secondary database
 - Subsequent times – only loads changed data
- First load can take a LONG time
- Subsequent data requests are quick
- Separate database for each company



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How does it work?

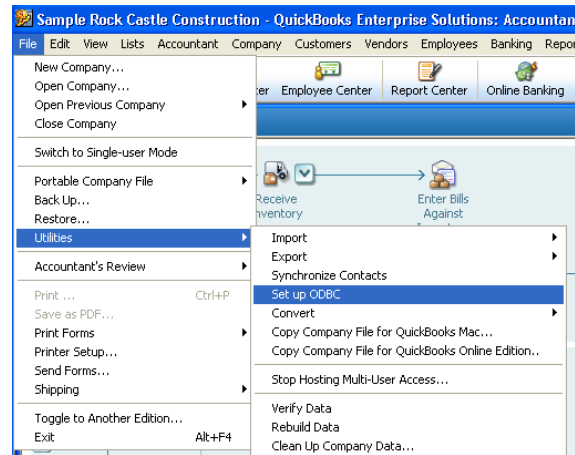




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Installation - A

➤ From within QB, File>Utilities>Set up ODBC



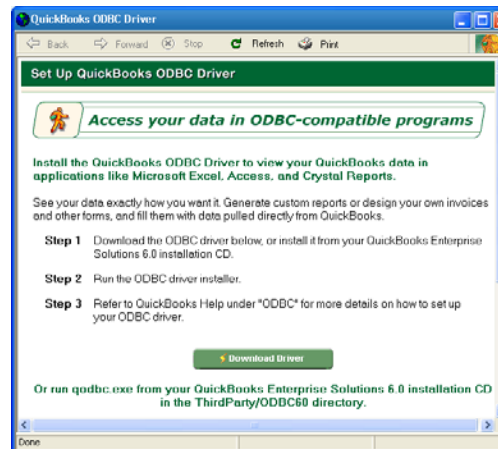
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Installation - B

➤ Click on the “Download Driver” button. Your browser will load the page at <http://www.quickbooksenterprise.com/odbc>:

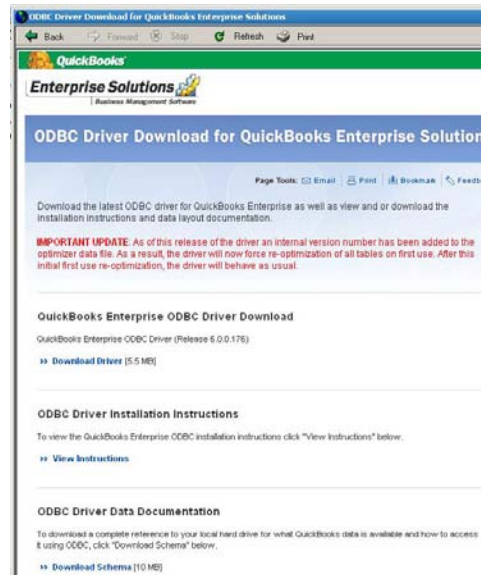




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Installation - C

➤ Click on the “Download Driver” link. Save then Install.



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Configuration - A

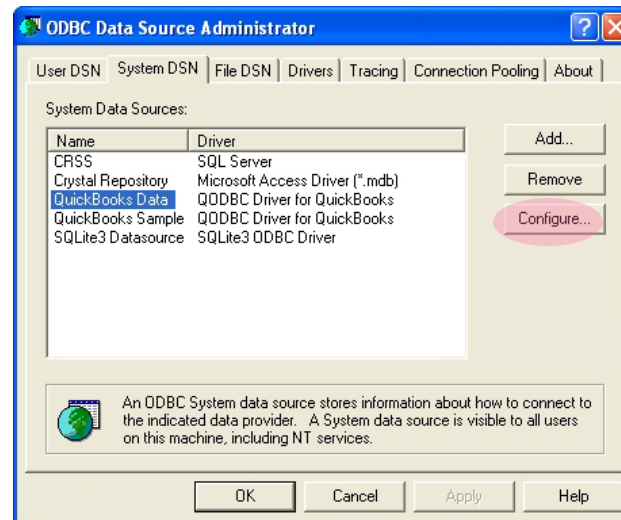
- Tell the QODBC driver how to communicate with QB
 - Where the data is located
 - How we want the data updated
 - Log the events for troubleshooting purposes



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Configuration - B

- Use DSN (Data Source Name) for instructions
- Control Panel > Administrative Tools > ODBC Administrator

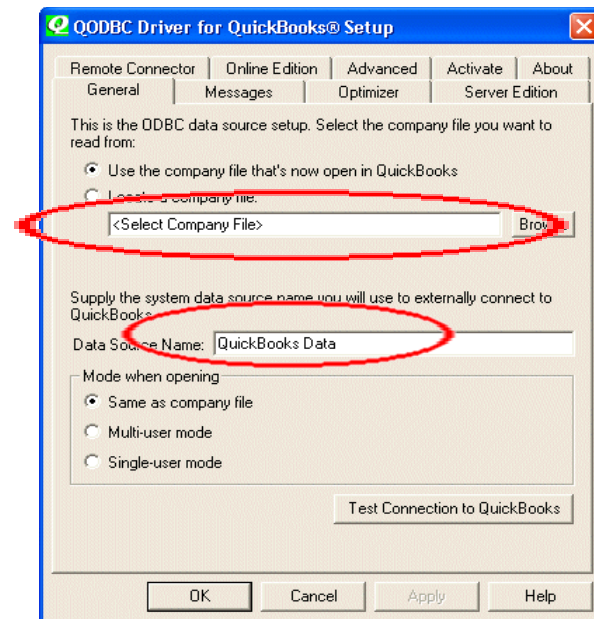




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Configuration - C

- Configuration Tab: General
 - Open file is preferred
 - ALWAYS LEAVE the default as "QuickBooks Data"

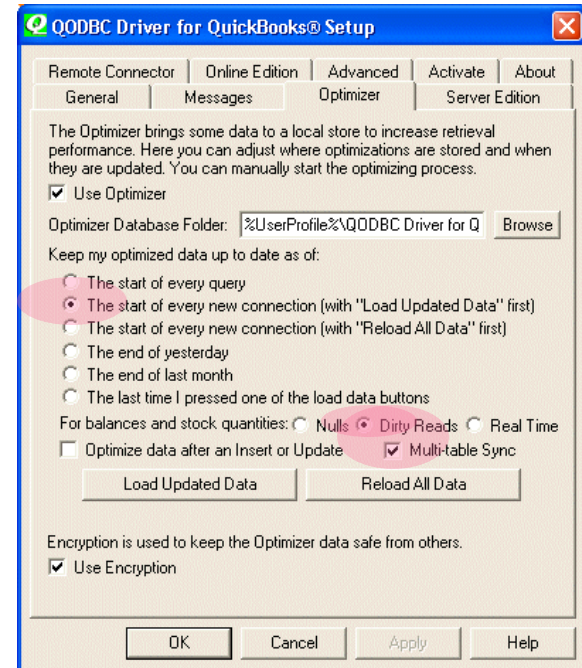




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Configuration - D

- Configuration Tab: Optimizer
 - Optimizer can be placed anywhere on your LOCAL machine

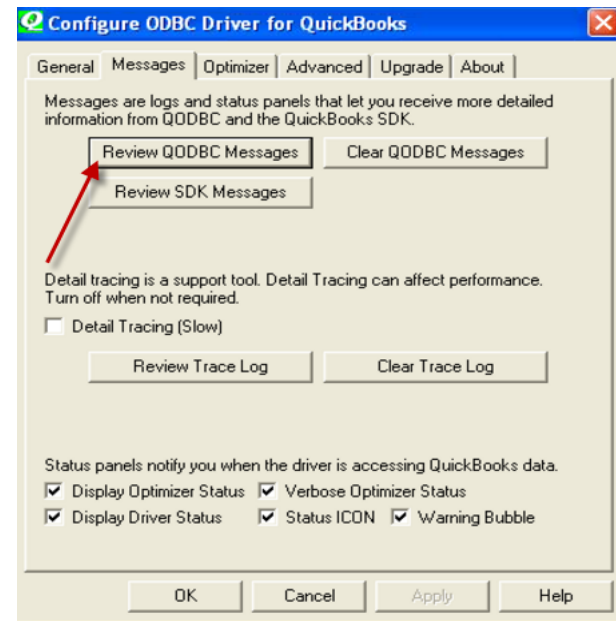




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Configuration - E

- Configuration Tab: Messages
 - Optimizer can be placed anywhere on your LOCAL machine





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Other things to know

- QuickBooks must be open
- The Optimizer RE optimizes if a different user logs in to the same MACHINE.
- Manage client expectations



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What do you need to know?



- Advanced knowledge of QuickBooks
- Where the data is stored
- How to link multiple data sources

INVOICE			
ID	DATE	NUMBER	CUSTOMER
1	12/01/2007	1001	Dan Miller
2	12/03/2007	1002	Ilene Eisen
3	12/03/2007	1003	Kevin Hartley
4	12/05/2007	1004	Gary Wiesenger
5	12/06/2007	1005	Chuck Vigeant



CUSTOMER		
ID	FULL NAME	TYPE
1	Dan Miller	Commercial
2	Ilene Eisen	Residential
3	Kevin Hartley	Commercial
4	Gary Wiesenger	Commercial
5	Chuck Vigeant	Residential

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How is the data stored?

➤ List Tables

- Accounts, Items
- Customers, Vendors, Employees, Other Names
- Sales Reps, Classes, Terms, Employee Wage, etc.

➤ Transaction Tables

- Estimates, Sales Orders, Purchase Orders
- Invoices, Credit Memos, Receive Payments, Bills

➤ Linked Transactions Tables

- Invoices and Applied Payments, e.g



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How is the data stored?

- Existing QuickBooks Reports
 - Pull a report from QB without exporting
 - Financial Statements
 - Summary Reports
 - Detail Reports



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Missing Elements

- Payroll Tables
- Budgets
- Budget vs Actual FILTERED by Class
- Some Employee Information
- Inventory Historical Costing



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Let's look at the schema

➤ www.qodbc.com/schema

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Let's create several queries

- Connect via Excel
- Select list of Accounts
- Time Tracking Example



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Questions and Answers

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Sample XML

XML Output:

```
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
<QBXML>
  <QBXMLMsgsRs>
    <CustomerQueryRs requestID="1" statusCode="0" statusSeverity="Info" statusMessage="Status OK">
      <CustomerRet>
        <ListID>150000-933272658</ListID>
        <TimeCreated>1999-07-29T13:24:18-06:00</TimeCreated>
        <TimeModified>2003-12-15T18:00:32-06:00</TimeModified>
        <EditSequence>1071532832</EditSequence>
        <Name>Abercrombie, Kristy</Name>
        <FullName>Abercrombie, Kristy</FullName>
        <IsActive>true</IsActive>
      </CustomerRet>
    </CustomerQueryRs>
  </QBXMLMsgsRs>
</QBXML>
```