

**classix Software GmbH**

# **BIRT in GESTIN**

**A description for installing and using the program BIRT to  
generate Reports in GESTIN**

**classix**

a class of its own

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## 1 General

BIRT is a program, which can be used to create reports. These reports can be printed from within GESTIN. This document describes which components of BIRT are already installed and what steps are needed to get the full functionality of BIRT.

*Please note:*

The notation “...” corresponds to the exact installation directory of your GESTIN-installation. In the following it is assumed that GESTIN was installed in “C:\classix\Gestin\”. If you installed GESTIN in a different directory please change the path accordingly.

## 2 What is already installed?

By installing GESTIN you got a range of standard reports (e.g. inventory list or count list), which you can print from GESTIN. The reports are located in the directory “...\classix\Gestin\BIRT”. For information on printing reports see section 8.

Additionally, you got a copy of the BIRT-Runtime when installing GESTIN. The runtime is needed to be able to print reports from within GESTIN. The runtime is located in the directory “...\classix\Gestin\BIRT” and is called “birt-runtime-osgi-3\_7\_2”.

If you want to use a different runtime e.g. a newer version, you can download the runtime from the [BIRT-Website](#). After downloading the file you need to unzip the runtime in the directory “...\classix\Gestin\BIRT”. Additionally you need to change in the environment variable to the new name of the runtime in the file “GESTIN\_PRO\_START.bat”:

```
“SET BIRT_HOME=%CX_ROOTDIR%\BIRT\birt-runtime-osgi-3_7_2”
```

It is not recommended to use an older runtime version than 3.7.2 as newer reports might not be printed. However it is possible to print older reports with the newer runtime versions.

## 3 What can be installed additionally?

Additionally to the BIRT-Runtime, which is used to print reports, BIRT can be installed in the program Eclipse. By doing so it is possible to create own reports or change existing reports (see sections 5 to 7).

## 4 Steps to installing and configuring BIRT-Eclipse to work with GESTIN

3 steps are needed to install and configure BIRT-Eclipse to work with GESTIN:

### 4.1 Install Eclipse with BIRT designer

If the version of your runtime is 3.7.2, your BIRT-Eclipse-installation should have the version 3.7.2 as well. If you decide to upgrade your BIRT version you should always upgrade both the runtime and BIRT-Eclipse as problems could occur if you try to print newer reports with an older runtime (see also section 4).

1. Download the zip-file of BIRT-Eclipse [here](#) (file size is 169 MB) by selecting the green arrow
2. Copy the zip-file into your BIRT-subdirectory of your GESTIN installation directory (“...\classix\Gestin\BIRT”)
3. Depacketize the file here (for example by
  - a. Right mouse button → extract all or
  - b. by using a different program for example [7zip](#).
  - c. Set the path for depacketizing the file as “...\Gestin\BIRT\” without naming any subdirectory, as a subdirectory “Eclipse” is automatically created.)

## 4.2 Configuration of Eclipse

1. Start Eclipse by double-click on the executable “eclipse.exe” in the main directory (e.g. “...\Gestin\BIRT\eclipse\eclipse.exe”). After starting Eclipse you may need to choose a “workspace“. The workspace directory is used as the main directory for Eclipse. As all reports are located in the directory “...\Gestin\BIRT”, this path is a good choice.
2. It is recommended to choose the following settings in Eclipse. In the menu bar choose
  - Window → Preferences
    - i. Open “Report Design”
    - ii. Resource: Select the Resource Folders (main folder for the reports) in the following way: File System → ...\Classix\Gestin\BIRT\
  - Window → Open Perspective → Report Design (perspective for editing reports)

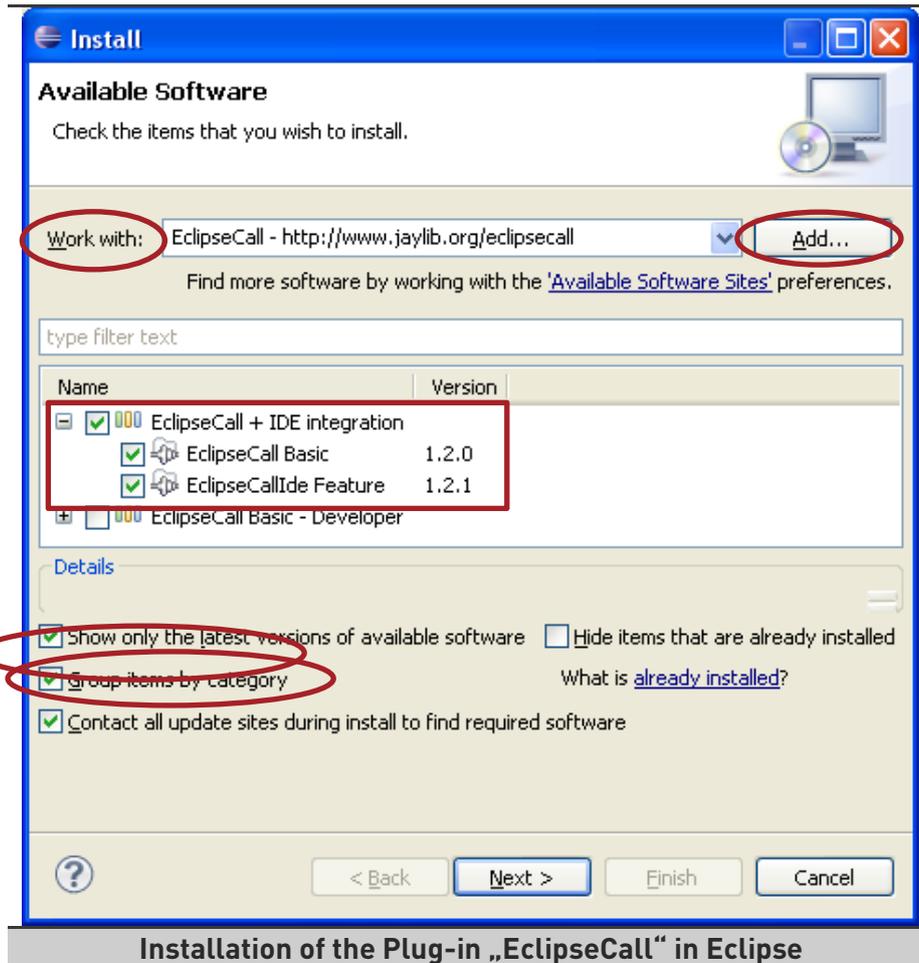
## 4.3 Installing EclipseCall

EclipseCall is used to open report-files (file extension .rptdesign) for editing in Eclipse from GESTIN or from the Windows Explorer. There are a few steps needed to get EclipseCall installed. It is possible to edit reports without installing EclipseCall but it is not as comfortable, because you have to open the reports manually in Eclipse (Menu bar: File → Open File...)

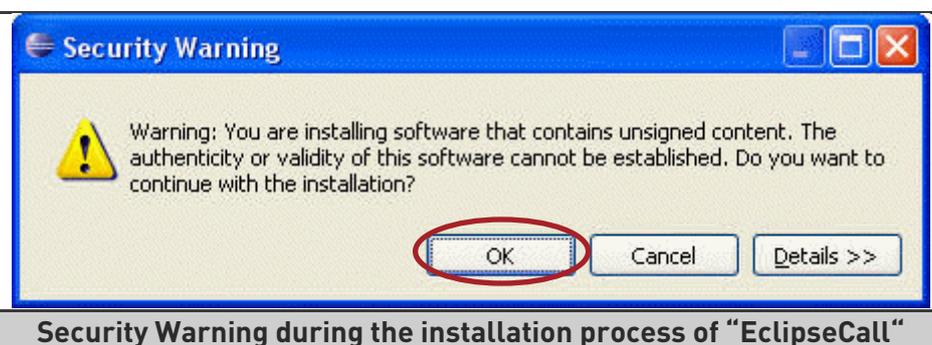
### 4.3.1 Installing the Plugin for EclipseCall in Eclipse

First you need to install the Plug-In EclipseCall in Eclipse. This Plugin is used to open the files in Eclipse.

1. Open Eclipse (double-click on the executable “eclipse.exe” in the main directory of your GESTIN installation, e.g. “...\Gestin\BIRT\eclipse\eclipse.exe”).
2. In the menu bar choose: Help → Install New Software...
3. Button “Add...” (see figure on page 4)
  - Name: EclipseCall
  - Location: <http://www.jaylib.org/eclipsecall>
4. Confirm with OK.
5. You may need to choose the above defined location in the combo box “Work with:”
6. As you can see in the figure, you need to select the entry EclipseCall + IDE integration. Please make sure that the view “Group items by category” is selected (If not enable the checkbox in the bottom part of the window).



7. Now install the Plug-In by choosing “Next”, “Next”, “Yes, I accept ...”, “Finish”
8. During the installation the following security warning might occur: “You are installing software that contains unsigned content”. It is safe to ignore this warning for EclipseCall (confirm with OK).



9. You have successfully installed EclipseCall now. Please restart Eclipse (menu bar: File → Restart)
10. To check whether your installation was successful you may proceed as follows after re-starting Eclipse:
  - a. Menu bar: Window → Preferences

- b. On the left hand side there should be an entry for EclipseCall
  - Please also make sure that the port is set correctly. EclipseCall works with the default port “2341”.

#### 4.3.2 Installing the EclipseCall Runnable

If Eclipse is not running, EclipseCall needs to start Eclipse when open a report. To do so the java library “eclipsecall.jar” is needed. You can download the library from Jaylib (<http://www.jaylib.org/eclipse/plugins/eclipsecall/>). After the download you need to copy the library to “...\Gestin\BIRT\eclipse\”.

#### 4.3.3 Register EclipseCall

As the last step you need to register EclipseCall in your system. For this purpose please open in the running GESTIN the module to manage reports: Main menu → Base data → Reports. Afterwards open any report from the list of reports by double-clicking on the specific row.

In the editor window choose Edit → Install BIRT. Choose the directory where you installed Eclipse (e.g. “...\Gestin\BIRT\eclipse”). The system creates the remaining needed information in your system. Now you are able to open reports in the Report-Designer from your Windows Explorer (by double-click) and from GESTIN.

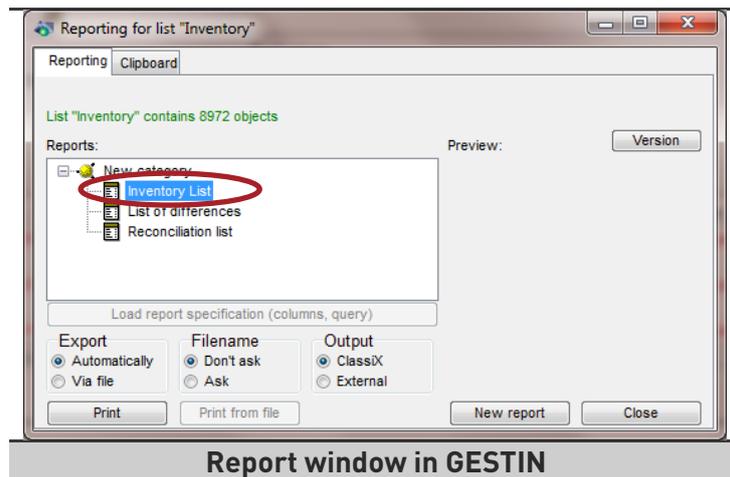
## 5 Changing existing reports with Eclipse-BIRT

*Warning:* To be able to change existing reports, Eclipse-BIRT needs to be installed (see section 5.1 and 5.2). Additionally, it is assumed that you have installed EclipseCall (see section 5.3).

After installing Eclipse-BIRT and EclipseCall you are able to open reports in Eclipse from GESTIN and change them. You do not need to start Eclipse manually but may open the report from GESTIN or the Windows-Explorer directly. Because of the EclipseCall-Plugin Eclipse should start automatically.

Please follow the steps to open a report from GESTIN:

1. Open the report window in GESTIN from any list by clicking the report-symbol:  (figure below)
2. Double-click on the report
3. Open the Report-Designer by clicking the symbol . In Eclipse-BIRT the report should have been opened and can now be edited.



**Report window in GESTIN**

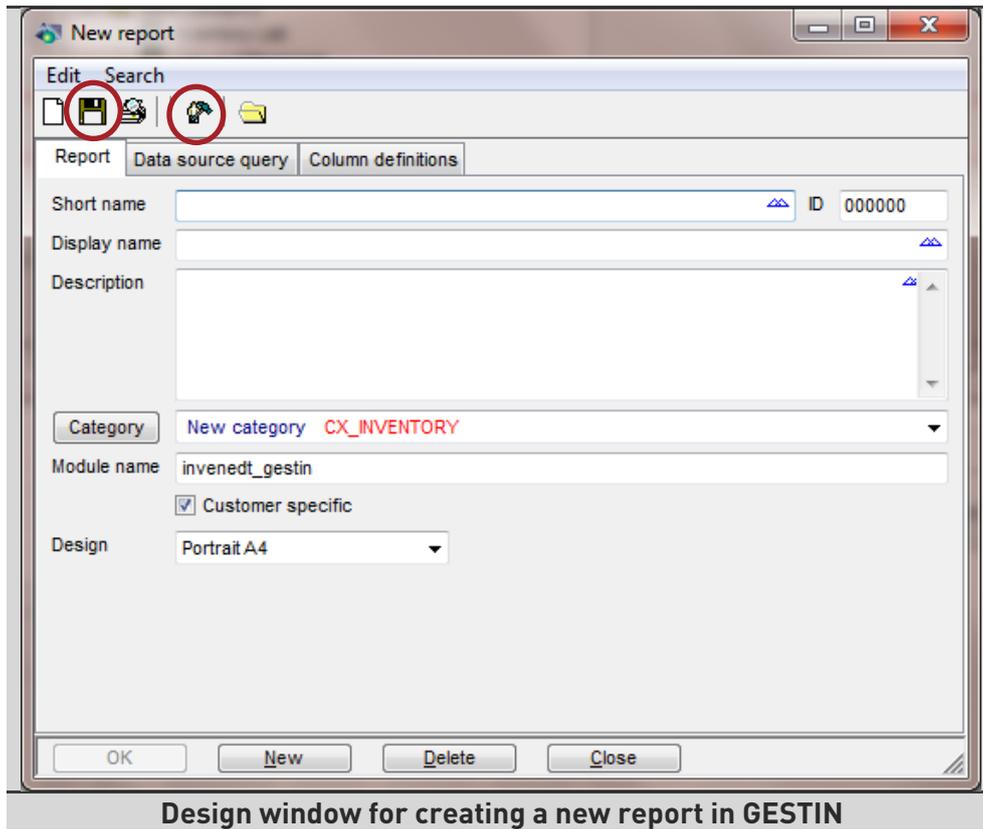
For tips on how to change a report please follow the link: [http://www.instantview.org/de\\_techdocu/Installation\\_birt/Birt\\_documentation](http://www.instantview.org/de_techdocu/Installation_birt/Birt_documentation)

## 6 Create new reports in Eclipse-BIRT

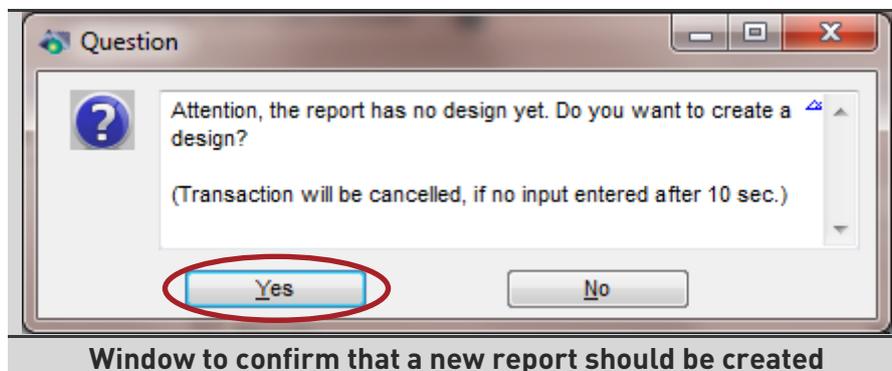
*Warning:* To be able to create new reports Eclipse-BIRT needs to be installed (see section 5.1 and 5.2). Additionally, it is assumed that you have installed EclipseCall (see section 5.3).

To create a new report in GESTIN you proceed similarly as for changing an existing report. However, you need to create a new report before you open the report window. To do so, please follow the steps (an example figure can be found on the next page):

1. Open the report window in GESTIN from any list by clicking the symbol: 
2. Choose the button “new report” (bottom right part of the window)
3. In the design window (figure below) you can make the following settings:
  - a. **Short name:** Name of the report-file. Cannot contain spaces or special characters.
  - b. **Display name:** This name is shown in GESTIN in the report window. You are allowed to use any characters here.
  - c. **Description:** You can add a description of the report here.
  - d. **Category:** Selected category of the report. The category is used to list all associated reports for every list in GESTIN. The category should already have been chosen for you when you open the design window. If no category is chosen at the moment, you can add one manually:
    - Click on the button “Category” → Create
  - e. **Module name:** In this box you need to add the name of the module (without the file extension “.mod”), from which the report is opened. The module name should already appear in the box and should not be changed. The module name cannot contain any umlaut, spaces or special characters. This is checked when you save your settings.
  - f. **Customer specific:** Choose this setting if the new report should not be a standard report but a customer specific report. The report is then saved at the subdirectory “...\Gestin\BIRT\Gestin\”.
  - g. **Design:** In this combo box you can choose whether the orientation of the report is portrait or landscape.
  - h. Additionally you can use the tabs “**Data source query**” and “**Column definitions**” to create more advanced reports. For simple reports these tabs are not needed. For more information see [this](#) PDF documentation.
4. After you made all your settings, you have to save them by clicking the floppy disk symbol: 



5. After saving your settings, you can open the Report-Designer by clicking the symbol . A window is opened in which you must confirm that you want to create a new design:



6. Now a new report is created, which contains the list in GESTIN in a tabular way. You may need to change the title or the size of the table columns to improve the presentation of the data.

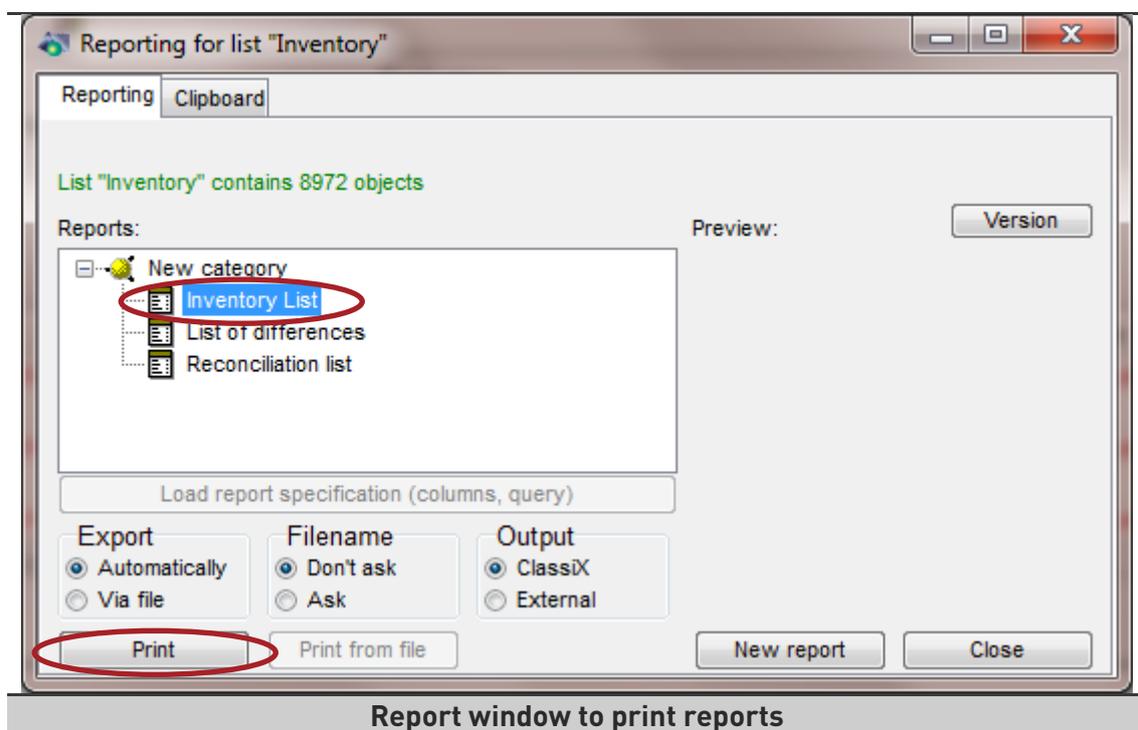
For tips on how to change a report please follow the link: [http://www.instantview.org/de\\_techdocu/Installation\\_birt/Birt\\_documentation/#Benutzung\\_von\\_Birt](http://www.instantview.org/de_techdocu/Installation_birt/Birt_documentation/#Benutzung_von_Birt)

## 7 Print BIRT-reports from GESTIN

To print reports from GESTIN, an installation of Eclipse-BIRT is NOT needed. All required software for printing reports is already included in your GESTIN installation.

Please follow the steps to print a report from GESTIN:

1. Open the list in GESTIN which you want to print
2. Open the report window in GESTIN by choosing the report symbol: 
3. Choose one of the existing reports (figure below) or create a new report (see section 7)
4. Choose the button "Print" on the bottom left hand side. A PDF version of the report is created and opened with Adobe Reader. The PDF is saved in a temp-directory and will be deleted if you close GESTIN.



## 8 How to deal with the occurrence of errors during printing or generating a report?

There are different kinds of errors, which can occur during printing or generating a report. On [this](#) website you find an overview of different error messages and how to deal with them.

In general it is helpful to look at the ".dmp"-file, which is created if an error occurs. The file is created in the standard Temp-directory of Windows. This is commonly one of the following two directories "C:\Windows\Temp" or "C:\Users\*USERNAME*\AppData\Local\Temp", where "*USERNAME*" needs to be replaced with your user name on windows.

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