

# xls42 – Spreadsheet Discovery and Management

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## Management / Management Consulting / Business Analysis

### xls42 Summary

xls42 is useful for identifying Spreadsheet use operationally, reviewing Spreadsheet use in conjunction with Enterprise wide Applications and reviewing Spreadsheet risk.

xls42 assists you in identifying the unknown unknowns of Spreadsheet use in your departments.

xls42 reports on:

- Whether the Spreadsheet is [Password protected](#), has [Macros](#), matches your [Advanced Search Criteria](#).
- How many [Sheets/Formulas/External Data Sources/Workbooks are Linked](#) there are.
- What [Size](#) the spreadsheet is.
- It's [Full Path and File Name](#) and it's [FileName](#) separately.
- [Who last updated](#) the spreadsheet.
- When it was [created](#) and [last updated](#).

The xls42 reports identify Spreadsheets updated regularly, as well as those Added, Updated, Replaced and Deleted.

Also, xls42 provides an Excel Add-In to [review any Spreadsheet](#).

The trial version of xls42 has full functionality, but only 50 Spreadsheets can be reported on. If you decide not to purchase xls42, you still have full use of the xls42 review utility.

xls42 is installed on a PC or Virtual PC with Excel 2007 on it. Spreadsheets of previous versions of Excel are reported on.

### *Spreadsheets used for standard Operational Procedures*

Spreadsheets used for standard Operational purposes within an Organisation normally should be reviewed.

What Operational processes are currently being done in Spreadsheets ?

Should these Operation processes be done on Spreadsheets ?

What is their outcome ?

Are these Spreadsheets still necessary ?

Do other applications already provide the same result ?

Are any of these Spreadsheets unduly complex or large ?

Is there a problem having shared update of these Spreadsheets ?

Is the distribution of these spreadsheets effective, so everyone is using the same version ?

Are these Spreadsheets correctly linked to external sources of data (including other WorkBooks) and refreshed properly ?

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Do these Spreadsheets form a basis for specifying other solutions that are more scalable, more deliverable and more reliable than Spreadsheets ? One great example we are familiar with is the use of Spreadsheets Production Scheduling. A whole series of Spreadsheets were replaced by a Software Application.

## *Managing Spreadsheet use in an Organisation where there are Enterprise wide Business Applications*

One would expect to see a decrease in Spreadsheet use for Operational Procedures and Reporting. Well if you do not what is the point of these Enterprise wide Applications.

A Spreadsheet review by using xls42 may show:

- Training gaps  
As people are still doing what they used to do and not use the new application.
- Deficiencies in the Application or Installation.  
As people still really need their Spreadsheet Processes

## *Spreadsheets and Risk*

This covered in the Auditing Tab

## **How xls42 helps in more detail**

xls42 assists in identifying which spreadsheets may be being used for Operational processes by highlighting extra properties of Spreadsheets and reporting on Spreadsheet usage.

xls42 indentifys extra properties of a Spreadsheet for review:

How many:

Sheets there are.

Formulas there are.

External data sources there are.

Workbooks are Linked.

What:

Size the spreadsheet is.

What the Full Path and Name is.

What the FileName is.

Whether they have a:

Password.

Macros.

Match your Advanced Criteria.

Who last updated the spreadsheet.

When it was:

Created and

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Last updated.

Because xls42 reports on the Full Path and Name separately from the File, you easily identify spreadsheets with the same FileName but in different directories.

Why is the same spreadsheet name used ?

Are the directories date based ?

[Indicating a standard Report or Operational Process.](#)

xls42 provides reporting on the usage of Spreadsheets.

Using standard reports we provide within Excel Add-Ins:

You can identify the number of times (days) a Spreadsheet has been updated over a period of time.

[Regular updating of a Spreadsheet may indicate a regular business process use.](#)

xls42 scheduled Reports are viewed within Excel.

Each Spreadsheet in the Reports are HyperLinked for immediate review.

xls42 also provides an xls42 Review sheet which can be added to any Spreadsheet.

All Links and Formulas can be shown from all Sheets in the WorkBook.

Each Cell found is hyperlinked to go to the source cell.

Formulas where data source(s) come from a different WorkSheet are shown in purple.

As well search Text and values over a certain value can be reported on the xls42 Review sheet.

xls42 Review sheet assists when checking the structure and or risk profile of a Spreadsheet.

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