Creating a dynamic report using Input Controls

Purpose

Using Input Controls to create a dynamic report depending on the user's selection in order to enhance the report presentation and usability.

Overview

To achieve this goal you need:

- A dimension variable used as the report object assigned to the Input Control
- An Input Control with a custom LOV
- A dynamic measure variable whose value depends on the input control selection

NOTE: this article is intended for expert Web Intelligence users.

Starting point

The starting point is a simple table with sales for both the current and the previous year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Sales ($)</th>
<th>Sales - PY ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conventional</td>
<td>93,994,146.42</td>
<td>104,303,290.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discount</td>
<td>191,185,871.96</td>
<td>197,039,360.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortinos</td>
<td>10,264,558.11</td>
<td>10,278,098.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas Bar</td>
<td></td>
<td>196,162.81</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Creating a variable as a Dimension

Create a new variable to be used later as the report object assigned to the Input Control. This variable should be created as a Dimension.
Creating the Input Control

Create a new Input Control.

Select the newly created variable as the report object assigned to the Input Control.

Select "radio button" and change the name to “Year Selection”.

There are no input controls defined on this report. To define a new one, please click above on button New.
Create a Custom List of Value with ‘Current’ and ‘Previous’ as possible values.

List of values

Once created, the input control will look like as follows.
Creating a dynamic variable as a Measure

Create a new variable as a measure with the following formula:

\[ \text{If } [\text{Measure Control}] = \text{"Current" } \text{Then } [\text{Sales ($)}] \text{ ElseIf } [\text{Measure Control}] = \text{"Previous" } \text{Then } [\text{Sales - PY ($)]} \]

This variable must be created as a Measure.

Creating a Pie Chart

On the right side of the table, create a Pie Chart using the newly created measure as follows.
In the Pie Chart's hiding options, click on “Hide when empty” and “Hide when following formula is true” and insert this formula

= [Measure Control]=""
but it will be displayed Current or Previous are selected in the Input Control.

Creating a Column Chart With 2 Y-Axes

Now create a new Column Chart With 2 Y-Axes using the measures from the query as values for the axis.
move this new Chart over the previously created Pie Chart.

Then, edit the properties of the Chart With 2 Y-Axes and click on “Hide when empty” and “Hide when following formula is true” and insert this formula

= [Measure Control] <> ""
Final result

At the end you will have your dynamic report where both the content of the measure used in the Pie Chart and the chart itself change, depending on the selection in the Input Control.