

GLOSSARY OF SAP BODS (BUSINESS OBJECTS DATA SERVICES)

A Quick Reference Guide to SAP Terminologies





Concept/Term	Definition
SAP Business Objects Data Services (BODS)	A data integration and transformation tool used for extracting, transforming, and loading (ETL) data from multiple sources to target systems.
ETL (Extract, Transform, Load)	A process that extracts data from source systems, transforms it into the required format, and loads it into a destination database or data warehouse.
Data Flow	A graphical representation of the steps in a data integration process, used to define how data is processed and moved through various stages in BODS.
Transformation	The process of converting data from one format to another. Includes tasks such as filtering, joining, and aggregating data in BODS.
Job	A unit of work in BODS that contains a set of data flow operations. Jobs can be scheduled, executed, and monitored.





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Data Services Designer	A development environment within BODS where data flows, jobs, and transformations are designed and managed.
Data Services Server	The central server that executes jobs, processes data, and manages connections to various data sources and targets in BODS.
Data Store	A connection definition in BODS that specifies the parameters required to connect to a data source or target system, such as a database or file system.
Data Quality	The process of ensuring data is accurate, complete, consistent, and timely, often using BODS' data quality features like validation and cleansing.
Data Quality Transformation	Built-in BODS transformations used to cleanse, validate, and standardize data as part of an ETL process.





Concept/Term	Definition
Repository	A database in BODS that stores metadata related to jobs, data flows, and transformations. Used for version control and management of data integration projects.
Job Server	A BODS server component that executes jobs and manages job execution on behalf of the Data Services Server.
Load Strategy	A method used to load data into the target system. Strategies include full load, incremental load, and delta load.
Data Services Monitor	A tool used to monitor job execution, manage jobs, and view logs in real-time.
Incremental Load	A process that loads only the new or changed data since the last load, improving efficiency compared to full data loads.





Concept/Term	Definition
Full Load	A method of loading the entire dataset into the target system during each load cycle, without filtering out old or unchanged data.
Delta Load	A data load method that only loads the differences (i.e., new or updated records) since the last load cycle.
Job Schedule	The process of scheduling jobs to run at predefined intervals or specific times, automating data processing in BODS.
Batch Processing	A technique of processing large volumes of data in chunks or batches, typically used in ETL processes.
Lookup Transformation	A transformation used in BODS to join data from two sources, based on a matching key. It can be used for data enrichment or validation.





Concept/Term	Definition
Merge Transformation	A transformation that combines data from multiple sources into a single output, using conditions such as matching keys or unique identifiers.
Join Transformation	A transformation used to combine data from multiple sources based on common key values, such as inner, left, or right joins.
Aggregate Transformation	A transformation used to perform summary operations on data, such as grouping and calculating sums, averages, and counts.
SQL Transformation	A BODS transformation that allows the execution of custom SQL queries within data flows for advanced data manipulation.
File Format	The structure or type of data stored in a file, such as CSV, XML, or JSON. BODS can handle multiple file formats for data extraction and loading.





Concept/Term	Definition
Express Query	A high-performance data retrieval method used in BODS to query large datasets without full table scans, typically used for incremental loads.
Workflow	A series of tasks, jobs, or data flows that are executed in sequence to achieve a particular goal or business process.
Data Cleansing	The process of identifying and correcting errors or inconsistencies in data. In BODS, this includes handling duplicates, standardizing formats, and correcting invalid entries.
Change Data Capture (CDC)	A technique used in BODS to track and capture only the changes made to the source data since the last extraction or update.
Data Services Engine	The underlying engine in BODS that performs the actual data processing tasks, executing jobs, transformations, and workflows.





Concept/Term	Definition
Data Lineage	The tracking and documentation of the flow of data through various transformations and systems in BODS, providing visibility into data processing.
Data Integration	The process of combining data from different sources into a unified, usable format. BODS is primarily used for data integration in ETL processes.
XML Data Services	A set of tools in BODS for integrating and transforming XML data, supporting XML parsing and validation.
Error Handling	The process of managing errors that occur during data extraction, transformation, or loading, ensuring that issues are logged, reported, and resolved.
Audit Logging	The logging of actions, errors, and processing steps during data flow execution. It is used for troubleshooting and auditing purposes.





Concept/Term	Definition
Business Rules	Predefined rules and logic applied to data during the transformation process to ensure data quality and compliance.
BODS Designer Workbench	The main environment for developing and managing data flows, jobs, and transformations in BODS.
Data Services Repository	A centralized database where all metadata, including job designs, data flow structures, and transformation logic, is stored in BODS.
ETL Batch Job	A job in BODS that runs in batch mode to extract, transform, and load data from one or more sources to a target system.
Data Services Script	A custom script written in Data Services' scripting language, used to enhance or extend transformation logic in ETL jobs.





Concept/Term	Definition
SAP HANA Integration	Integration of BODS with SAP HANA for real-time data processing, leveraging the power of HANA's in-memory capabilities for fast data loads.
Data Services Cache	A mechanism in BODS used to store temporary data during transformation processes, improving performance by reducing redundant data access.
XML Parsing	The process of reading and transforming XML data into structured formats using BODS' XML transformations.
Data Transformation	The process of converting raw data from a source into a desired format in the target system. BODS provides various transformations for this purpose.
Pushdown Optimization	A performance optimization technique where transformation logic is executed on the database level instead of within BODS.





Concept/Term	Definition
Real-Time Data Processing	The ability to process and move data as it arrives, typically in streaming mode, to provide real-time insights and updates.
Database Connectors	Pre-configured connections in BODS to various databases (e.g., Oracle, SQL Server, SAP HANA) for data extraction and loading.
Metadata Management	The process of managing and documenting data definitions, structures, and transformations in BODS.
BODS Workflow Scheduling	A feature that allows jobs and workflows to be scheduled and executed automatically at specified intervals or times.
Data Transfer Protocols	The methods used in BODS to transfer data between source and target systems, such as FTP, HTTP, and JDBC.