

## Accounting Intelligence vs Business Intelligence & Shadow Data Systems

An Accounting Intelligence (AI) system ensures that an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system is the single source of operational reporting and analysis and that it can be relied upon to give accurate and secure information. This table highlights some of the key differences between the typical Business Intelligence, Shadow Data and Accounting Intelligence approach to ERP reporting, analysis and integrity.

Feature	Accounting Intelligence	Business Intelligence	Shadow Data
Provides accurate information	✓	?	?
Provides relevant information	✓	?	✓
Provides live information	✓	✗	?
Interactive reporting (drill down/drill across ERP modules)	✓	✓	✗
Includes new data immediately (e.g. new accounts/business units)	✓	?	?
Integrates data from outside ERP system	✗	✓	?
Report packs for flash reporting cycle	✓	✓	?
Quick to implement	✓	✗	✓
Scalable for large numbers of users	✓	✓	✗
Works without additional hardware	✓	✗	✓
Easy to use/familiar interface	✓	?	✓
Easy to add new reports/inquiries	✓	✗	?
Build new reports/inquiries without programming	✓	?	?
Controlled by user department	✓	✗	✓
Centralized management of reports/inquiries	✓	✓	✗
Fully documented/supportable by IT	✓	✓	✗
Ensures ERP data integrity	✓	✗	✗
Prevents unaudited changes to report data	✓	✓	✗
Facilitates SOX compliance	✓	?	✗
Control access to features based on user ID	✓	✓	✗
Control access to data based on user ID	✓	✓	✗
Integrates with ERP security	✓	✗	✗
Data held securely on a server	✓	✓	?