

The Important Role of Spreadsheets in Corporate Success

For many years, software vendors have predicted the death of the spreadsheet, yet spreadsheets continue to play an important role for nearly every company in the world. In fact, studies have found that 95% of U.S. companies use spreadsheets in their financial reporting process. Despite their importance, many companies consider spreadsheets to be nothing more than an end-user tool. Surprisingly few companies have safeguards in place to ensure the accuracy of their spreadsheets given the critical role that they play.

Consider the typical Essbase spreadsheet shown here.

What are sales for the fourth week of January in Region 6?

If you answered \$54,013,106, you are *incorrect*. But, you aren't the only one.

This spreadsheet came from a large, well-known U. S. company that was shocked to learn it had publicly reported inaccurate sales numbers.

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4	A	В	Sales	U		г	G	п	' '	,
1										
2			Actual							
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4			Jan				Feb			
5			Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
6	Division 1	Region 1	172,667	192,290	155,221	140,323	134,732	126,992	144,988	155,880
7		Region 2	41,673	49,499	51,936	44,841	44,084	37,067	39,218	44,153
8		Region 6	54,709,529	60,755,804	49,229,101	54,013,106	51,580,988	40,523,424	5,228,964	861,034
9		Region 11	11,434,115	16,077,312	16,535,114	14,591,160	13,378,600	14,417,784	13,894,667	16,388,969

Research has found that an estimated 88% of spreadsheets contain errors and that 5% of those errors are serious in nature. Has this happened, or could this happen at your company?

Ask us how Dodeca can help your company avoid the same mistake.

Dodeca Helps Essbase Earn Top Ratings in the Annual BI Survey

For the first time in the history of the BI Survey, Essbase earned the top rating in the 2012 BI Survey in the customer goal achievement metric. The BI Survey is an independent, customer-driven study that covers 27 products in the BI realm.

Dodeca featured prominently in the analysis:

"This year's Survey sees a BI Giant attaining the highest goal achievement level for the first time ever. Previous Surveys have generally found Oracle Essbase to achieve quite low goal achievement scores. However, the BI Survey 12 sees a remarkable improvement in this vendor's goal achievement, placing it top of the list. It should be noted that this year's sample includes more answers from companies that use Essbase in conjunction with front-end tools like **Dodeca**. These seem to increase the ratings for Essbase compared to ratings from users that only use the Excel Add-in."