



When do we stop using excel and start using a database solution.....

Excel is an excellent tool for Spreadsheet activity such as number crunching. It loses its value when used as a database or business intelligence solution. We all love excel, we are all accustomed to opening it up as soon as we need to list something or calculate something. However as your database (the number of your parameters and calculations) grows you should use a solution that best fits your needs. Solutions such as BI, ERP and other specific database are usually developed with security and risk management in mind, while business professionals who build excel macros are limited in this aspect. Unfortunately, some companies continue to use excel even as their database grows and history becomes important.

There are a number of reasons why we need BI solutions such as i-Green:

Spreadsheets are intended for desktops use and are duplicated every time it is sent out via email.

If the data is collected from different sources it becomes difficult to avoid errors.

As time passes, it is difficult to see and understand which version is the final and most accurate. That is when the spreadsheet starts losing its integrity.

The spreadsheet is a static tool *with no drill down capabilities*, hindering the analytic functionality.

Merging data is complex in a spreadsheet, equations embedded to a worksheet are unique to that worksheet, and you can not eliminate any parameter from a calculation without compromising the results.

Large datasets are sluggish especially if the data is from a number of sources.

Publishing data becomes impossible.