BIRT API Change Control Document

This is a document to track the change request to the BIRT API. For each change request, the document will describe the new requirement, proposed solution and follow-up actions.

1.   Introduction

An ODA consumer application, like the BIRT Data Engine, normally needs to know the native data type of an ODA data set's result column and parameter to interact with an underlying ODA runtime driver. A native data type code is a value specified by an underlying ODA driver. The BIRT Data Engine tries to obtain this metadata from an ODA driver at runtime, and adjusts its processing accordingly. However, some ODA runtime drivers are not able to provide such metadata.   In such case, the native data type information collected at report design-time should be used instead.

This BIRT API change request is to add interface methods in the Data Engine API to optionally pass in the native data type of a data set's result column and parameter. Also see Bugzilla 151788.

2.   Changed APIs:

None.

3.   Added APIs:

3.1   Name = IColumnDefinition

Component name = org.eclipse.birt.data

Package name = org.eclipse.birt.data.engine.api

Change Request:

Add method: IColumnDefinition.getNativeDataType()

Proposed Solution:

```
/**
 * Gets the column's native data type as defined by the underlying
data source.
 * The native data type code value is implementation-specific.
 * Default value is 0 for none or unknown value.
 * @return  the parameter native data type code
 */
public int getNativeDataType();
```

3.2   Name = IParameterDefinition

Component name = org.eclipse.birt.data

Package name = org.eclipse.birt.data.engine.api

Change Request:

Add method: IParameterDefinition.getNativeType()

Proposed Solution:

```
/**
 * Returns the parameter's native data type as defined by the
underlying data source.
 * The native data type code value is implementation-specific.
 * Default value is 0 for none or unknown value.
 * @return  the parameter native data type code
 */
public abstract int getNativeType();
```

4.   Removed APIs:

None

5.   Miscellaneous Change Requests

N/A