

Running Crystal Reports with iMacs – Options*

Parallels – Application that allows you to run a virtual instance of Windows, on an Intel-based Mac, within the Mac Operating system

<http://www.parallels.com/>

Pros:

- Install, Run, and save output for Crystal Reports
- Can drag and drop pdfs and office documents (file sharing) from virtual Windows to Mac desktop
- Can be displayed small screen, full screen, minimized
- Do not have to reboot to run Windows – can have it open while running your Mac desktop

Cons:

- Need to buy and install Parallels software for \$80
- Need Windows license – XP, 2000, Vista, etc.
- May need to purchase MS Office applications for the PC in order to export documents
- Depending on available RAM, may have performance issues

Boot Camp – Apple product that allows you to install and run Windows on your Intel-based Mac (almost like a separate partition). You “boot” into the Mac OS or Windows at startup.

<http://www.apple.com/macosx/bootcamp/>

Pros:

- Free
- Uses the whole system (rather than just a virtual instance)
- Developed and supported by Apple

Cons:

- Currently in Beta status
- Need to reboot when you switch back and forth between Mac OS and Windows
- Need Windows license – XP, 2000, Vista, etc.
- May need to purchase MS Office applications for the PC in order to export documents

* Disclaimer: neither SES nor NUIT provide support for running the Boot Camp or Parallel PC configuration on the iMac in order to run Crystal reports, but our testing has revealed that it is possible to do. Because we cannot currently support it we have to advise you to proceed at your own risk. However, our experience is that it seems to work and may be worth experimenting with before purchasing a dedicated PC just for running Crystal reports on a Mac.