

CEWS – Q&A

Harnessing the Power of Calculations

September 27, 2017

1. Can you use the Round function when performing a calculation? We are trying to find out if there is a way to round the data retrieve from our ERP system.

If you are wanting to round all the data coming from your ERP system, the simplest way to do this would be through the import process itself by altering the query. This would be more efficient than trying to use a formula to round all of the data.

2. Is it best practice to use Template Calculation instead of using the formula set up in the account dimension to keep the model speed working efficiently?

There are many factors that determine best practice in terms of calculation design. Typically Template Calculations are used for more complex logics where more Excel like functionality is required, or logics that are not uniform throughout the model (i.e. different departments calculating revenue in different ways).

If the performance of account formulas are an issue then the first recommendation would be to make these procedural calculations.

This may be a topic you might want to reach out to a Professional Services Consultant to discuss.

3. How many calculated accts should there be per cube to maximize performance?

There is no practical maximum. Account calculations run through all combinations of all dimension members, so the number of dimensions and the number of dimension members determine the performance of calculations.

4. What was the advantage of Time Conversion in process manager for the example presented? You still had to enter the number of trips for each Organization.

In the example presented we were demonstrating how template calculations can be used to forecast travel expenses. The calculation was showing how we can fix one input in a single cell and then reference that one input across all 12 months.

5. Can u have a variance calculation that spans over different time periods. eg. YTD act 2017 v YTD act 2016

There are a couple of different solutions in this case – the simplest being a Template Calculation using named sets assuming this needs to be a rolling calculation. I would recommend reaching out to a member of the Professional Services team to discuss this requirement in more detail.

6. Where u have a system calc on BOTH a row and column, there would be 2 formula at the intersection, how do u control calculation priority here?

Assuming you are referring to a Template Calculation, the cell you are placing that formula is a unique combination of the dimensions used to create that cell.

Assuming you are referring to an account calculation, that logic would apply throughout the model.

Please reach out to the Professional Services team if you need further assistance.