

Decomposing SEC XBRL Financial Filing Report Components

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This document walks you through a process where a very hard to comprehend report component is decomposed into the individual disclosure pieces so that it is possible to see the ramifications of combining too many disclosures into a single report component of an SEC XBRL financial filing.

The point of this exercise is to see, understand, and hopefully avoid this trap. Fundamentally these examples help an accountant see how combining these disclosures into one presentation makes that report component harder and even impossible to comprehend.

Consider this somewhat overwhelming example of a disclosure provided by an SEC XBRL financial filing. Don't bother to understand the information shown in the disclosure. Focus more on the fact that you see patterns of numbers and patterns of white space. This disclosure is totally overwhelming. But, as will be shown briefly, there are reasons the disclosure is not decipherable.

		Indefinite-lived Intangible Assets by Major Class [Axis]										
		Indefinite-lived Intangible Assets, Major Class Name [Domain]										
		Finite-Lived Intangible Assets by Major Class [Axis]										
		Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Major Class Name [Domain]										
		Technology [Member]	Customer Relationships [Member]	Order or Production Backlog [Member]	Contract Base [Member]	Intellectual Property [Member]	Trademark and Tradename [Member]	Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Major Class Name [Domain]				
Range [Axis]	Range [Axis]	Range [Axis]	Range [Axis]	Range [Axis]	Range [Axis]	Range [Axis]	Range [Axis]	Minimum [Member]	Maximum [Member]	Range [Axis]		
Period [Axis]	Acquired Finite-Lived and Indefinite Intangible Assets [Line Items]	Range [Domain]	Range [Domain]	Range [Domain]	Range [Domain]	Range [Domain]	Range [Domain]	Range [Domain]	Range [Domain]	Minimum [Member]	Maximum [Member]	Range [Domain]
2012-01-01 - 2012-12-31	Gross Carrying Amount	61,309,000	30,729,000	7,800,000	50,000	1,998,000	6,850,000					108,736,000
	Accumulated Amortization	32,569,000	13,991,000	6,370,000	50,000	1,860,000	3,173,000					58,013,000
	Purchased trademark/tradename	2,500,000										
	Amortization											19,900,000
	Weighted Average Life (yrs)	PY	PTY	PSY	PSY	PSY	PSY			PZY	P1SY	
	Economic benefits intangible assets are expected to be realized											
	Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Net, Amortization Expense, Fiscal Year Maturity [Abstract]											
	2013											19,079,000
	2014											13,421,000
	2015											8,058,000
	2016											4,593,000
	2017											2,939,000
	Thereafter											2,633,000
	Total											80,723,000
2011-01-01 - 2011-12-31	Gross Carrying Amount	53,509,000	25,906,000	7,740,000	50,000	1,998,000	6,712,000					95,915,000
	Accumulated Amortization	22,160,000	8,158,000	4,390,000	50,000	1,448,000	1,848,000					38,054,000
	Purchased trademark/tradename	2,500,000										
	Amortization											21,000,000
	Weighted Average Life (yrs)	PY	PTY	PSY	PSY	PSY	PSY					
	Economic benefits intangible assets are expected to be realized											
	Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Net, Amortization Expense, Fiscal Year Maturity [Abstract]											
	2013											
	2014											
	2015											
	2016											
	2017											
	Thereafter											
	Total											
2010-04-01 - 2010-12-31	Gross Carrying Amount											9,200,000
	Accumulated Amortization											
	Purchased trademark/tradename											
	Amortization											
	Weighted Average Life (yrs)											
	Economic benefits intangible assets are expected to be realized											
	Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Net, Amortization Expense, Fiscal Year Maturity [Abstract]											
	2013											
	2014											
	2015											
	2016											
	2017											
	Thereafter											
	Total											
2009-04-01 - 2009-12-31	Gross Carrying Amount											
	Accumulated Amortization											
	Purchased trademark/tradename											
	Amortization											1,100,000
	Weighted Average Life (yrs)											
	Economic benefits intangible assets are expected to be realized											
	Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Net, Amortization Expense, Fiscal Year Maturity [Abstract]											
	2013											
	2014											
	2015											
	2016											
	2017											
	Thereafter											
	Total											

Consider a second visual pattern. Notice the totally “flat” taxonomy structure on the right and the “flat” rendering on the left. This too is hard to decipher because the information runs together.

Accounting Policies [Abstract]	Period [Axis]		
	2012-01-01 - 2012-12-31	2011-01-01 - 2011-12-31	2010-01-01 - 2010-12-31
Accounting Policies [Abstract]			
Impairment of Intangible Assets, Finite-lived			
Goodwill	7,000,000	7,000,000	
Value of Business Acquired (VOBA)	600,000	800,000	
Accumulated Amortization Of Value Of Business Acquired VOBA	24,800,000	24,600,000	
Amortization of Value of Business Acquired (VOBA)	200,000	200,000	12,300,000
Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Average Useful Life			
Values Of Business Acquired Distribution Agreements And Customer Relationships	95,900,000	106,300,000	
Accumulated Amortization Of Values Of Business Acquired Distribution Agreements And Customer Relationships	24,800,000	14,300,000	
Amortization Of Values Of Business Acquired Distribution Agreements And Customer Relationships	10,500,000	10,900,000	
Future Amortization Expense, Year One	10,100,000		
Future Amortization Expense, Year Two	9,500,000		
Future Amortization Expense, Year Three	9,400,000		
Future Amortization Expense, Year Four	9,000,000		
Future Amortization Expense, Year Five	8,700,000		
Capitalized Computer Software, Net	43,200,000	33,000,000	
Capitalized Computer Software, Amortization	6,500,000	4,300,000	4,000,000
Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Useful Life, Minimum			
Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Useful Life, Maximum			
Traditional Life, Interest Rate, Low End	0.03		
Traditional Life, Interest Rate, High End	0.05		
Maximum Life Insurance Retention Per Individual Life	8,000,000		
Retrosession Pool Participants Minimum AM Best Rating	"A-(excellent)"	"A-(excellent)"	
Claims Recoverable From Retrocessionaires Past Due	10,400,000	11,400,000	
New Accounting Pronouncement Or Change In Accounting Principle Cumulative Effect Of Change On Deferred Acquisition Costs		470,100,000	
Reinsurance Claims Recoverables	156,000,000	151,900,000	
New Accounting Pronouncement Or Change In Accounting Principle Cumulative Effect Of Change On Equity		318,400,000	

Keep those two ideas in your mind as we walk through a third representation. This disclosure is complicated but somewhat decipherable. However, if this disclosure which is really the following four disclosures combined together, it would be even easier to understand:

- Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Net [Roll Up] which breaks down the Gross, accumulated amortization, and net carrying amount of each class of finite-lived intangible assets (shown in RED)
- Estimated useful lives of finite-lived intangible assets (shown in YELLOW)
- Amortization expense (shown in PURPLE)
- Future amortization expense of finite-lived intangible assets

Slicers (applies to each fact value in each table cell)

Reporting Entity [Axis]	Period [Axis]						
	2012-01-30 - 2013-01-27			2011-01-31 - 2012-01-29			2010-02-01 - 2011-01-30
	Finite-Lived Intangible Assets by Major Class [Axis]			Finite-Lived Intangible Assets by Major Class [Axis]			Finite-Lived Intangible Assets by Major Class [Axis]
Amortizable intangible assets components [Line Items]	Developed Technology Rights [Member]	Patents and Licensed Technology [Member]	Amortizable intangible assets components [Domain]	Developed Technology Rights [Member]	Patents and Licensed Technology [Member]	Amortizable intangible assets components [Domain]	Amortizable intangible assets components [Domain]
Gross Carrying Amount	172,039,000	407,002,000	579,041,000	172,039,000	352,386,000	524,425,000	
Accumulated Amortization	(96,389,000)	(170,320,000)	(266,709,000)	(79,261,000)	(119,028,000)	(198,289,000)	
Net Carrying Amount	75,650,000	236,682,000	312,332,000	92,778,000	233,358,000	326,136,000	
Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Average Useful Life	6.9	7.0		6.0	7.3		
Amortization expense associated with intangible assets							
Amortization expense			68,400,000			59,000,000	30,000,000
Future amortization expense associated with intangible assets							
Fiscal 2014			68,400,000				
Fiscal 2015			68,300,000				
Fiscal 2016			59,700,000				
Fiscal 2017			44,100,000				
Fiscal 2018			40,500,000				
Future amortization after year five			31,300,000				

In order to better see those four separate disclosures, I have went through other SEC XBRL financial filings and found examples of exactly the same information in these other examples to see how other SEC filers are representing these same four disclosures. Be sure to notice the subtleties and nuances of the disclosures because those subtleties and nuances help you understand the ramifications of choices made.

Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Net [Roll Up]

Example 1: This is the basic disclosure which many filers have. This filer has only has on class, but for some reason the scenario [Axis] was used. But, that does not hurt the ability to read the information.

Slicers (applies to each fact value in each table cell)

Reporting Entity [Axis]	0001014763 (http://www.sec.gov/CIK)
Scenario [Axis]	Scenario, Unspecified [Domain]

Statement [Line Items]	Period [Axis]	
	2012-12-31	2011-12-31
Patents	158,429	154,355
Less: accumulated amortization	(64,329)	(48,799)
Patents, net	94,100	105,556

Example 2: Same as #1, except the filer explicitly provide the legal entity [Axis] and not the scenario [Axis]. This is very readable. The classes of finite-lived intangible assets are articulated using concepts rather than the [Member]s of an [Axis] as in some of the examples above.

Slicers (applies to each fact value in each table cell)

Reporting Entity [Axis]	0001411906 (http://www.sec.gov/CIK)
Legal Entity [Axis]	Entity [Domain]

Finite-Lived Intangible Assets [Line Items]	Period [Axis]	
	2012-12-31	2011-12-31
Patents	500,000	500,000
Less accumulated armortization	(79,532)	(34,076)
Patents, net	420,468	465,924

Example 3: This SEC filer has multiple classes of finite-lived intangible assets and distinguishes the different classes by using an [Axis]. This filer does NOT provide a Scenario [Axis] or Legal Entity [Axis].

Slicers (applies to each fact value in each table cell)

Reporting Entity [Axis]	0000866121 (http://www.sec.gov/CIK)
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Amortizing assets	Period [Axis]							
	2013-03-31				2012-03-31			
	Finite-Lived Intangible Assets by Major Class [Axis]				Finite-Lived Intangible Assets by Major Class [Axis]			
	Trade Names [Member]	Patented Technology [Member]	Customer Relationships and Other [Member]	Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Major Class Name [Domain]	Trade Names [Member]	Patented Technology [Member]	Customer Relationships and Other [Member]	Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Major Class Name [Domain]
Gross carrying amount	66,060,000	17,400,000	34,185,000	117,645,000	66,060,000	17,400,000	34,185,000	117,645,000
Accumulated amortization	(13,531,000)	(7,230,000)	(25,928,000)	(46,689,000)	(9,062,000)	(4,820,000)	(21,760,000)	(35,642,000)
Total	52,529,000	10,170,000	8,257,000	70,956,000	56,998,000	12,580,000	12,425,000	82,003,000

Example 4: Similar to example #3, but they have fewer classes if finite-lived intangible assets, uses the same [Axis] as #3. Likewise, this filer does not provide the Scenario [Axis] nor the Legal Entity [Axis].

Slicers (applies to each fact value in each table cell)

Reporting Entity [Axis]	0001016546 (http://www.sec.gov/CIK)
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Statement [Line Items]	Period [Axis]		
	2012-12-31		2011-12-31
	Finite-Lived Intangible Assets by Major Class [Axis]		Finite-Lived Intangible Assets by Major Class [Axis]
	Land Use Right [Member]	Patents [Member]	Patents [Member]
Intangible assets, gross	13,670,000	1,366,000	1,366,000
Less accumulated amortization	(45,000)	(1,092,000)	(1,016,000)
Intangible assets, net	13,625,000	274,000	350,000

Example 5: Here the filer has multiple classes of finite-lived intangible assets which the combined with other assets for some reason, but still easy to read. The classes of finite-lived intangible assets are articulated using *concepts* rather than the *[Members] of an [Axis]* as in some of the examples above.

INTANGIBLES AND OTHER ASSETS, NET [Abstract]	Period [Axis]	
	2012-12-31	2011-12-31
INTANGIBLES AND OTHER ASSETS, NET [Abstract]		
Customer relationships	661,000	661,000
Non-compete agreements	0	200,000
Deposits	476,000	506,000
Prepaid insurance	518,000	880,000
Other prepaid expenses	70,000	34,000
Intangibles and other assets, gross	1,725,000	2,281,000
Accumulated amortization of intangible assets	69,000	90,000
Intangibles and other assets, net	1,656,000	2,191,000

Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Estimated Useful Lives Disclosure

Example 1: Basic disclosure of finite-lived intangible assets estimated useful lives.

Slicers (applies to each fact value in each table cell)

Reporting Entity [Axis]	0000065770 (http://www.sec.gov/CIK)
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Summary Of Significant Accounting Policies Intangible Assets Useful Life Narrative Details	Period [Axis]
	2012-01-01 - 2012-12-31
Summary Of Significant Accounting Policies Intangible Assets Useful Life Narrative Details	
Intangible Assets Useful Life, Minimum	1
Intangible Assets Useful Life, Maximum	17

Example 2: Basic disclosure of finite-lived intangible assets estimated useful lives; but this filer has only one class and provides some different [Axis].

Slicers (applies to each fact value in each table cell)

Reporting Entity [Axis]	0000750004 (http://www.sec.gov/CIK)
Other Assets and Investments by Type [Axis]	Software and Software Development Costs [Member]

Other Assets and Investments	Period [Axis]
	2012-01-01 - 2012-12-31
Useful life minimum (in years)	2
Useful life maximum (in years)	10

Example 3: Basic disclosure with multiple classes of finite-lived intangible assets.

Slicers (applies to each fact value in each table cell)

Reporting Entity [Axis]	0001166388 (http://www.sec.gov/CIK)
Period [Axis]	2012-02-01 - 2013-01-31

Property, Plant and Equipment [Line Items]	Property, Plant and Equipment by Type [Axis]		
	Building [Member]	Software [Member]	Equipment, Furniture and Other [Member]
Estimated useful lives, low end of range (in years)	25	3	3
Estimated useful lives, high end of range (in years)	30	4	10

Example 4: Combines the *Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Net [Roll Up]* with the *Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Estimated Useful Lives [Hierarchy]*; while combining these two makes it a little harder to read, it is still very easy to read and comprehend.

Slicers (applies to each fact value in each table cell)

Reporting Entity [Axis]	0000822708 (http://www.sec.gov/CIK)
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Statement [Line Items]	Period [Axis]											
	2012-01-01 - 2012-12-31						2011-12-31					
	Finite-Lived Intangible Assets by Major Class [Axis]						Finite-Lived Intangible Assets by Major Class [Axis]					
	Software	Domain name, logo & trade mark	Customer list	Technology use right	Patent techniques	Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Major Class Name [Domain]	Software	Domain name, logo & trade mark	Customer list	Technology use right	Patent techniques	Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Major Class Name [Domain]
Useful life	3		5	1	10							
Intangible assets, gross	202,343	349,600	0	387,387	182,671	1,122,001 (222,547)	201,275	349,600	86,250	125,432	181,360	943,917 (171,390)
Less: Accumulated amortization						480,690						370,995
Intangible assets, net												

Example 5: Combines the *Future amortization expense of finite-lived intangible assets* with the *Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Estimated Useful Lives*; while combining these two makes it a little harder to read, it is still very easy to read.

Slicers (applies to each fact value in each table cell)

Reporting Entity [Axis]	0001476204 (http://www.sec.gov/CIK)
Period [Axis]	2012-01-01 - 2012-12-31

Acquired Finite-Lived Intangible Assets [Line Items]	Acquired Finite-Lived Intangible Assets by Major Class [Axis]	
	Leases, Acquired-in-Place [Member]	Leases, Acquired-in-Place, Market Adjustment [Member]
2013	3,771,000	1,448,000
2014	3,632,000	1,418,000
2015	2,795,000	1,198,000
2016	2,125,000	662,000
2017	1,230,000	404,000
2018 and thereafter	2,102,000	172,000
Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Future Amortization Expense, Total	<u>15,655,000</u>	<u>5,302,000</u>
Acquired Intangible Assets, Weighted-Average Amortization Period	6	5

Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Future Amortization Expense Disclosure

Example 1: This is the common representation of the future estimated amortization expense provided by an SEC XBRL filer. Very readable.

Slicers (applies to each fact value in each table cell)

Reporting Entity [Axis]	0000002969 (http://www.sec.gov/CIK)
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Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Net, Amortization Expense, Fiscal Year Maturity [Abstract]	Period [Axis]
	2013-09-30
Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Net, Amortization Expense, Fiscal Year Maturity [Abstract]	
2014	41,900,000
2015	40,100,000
2016	38,000,000
2017	36,600,000
2018	34,800,000
Thereafter	435,300,000
Total future amortization expense	626,700,000

Example 2: This is the basic disclosure again, but this time the filer has two classes of finite-lived intangible assets for which future estimated amortization expense is disclosed. Very readable.

Slicers (applies to each fact value in each table cell)

Reporting Entity [Axis]	0000796317 (http://www.sec.gov/CIK)
Period [Axis]	2012-12-31
Legal Entity [Axis]	Entity [Domain]

Finite-Lived Intangible Assets [Line Items]	Finite Lived Intangible Assets By Major Class [Axis]		
	Core Deposits [Member]	Other Intangible Assets [Member]	Finite Lived Intangible Assets Major Class Name [Domain]
Estimated amortization expense for intangible assets			
2013	287,000	504,000	791,000
2014	210,000	504,000	714,000
2015	134,000	504,000	638,000
2016	57,000	504,000	561,000
2017		504,000	504,000
Thereafter		3,619,000	3,619,000

Example 3: Basic disclosure again.

Slicers (applies to each fact value in each table cell)

Reporting Entity [Axis]	0001499268 (http://www.sec.gov/CIK)
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Goodwill and Intangible Assets Disclosure [Abstract]	Period [Axis]
	2012-12-31
Goodwill and Intangible Assets Disclosure [Abstract]	
Finite-Lived Intangible Assets, Net, Amortization Expense, Fiscal Year Maturity [Abstract]	
2013	2,530,000
2014	2,298,000
2015	2,298,000
2016	2,298,000
2017	1,788,000
Thereafter	858,000

Example 4: Basic disclosure, uses nils for a few of the future years disclosed, very readable.

Slicers (applies to each fact value in each table cell)

Reporting Entity [Axis]	0000896262 (http://www.sec.gov/CIK)
Legal Entity [Axis]	Entity [Domain]

Schedule Of Estimated Future Amortization Expense [Line Items]	Period [Axis]
	2012-12-31
2013	1,700,000
2014	200,000
2015	xsi:nil
2016	xsi:nil
2017	xsi:nil
Estimated aggregate amortization expense	1,900,000

Example 5: Filer combined the future estimated amortization expense with the amortization expense disclosure. Very readable.

Slicers (applies to each fact value in each table cell)

Reporting Entity [Axis]	0001084869 (http://www.sec.gov/CIK)
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Goodwill and Intangible Assets	Period [Axis]		
	2012-07-02 - 2013-06-30	2011-07-04 - 2012-07-01	2010-06-28 - 2011-07-03
Goodwill and Intangible Assets			
Amortization of intangible assets	1,800,000	1,800,000	2,300,000
Future estimated amortization expense			
2014	1,400,000		
2015	1,300,000		
2016	1,200,000		
2017	700,000		
Thereafter	2,000,000		
Remainder of fiscal 2013			

Amortization Expense Disclosure

Example 1: This is pretty much the basic disclosure which most SEC filers make for the amortization expense.

Slicers (applies to each fact value in each table cell)

Reporting Entity [Axis]	0001141807 (http://www.sec.gov/CIK)	
Goodwill and Intangible Assets Disclosure [Abstract]	Period [Axis]	
	2012-01-01 - 2012-12-31	2011-01-01 - 2011-12-31
Goodwill and Intangible Assets Disclosure [Abstract]		
Amortization of Intangible Assets	267,967	210,154

Example 2: This is the same as #1 above, but there is another fact being disclosure with the amortization expense within the same report component.

Slicers (applies to each fact value in each table cell)

Reporting Entity [Axis]	0000934547 (http://www.sec.gov/CIK)		
Finite-Lived Intangible Assets [Line Items]	Period [Axis]		
	2012-01-01 - 2012-12-31	2011-01-01 - 2011-12-31	2010-01-01 - 2010-12-31
Amortization of Intangible Assets	766,000	858,000	1,472,000
Business Acquisition, Purchase Price Allocation, Goodwill Amount	0	134,000	

Example 3: Basic amortization expense example again, but this time the filer has broken out the income statement location of the amortization expense. Still very readable.

Slicers (applies to each fact value in each table cell)

Reporting Entity [Axis]	0001173752 (http://www.sec.gov/CIK)									
Finite Lived Intangible Assets Amortization Expense [Line Items]	2012-08-01 - 2013-07-31					2011-08-01 - 2012-07-31				
	Income Statement Location [Axis]					Income Statement Location [Axis]				
	Cost of Sales [Member]	Technology Services Costs [Member]	Selling and Marketing Expense [Member]	Research And Development [Member]	Income Statement Location [Domain]	Cost of Sales [Member]	Technology Services Costs [Member]	Selling and Marketing Expense [Member]	Research And Development [Member]	Income Statement Location [Domain]
Amortization expense of intangible assets	6,080,000	284,000	1,410,000	25,000	7,799,000	5,875,000	540,000	1,812,000	0	8,227,000

Example 4: While still very readable, this combines the *finite lived intangible asset roll up* with the *amortization expense*. Imagine this being separated using an [Abstract] concept; that would make it even more readable.

Slicers (applies to each fact value in each table cell)

Reporting Entity [Axis]	0001453593 (http://www.sec.gov/CIK)
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Statement [Line Items]	Period [Axis]	
	2012-01-01 - 2012-12-31	2011-01-01 - 2011-12-31
Intellectual Property		
Gross carrying value	820,778	809,615
Accumulated amortization	(228,400)	(153,482)
Net carrying value	592,378	656,133
Aggregate amortization expense:	74,918	53,638

Example 5: *Amortization expense* combined with the *estimated future amortization expense*. This is very readable, but you can see that the estimated future amortization expense is not disclosure for the prior year causes the white space to exist in the rendering.

Slicers (applies to each fact value in each table cell)

Reporting Entity [Axis]	0000002098 (http://www.sec.gov/CIK)
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Goodwill and Intangible Assets Disclosure [Abstract]	Period [Axis]	
	2012-01-01 - 2012-12-31	2011-01-01 - 2011-12-31
Goodwill and Intangible Assets Disclosure [Abstract]		
Amortization expense - patents and trademarks	227,662	183,385
Estimated aggregate amortization expense:		
2013	270,033	
2014	256,803	
2015	244,095	
2016	242,271	
2017	238,328	