IBM Informix Dynamic Server (IDS)

IDS is a mission-critical, general-purpose on-line transaction processing (OLTP) database for the enterprise and workgroup. IDS is deployed today at enterprises large and small where a transactional database can solve real-world business problems.

Enterprise businesses

IDS is commonly used for OLTP, decision support, customer relationship management, enterprise resource planning, and many other mission critical enterprise applications.

Small to medium size businesses

In addition to the scalability of IDS at the enterprise level, IDS continues to be a predominant player in the small- to medium- size business marketplace, with installations at well over 20,000 companies across the globe, and with a very strong focus in the Linux market. Many of these installations are due to our strong network of Informix heritage value added resellers, integrators, and ISVs. The additional benefits of IBM's extensive PartnerWorld for Software and PartnerWorld for Developers offerings greatly enhance the opportunities available to these business partners.

To support continued customer success with IDS, IBM has launched a new service offering especially designed for small to medium size businesses with limited DBA resources. Customers can subscribe to IBM's Remote DBA service in which IBM will manage their IDS databases for them from a remote location.

Embedded Applications

Because IDS is easily embeddable, IDS is often integrated into OEM solutions, such as those from Intrado (911 emergency systems), Telelogic (Software Configuration Management), and many others.

Technology Leadership

The IDS product has always had technology leadership at its core. IDS was the first database to bring to market key technologies such as Range (Expression) Partitioning, Fully-Threaded Architecture – the Dynamically Scalable Architecture (DSA), Parallel Data Queries, High Availability Data Replication, Enterprise Replication, Worlds Leading Extensible Architecture, R-Tree & GIS (Spatial) Integration, Time-Series Data, Java in the Database, and much more.

IDS Product Roadmap

IBM intends to continue to enhance and support IDS for existing customers and partners based on customer, market and technology-driven requirements for as long as they require. IBM is planning new releases of IDS approximately every 18 months as described in the sections below.

IDS 9.30 shipped in October 2001 and is enjoying rapid success. IDS 9.40 is currently in development, IDS 9.50 is in the planning stage, and the roadmap already extends to IDS 9.60. The Workgroup Editions will also continue to be enhanced and supported and kept current with the IDS Enterprise versions.

IDS Version 7.31

IBM will continue to release fixpacks for IDS 7.31 versions of IDS 7 on a regular basis for several more years. IBM will support IDS 7.31 through at least 12/31/2005.

Customers should note that IDS 9 is the platform for future enhancements of the IDS product line.

IDS Version 9.21

Effective 4/1/2002 IDS 9.21 was removed from marketing. IDS 9.30 takes 9.21's place in the Informix lineup as the recommended IDS 9 version for new deployments.   Existing IDS 9.2x customers & Business Partners can continue to purchase additional license entitlements and will receive patch level support for IDS 9.2x. Customers desiring regular fixpacks will now receive them through the new IDS 9.30.

IDS Version 9.30

IBM delivered its promise to the market with the announcement of IDS 9.30 in October 2001. For full details on IDS 9.30, please refer to the IDS web pages: http://www.ibm.com/software/data/informix/ids .

IDS Version 9.40

The feature set of IDS 9.40 has been decided and development is well underway. The team focused on the needs of both the IDS 7 & 9 customers when selecting the feature set for IDS 9.40.   The features and enhancements of

IDS 9.40 are based on extensive feedback from our customer base. The projected release date for IDS 9.40 is Q1 2003.

In this release, IDS 9.40 will deliver key, customer requested OLTP enhancements, including:

Enhanced Scalability:

The 2 gigabyte chunk limit and the 4 terabyte maximum instance limit will be wiped out. IDS 9.40 will be able to support *32,768* chunks and each chunk can be as large as *4 terabytes*, which will increase the maximum size of an IDS instance from today's 4 terabytes limitation to *a theoretical 128 petabytes.* Not only will this feature greatly expand the scalability of IDS and allow it to make use of today's large disk drives, but also it will ease administration overhead by greatly reducing the number of chunks that a DBA must manage.

Enhanced Security:

Security is at the forefront of many customers' thoughts today. New capabilities for encryption and authentication are being added to IDS 9.4. IBM is committed to increasing the security features in all of its products.

Enhanced Performance:

Database performance tops many customers' lists. The IDS team is very focused on finding new ways to improve the performance of IDS 9. Included in this project is a focus on reducing the amount of tuning required after upgrading from IDS 7.

SQL Compatibility:

Business partners are always looking for ways to maximize their investments with each of the database vendors they support. The IDS team will deliver SQL compatibility features in every new release of IDS that will make it easier to port and maintain applications that must run against multiple vendors' databases.

Enhanced IDS and WebSphere Integration:

WebSphere Application Server and IDS are today a fully supported combination: a combination that marries the best-in-class web development environment of WebSphere with both IDS 7 and 9. We will continue to work closely with the WebSphere development team to ensure the feature development of both product lines are integrated.

Leveraging IBM Technology:

The IDS team is leveraging the IBM technology base to improve IDS 9.40. A key example of this is that IDS 9.40 will take advantage of the IBM Unicode implementation. In just one release, IDS's conformance to Unicode, from 1.x to 3.x, will be dramatically improved.

IDS Version 9.50 & IDS Version 9.60

The IDS team is hard at work on product futures beyond IDS 9.40. Your input is always desired. The future of IDS depends on building products that our customers require. If you wish to provide input regarding future IDS functionality, contact your sales team or your local technical support office. They will then forward your feature requests to product management and to the development team.

What are our early thoughts on IDS 9.50? We will continue to collaborate within IBM to improve IDS security, to add more SQL compatibility features, to further raise the

performance bar, and, of course, to take advantage of IBM's leading WebSphere technologies. IDS excels in ease of administration features. By working to bring the IBM's SMART self-managing concepts to the IDS roadmap as well as the DB2 roadmap, IDS will become even easier to administer. And by bringing key features like IDS style replication for high availability to DB2, it will be easier for customers and business partners to take advantage of DB2 for new applications.

In summary,

2003	2004	2005	2006

IDS 9.4   9.5   9.6 ○ ○ ○ 9.x

Scalability	e-business DB	Market, Technology,and
Performance Enhancements	enhancements	Customer Driven requirements
Security	Increased integration with	
Web Services support	IBM SW	
	MQ Series interfaces	