

The Integrated Debugger is part of the IBM WebSphere Development Studio Client for iSeries (WDSC is the short form). This presentation gives an overview of the Integrated Debugger and its features.



This presentation first gives a high level overview of WDSC and where the Integrated Debugger fits in, as well as a look at the different ways to start the debugger and at its features.



The Advanced edition of Development Studio Client V5.1, and Development Studio V5.1, will be available October 17, 2003.

The difference of Development Studio Client Advanced over Development Studio Client is that it has additional tools (blue boxes with asterisks) and some enhancements to existing iSeries tools (green boxes with asterisks). The majority of the additional tools are related to Enterprise Java Bean (EJB) development. You'll see later that Development Studio Client Advanced is based on WebSphere Application Developer (Application Developer) versus WebSphere Studio Site Developer (Site Developer).



Here you see that Development Studio Client is based on WebSphere Studio Site Developer, while Development Studio Client Advanced is based on WebSphere Studio Application Developer.

The Workbench is based on the open-source Eclipse technology. It is not for sale, but is the basis of all IBM WebSphere Studio products, and is available to business partners.

Site Developer is IBM's entry level offering based on eclipse, and it is for building dynamic Web sites out of non-EJB Java. Application Developer extends Site Developer and adds support for EJBs. Application Developer-Integration Edition extends Application Developer and adds support for JCA Connectors and for Workflow. Enterprise Developer extends Application Developer-Integration Edition and adds support for S/390 and Enterprise Generation Language (EGL), the follow-on to VisualAge Generator.



WSDC ships with 7 different debuggers, each one for a different user scenario.

Integrated iSeries Debugger – for all your host applications in RPG, Cobol, CL, C and C++

Java iSeries Debugger - for your Java development

WAS debug adapter - for EJBs, JSPs and servlets running on WAS

IBM Distributed Debugger and OLT – for Was 3.5, Java JNI calls and CODE users

Compiled language debugger - for workstation development

Java Script debug adapter – server side Java Script with WAS debug adapter Active Script debugger





In a typical scenario, the user makes some changes to the source, runs a verify and compile and then debugs the program.

All these tasks are integrated into the RSE and can be invoked from menu items, tool buttons or pop up menus.





You can run and debug programs from the Remote Systems view or the iSeries Table view in three ways:

- In a batch job
- •In an interactive job
- •In a server job

In the third case, running the program will use the same job as the Remote System Explorer communications server job. With batch and interactive jobs, you cannot monitor the status as easily, however, you do not tie up your communications server and you are notified when the program command ends. Batch jobs work as you would expect and do not require any initial setup.

Note: A multi-threaded debug session creates a new server job and this way keeps the RSE communications server job free for other tasks.



Depending on the debugging mode you selected, the application will run in different jobs. Debugging in batch or interactive uses the same type of job as running the application.

Debugging Interactive requires a 5250 emulation session where the STRRSESVR command has been run.

For multi-threaded applications, instead of using the RSE server job, the debugger creates a BCI job and calls your application in that job.

Selecting debug as job allows the user to attach to a job on the iSeries. This can be a batch, interactive, multi-threaded or even Java job.

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When the debugger is invoked from the pop up menu, it will start for the selected program, step into it and terminate the debug session when the program ends.

For service programs, a dialog is displayed to collect information about the starting program.



- If you selected Debug as Interactive but there is currently no interactive RSE session, a message is displayed informing you that there is no such session and also giving you instructions how to remedy the situation.
- Tip: You can copy the command from the message (STRRSESVR NAME(yourServerName)) and paste it into the 5250 command line.



Once the STRRSESVR command has been run, your 5250 session is associated with the RSE server and blocked from other use. The screen will look similar to the one above.

If you want control over the 5250 session back, use the pop up menu of one of the RSE subsystems (iSeries Objects, iSeries Jobs, iSeries Commands or IFS Files) and select 'Release Interactive job'.



When you run an interactive program, the program waits for input from the 5250 emulation session.



This is the Remote System Explorer perspective. The Remote System view is the primary drill-down view, similar to PDM. You double-click a member to open the built-in LPEX editor shown in the middle. Notice the Outline view to the right. When you click on an element in the Outline view, the cursor is positioned to that element in the editor. The Table view below shows a PDM like list of the selected object. There are other tabs behind the Table view such as the Error List, and the iSeries Commands Log. As you can see there are numerous useful views in the Remote System Explorer perspective. You can launch the debugger from a pop up menu which is available for programs and service programs in the RSE view or the Table view as well as from the pop up menu of a job.



This is the iSeries Projects perspective. The navigator view on the left is the primary view that drives the other views. It lists all the local files in the project. The LPEX editor is the same rich editor we saw for the Remote System Explorer.

When editing is complete and the project is pushed to the library and built, the build job is monitored in the job status window. When the build job is finished, you select the job and right click to see it's error list, which uses the same iSeries Error List window as the Remote System Explorer.

The debugger can be invoked from the pop up menu of the RSE view in the Project perspective.





The Debug perspective contains the tools and views to debug a program. It opens when you start the debugger. Here you see the call stack and source view. There are several other views you can choose. For example, Breakpoints, Monitors, Storage.



Here we see the common Eclipse Debug perspective, which is being used to debug an RPG program. The common debug user interface has been connected to the iSeries debug engine in Version 5.0, to offer a common and compelling debug story for OPM/ILE RPG and COBOL and CL, and ILE C and C++.

In the upper left pane is the call stack, much like option 11 in the OS/400's WRKACTJOB. It shows the calls that reflect your current program execution. When you double click an item in the stack, its source (if available) is shown in the source pane in the middle. The upper right is where all the various views are for working with data contents, breakpoints etc.. The middle is the debugger source view, with source executable (debug) lines in blue, others in green. The current line of execution is highlighted, and breakpoints appear as a dot with a check mark in the left margin.

Although not part of the common Debug Perspective, the Properties view contains valuable information about the selected object, which could be a breakpoint selected in the Breakpoints view, an entry selected in the call stack, etc. To add the Properties view, click on the menu item **Window** and **Show View** on the pull down menu, select **Other** from the submenu , expand **Basic**, select **Properties** and click OK.





To monitor a variable, select it in the source by double clicking and use the Monitor Expression menu option.



You can also monitor a variable from the Monitor Expression dialog, which is available from the Monitors view. The dialog is pre-filled with any variable tht is selected in the source. This dialog is especially useful when you want to monitor one specific array element or an element of a structure.



When the value of a variable changes, it will be highlighted in red. You can change the value of a variable while debugging by double clicking on the value in the Monitors view. You can also change the representation of the variable for example to hexadecimal.



To display the storage starting with the address of a selected variable use the Monitor Storage menu option.

Note: Teraspace enabled programs will allow you to modify the storage content.



The Variables view contains the local variables that are currently in scope. Note: This feature is supported for C, C++ and Java.

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You can only set breakpoints at executable lines. All executables lines are displayed in blue.

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You can also set conditional breakpoints. The frequency allows you to limit the number of stops. Specifying an Expression will only stop program execution when the condition is true. The type of expression allowed depends on the programming language.





Watch breakpoints allow you to stop program execution when the value of the watched variable changes. The program stops at the line after the change occurred.

All breakpoints are listed in the Breakpoints view and can be manipulated from there, i.e. they can be disabled, enabled, removed and line breakpoints can be modified.

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This is the dialog for edit breakpoints. Enter the library name and select Program or Service Program. The breakpoint is shown as a dot in the prefix area. If there is an active debug session, the breakpoint will be set in that session and there will be no marker in the editor. The breakpoint is then listed in the Breakpoints view in the Debug perspective.



You use service entry points when you wish to debug an application that makes use of the Toolbox or multiple jobs. Examples of cases where you would want to use a service entry point include:

•Applications that are invoked by a Toolbox program call. In this case, you would set a service entry point in the application that will be called by the Java application. When the application is called and the code where the service entry point is set is about to execute, the debugger can take control of the application and stop at that line. With this technique, you can put the program invoked by the Toolbox under debug when you do not know which job it will be running in.

•Programs that are spawned by other programs. In this case, you would set a service entry point in the application that will be spawned. When the program is spawned and the line where the service entry point is set is about to execute, operation will be suspended and the debugger will be able to gain control of the program and stop at that line. When a service entry point is set, it is triggered when the application not currently under debug is called.

To set a service entry point, start a debug session for the program. Select **Add Service Entry Point** from the pop-up menu of the source or the prefix area for the line where you want your program to stop. This will invoke the **Add Service Entry Point** dialog box, which displays the program, module, source file, and line number of the service entry point that will be created. In this dialog box, specify the user profile for which the service entry point will be activated. By default, the user profile is set to *CURRENT (the user profile for the current debug session).

Note: Whenever the program gets invoked with the specified userid regardless in which job it is running, the program will be stopped at the line with the Service Entry breakpoint and the Integrated Debugger on your workstation will start a debug session for the specified program.



You can debug all sorts of applications such as any batch program, a WebFaced application or a Web application.

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The Programs view lists all programs, modules and procedures of the current debug session. You can use the Add Program dialog to add programs, service programs and Java classes to your debug session. Click the plus sign to bring up the dialog. The pop up menu of a program, service program or Java class allows you to remove the selected entry from the debug session. The initial program and the one you are currently stopped at cannot be removed.

Double clicking on a source or procedure entry displays its source.







You can start the Debugger in several ways: direct from the Remote Systems view, or from the Launch Configuration dialog. Starting directly from the pop up menu does not allow you to specify parameters to be passed to the program. The Launch Configuration dialog allows you to modify how the program is invoked including to specify parameters.

When you invoke the debugger from the pop up menu, a default launch configuration called My iSeries program is created with the information of the selected object.

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In the How To Start page of the Launch Configuration you specify the command that invokes your application. By default, this page contains a call command for the selected program. You can modify this command to add parameters or you could specify a different command or program that invokes your application. You can use the Prompt button to get a prompt dialog for the specified command.



The Advanced page allows you the set an IFS source path so that the debugger does not have to prompt you for the source location. The different elements of the path are listed in form of a table. The buttons on the right enable you to reorder the entries, edit or remove them.

Normally the debugger is able to resolve the address or hostname of your workstation. However, if your workstation has more than one IP address, for example when you are connecting to the iSeries via VPN,



Selecting Debug Job from the pop up menu will create a launch configuration with the name My iSeries job. If you selected a job in the RSE, this job will be put into debug mode and when prompted, you start your application in that job. Step into is selected which means that the debugger stops at the first executable statement it encounters. Terminate debug session on program completions is not available in this case since the debugger was started for a job, not a program.

If you want to debug a program in a specific job, you have to use the iSeries: Debug Job Launch Configuration and specify job and program.

Note: There is no 'How To Start' page in the job launch configuration. It is up to the user to start the application in the specified job when prompted to do so.



Changes to the library list affect the RSE server job as well as jobs submitted to Batch and BCI jobs created to debug multi-threaded applications.

The interactive RSE session uses the library list that is set for the 5250 session before the STRRSESVR command is run. Added to that list are the libraries that are set in the Properties. Changes to the properties settings will be used after the connection has been disconnected and connected again.

Tip: You can create multiple connections to the same iSeries host and set different properties for each one.

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Check the 'Reuse editor when debugging source code' check box if you want only one tab for multiple source in the debug editor. Switching to a different source can then be done from the call stack or the Programs view. If de-selected, each source will have its own tab and selecting its tab will display the source.

Check the 'Remove terminated launches when a new launch is created' check box, to delete the messages in the call stack that belong to terminated debug sessions. That way only the currently active sessions are listed in the call stack.

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By default, Update production files is not selected. Check the check box to allow the debugger to update production files.

If your workstation has more than one IP address, the debugger may not be able to resolve the workstation's host name or IP address. In this case, select Specify host name of your workstation and enter either the host name or IP address in the entry field.



The port number specified in Remote Systems -> Communications is used by the RSE communications daemon which includes the debugger communication. If you are working from behind a firewall, opening the specified port will give you access to the debugger.







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Photographs shown are of engin	ieering prototypes. Changes may be incorporated in production	ות models.	
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