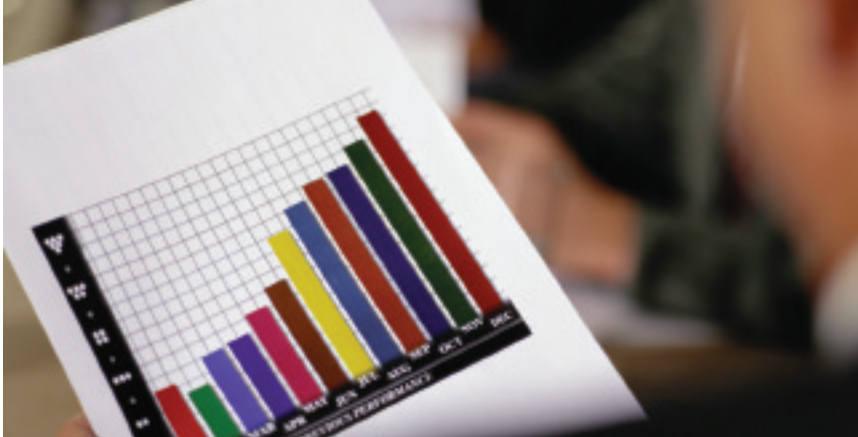


Visualize and manipulate your business data
without MIS/IT support



IBM Office Connect Personal Edition, Version 3.0, for Microsoft Windows



Ideal for small businesses, IBM Office Connect Personal Edition helps improve decision making by turning large volumes of data into easy-to-understand Excel graphs, charts and spreadsheets.

Highlights

- **Provides a front-end tool for databases as an affordable add-in to Microsoft Excel, ideal for small businesses**
- **Enables users to bind spreadsheet cells to fields in database tables**
- **Allows efficient retrieval and updating of data from multiple databases, with delivery to the same spreadsheet**
- **Supports SQL92 data types and databases with ODBC/OLEDB drivers.**

Get a clear picture of your data

Your business is well established and your goods and services command great loyalty. And yet, you still need hard numbers to prove your company's value. Microsoft Excel is a frequently used tool for visualizing, formatting and presenting such data in a spreadsheet format. But transforming business data from a relational database for visualization and presentation in Excel can be difficult, requiring costly, customized middleware solutions and tools, as well as in-depth knowledge of database concepts and structured query language (SQL). This can be a tall order if your business is small and resources are limited.

IBM Office Connect™ Personal Edition, Version 3.0 resolves these challenges, integrating seamlessly with Excel to provide a simple, intuitive environment for developing and deploying Excel-based applications requiring database connectivity in a two-tier architecture. Using Office Connect, Excel users can effortlessly retrieve and manipulate data from databases without having to know SQL.

Minimal learning curve means faster ROI

Knowledgeable Excel users can install and use Office Connect without specialized training, accelerating the return on investment (ROI) for your business. It also offers:

- *An easy-to-use GUI featuring drag-and-drop technology for accessing databases and other data sources*
- *A standard interface and output format which leverages your organization's skill and comfort with spreadsheet technology.*

With Office Connect, users can populate Excel worksheets with data retrieved from IBM Informix® Dynamic Server™ (IBM IDS), IBM DB2® Universal Database™ and any other database for which there is an ODBC/OLEDB driver.



Rather than writing macros with SQL embedded in them to query the database, Office Connect users can visually bind selected fields from a database table to columns in a spreadsheet. On the same spreadsheet, different cell ranges can be bound to tables residing in multiple databases. This capability enables users to graphically select which columns to display in the worksheets and the number of rows to be returned from database queries. The visual interface then automatically generates SQL statements to retrieve, update and insert data.

Cost-effective and function-rich

Office Connect provides many convenient and cost-saving features:

- *The Query Builder component enables users to visually create SQL statements. Users can create joins and dynamic or static filters, and specify sorts, group by and aggregates.*
- *Manual and automatic re-sync options allow users to refresh Excel worksheet data on demand or at predefined intervals. Users can refresh data from individual worksheets or an entire workbook, at intervals ranging from one second to one day.*
- *A facility to bind a parameter in the SQL to a cell in the spreadsheet allows creation of dynamic queries. Using this ability to construct QBE, you can build master detail types of scenarios.*

With Office Connect, users can also retrieve time-series data from IBM IDS in conjunction with the IBM Informix Time Series DataBlade™ module in an Excel worksheet.

System requirements

Office Connect Personal Edition, Version 3.0 runs on an Intel®-based PC with a Pentium® CPU or greater (single CPU is sufficient), 64 MB of RAM and 35 MB of disk space for minimal installation, 50 MB for typical installation and 80 MB for custom installation. It is supported by Microsoft® Windows® 95 or 98 (with the DCOM98 patch installed), Microsoft Windows NT® 4.0 Workstation or Server (with Service Pack 3 or higher) and Microsoft Windows 2000 (Professional or Enterprise). It also requires Microsoft Excel 97 (with Service Pack 1 or higher) or Excel 2000.

Know where your business stands—right now

Businesses today survive on an ability to manipulate their data to glean insights into patterns and trends. Office Connect Personal Edition is a complete tool with an attractive price-performance ratio that enables small businesses to use Excel to easily visualize and manipulate their business data.

For more information

Please contact your IBM marketing representative or an IBM Business Partner, or call 1-800 IBM CALL within the U.S. Also, visit our Web site at ibm.com/software/data/informix/tools/officeconnect



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