



## Application Development Tools

### **IBM Informix 4GL (4GL) Family**

The IBM Informix 4GL family provides a character based, fourth-generation application development environment that includes the Rapid Development System, Interactive Debugger, and 4GL Compiler. 4GL continues to be a predominant application development tool in the Informix development community. Showing IBM's continued commitment to the established 4GL customer base, IBM released version 7.31.UC1 in January 2002. Features included support for long ids, NCHAR and NVARCHAR, among others.

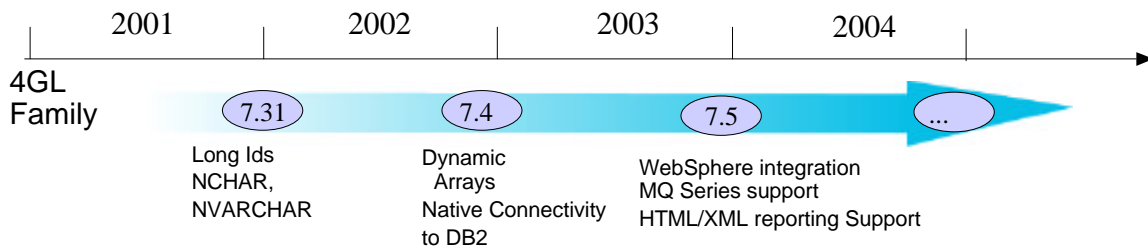
IBM considers 4GL a strategic application development tool for Informix servers and soon for DB2 as well. Support and enhancements will continue for as long as customers and partners require.

Development is currently underway for 4GL to support DB2 as a database for new application development - we anticipate that this will be available in the next release, 7.4, targeted for late 2002. Also included in the 7.4 release is support for dynamic arrays. These enhancements provide the opportunity for both the Informix and DB2 application development communities to take advantage of the power of Informix 4GL in new application development.

Based on feedback from the International Informix Users Group (IIUG), IBM is investigating the support of 4GL in the WebSphere family of products, targeted for a release in 2003. Also under consideration for a future release is support for additional datatypes, like CLOBs.

Informix 4GL Version 4.2 customers will soon be able to take advantage of features only provided in 4GL Version 7.x family as we add new features, like local loop-back support, in order to better support the combination of 4GL Version 7.x and OnLine 5.

In summary,



### **Four J's Business Development Suite (formerly Informix Dynamic 4GL)**

In December 2001, IBM signed a Software Remarketing Agreement with Four J's Development Tools for the rights of IBM to remarket Four J's Business Development Suite (BDS). Under Informix, this product was known as Informix Dynamic 4GL. It was a means to quickly and easily recompile 4GL applications to a variety of graphical application development environments, including those that are Windows, HTML and Java based. IBM is currently selling and supporting Version 3.20, released to market early in 2002.

IBM intends to keep current with the newest releases of BDS, expecting newer releases to be available from Four J's within 2002 and beyond. Customers under current Informix Dynamic 4GL maintenance contracts can upgrade their licenses to BDS through June 20, 2002 at no-charge (some restrictions may apply based on existing contract terms). Contact your sales team or local support center for more information.

### **IBM Informix SQL (I-SQL)**

IBM Informix SQL consists of five application development tools: a schema editor, menu builder, SQL editor, forms builder, and report writer. IBM intends to continue to sell and support this product. IBM's commitment to I-SQL is evidenced by a recent maintenance release, Version 7.31 in January 2002.

IBM intends to support I-SQL for existing customers and business partners for as long as they require. No further enhancements are planned at this time.