IBM QMF for Windows for IBM *@server* iSeries, V7.2 − Business Intelligence Starts Here!

Overview

QMF™ for Windows® for iSeries, V7.2, is a multipurpose enterprise query environment for large-scale business reporting, data sharing, server resource protection, powerful application development, and native connectivity to DB2® iSeries databases.

QMF for Windows provides an intuitive "quick start" interface to build queries and business reports and share them with other QMF users.

Java™-based query allows users to create queries or execute predefined queries. A point-and-click, drag-and-drop interface to QMF form creation makes it easy to aggregate, group, and format directly in the query results.

QMF for Windows can also be used as the high-performance data manipulation engine behind most important commercial or custom Windows applications such as spreadsheets, desktop databases, and executive information systems.

Key QMF for Windows for iSeries, V7.2, enhancements include:

- ODBC connectivity

- Addition of inner, outer, left, right, and full joins in Prompted Query

- Native browser-based charting capability

- SQL Expression Builder

- Support for the @IF REXX function

- Secondary authorization ID improvements

- Improved catalog administration

QMF for Windows powerful API allows developers to rapidly build data access, update applications, and fully exploit DB2 performance, SQL syntax, and advanced database performance techniques such as static SQL, uncommitted read, and DB2 stored procedures.

Server-based pricing, unlimited users per server, and centralized install make this a top choice in Business Intelligence tools.

Planned Availability Date

March 29, 2002

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Description

QMF for Windows V7.2 offers:

- New capabilities for visualizing data spatially and with charts

- Connection options to ODBC-compliant data sources

- New administrative options

- Great ease of use

- Significant new functions for charting and creating and running QMF objects with Java-enabled browsers

Browser-Based Querying and Charting: Users may now perform more operations in their QMF objects using a Web browser, including creating and sharing queries and formatting results. A Java-based charting component is also available on demand when using QMF for Windows browser-based querying.

Users may now create, save, and run QMF prompted queries with their browsers, and use QMF forms to format query results with either a default or a previously saved QMF form.

QMF queries created in the Windows interface of QMF for Windows and formatted with summaries, roll-ups, colors and other features may now be run using the QMF for Windows browser interface with all formatting intact.

Administrators may now also govern and track queries run by QMF for Windows browser-based users, using the same administrative interface presently used to track Windows-based and OS/390® based QMF users.

Connectivity: In addition to existing support for multiple DB2 database platforms through DRDA® and CLI connectivity, QMF for Windows users can now use their QMF objects to read data from ODBC-compliant data sources. This makes simultaneously available, through a single, powerful interface, the DB2 databases that serve the entire enterprise as well as departmental servers in mixed environments such as Informix and Microsoft™ SQL Server. In addition, ODBC-compliant PC applications, such as desktop databases and spreadsheets become available as query data sources.

This new capability adds considerable breadth to the portability and compatibility of QMF objects across hardware, network, operating system, and database platforms, and dramatically expands end-user options for business intelligence gathering.

Ease-of-Use and Interface Enhancements: Multiple interface enhancements bring even greater productivity to QMF for Windows users:

- New ODBC data sources (described above) appear to the end user in the QMF for Windows database server list, expanding the choice of disparate data sources while keeping them easy to manage and target for use.

- A new Expression Builder (available when manually authoring SQL and at locations within the Prompted Query environment of QMF for Windows) assists users in creating valid SQL, however complex, including new commands required for supporting spatial data. The Expression Builder is sensitive to the context of cursor location in a partially-built query and is "platform sensitive" by only offering expressions that are valid for the DB2 database server version the user is connected to at the time.

- Multiple enhancements to the QMF for Windows Report Center, including the ability to view query and procedure text; create comments for reports, preset and create charts and pivot tables in Lotus® 1-2-3® or Microsoft Excel; and specify servers to be displayed.

- Prompted Query includes Expression Builder capabilities described above; the addition of inner, outer, left, right and full joins; expanded sort conditions that include columns not selected, as well as expressions, spatial predicates; and new displayed column information to include data type and label.

- Query result display improvements include wrapping displayed values within a column, a vertical (bottom, middle, top) alignment option; the ability to "go to" a certain point in the data such as a page break or search within highlighted data; an option to display data in hex or binary format; a "zoom edit" feature that assists in edition hex or binary format values; and the allowance of a secondary currency symbol specified by the user within a report.

- Miscellaneous improvements, including the ability to use the DRAW command in an already open query which allows the addition of more tables to existing SQL on the fly; ability to open multiple documents in one File-Open operation; display recently used objects along with recently used files in the File menu; support for the REXX @IF function and for using the Fast Save Data function within a QMF procedure; and descriptions displayed for Global Variables.

Administrative Enhancements: In addition to governing and tracking of browser-based users, the QMF for Windows Administrator has the following new capabilities:

- Support for maintaining the entire QMF catalog on a single DB2 server. The QMF objects in the catalog appear and behave as before to the user, but administrators do not need to maintain a catalog on each DB2 server to be accessed by QMF for Windows. This catalog centralization includes queries designed for ODBC data sources, which will by default query the designated ODBC data source unless explicitly redirected to another data source by the end user at the time of query execution.

- Other administrative improvements include:

  - Improved interface for defining and maintaining database servers

  - Improved support for Secondary AUTHIDs

For further details on new features found in QMF for Windows V7.2, consult the product online help facility.

Product Positioning

Positioning of QMF for Windows is summarized by the phrase "Business Intelligence (BI) starts here." Reliable query and reporting tools that are easy to set up and use remain important to DB2 customers. Offering such a tool designed specifically for the DB2 enterprise can be expected to enhance the success of any BI strategy. By offering fast query performance from the Windows environment, execution of QMF for Windows commands, and extensive governing control over user actions and DB2 resource consumption, QMF for Windows is a natural selection over and above any other for customers who want to extend their industrial-strength capabilities to applications in the Windows environment and on the Web.

QMF for Windows is also offered as a separately orderable product, licensed to access DB2 UDB workstation databases (such as DB2 for Windows NT®, DB2 for AIX®, and so on) as well as an S/390® license to access any DB2.

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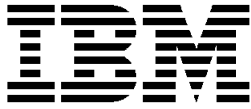
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Education Support

A QMF™ for Windows® for End Users class (U4520) and a QMF for Windows for Advanced Users class (U4521) are available.

For IBM class schedules, call 800-IBM-TEACH (800-426-8322) or access the Web at:

http://www.ibm.com/services/learning

To enroll in IBM internal classes, access the Web at:

http://w3.education.ibm.com

QMF for Windows onsite product, administration, and configuration education is provided for a fee from the following IBM Business Partner:

Rocket Software, Inc.
Two Apple Hill Drive
Natick, MA 01760
508-655-4321

Offering Information

Product information is available through Offering Information (OITOOL) at:

http://www.ibm.com/common/ssi

Publications

Displayable Softcopy Publications: QMF for Windows for iSeries, V7.2, publications are offered in displayable softcopy form. All unlicensed manuals are included. The displayable manuals are part of the basic machine-readable material. The files are shipped on a single CD-ROM.

To order hardcopy publications, contact your IBM representative or visit the IBM Publications Web site at:

http://www.ibm.com/shop/publications/order

To view or download a free PDF version of the publication, visit the QMF Web site at:

http://www.ibm.com/software/data/qmf/ library.html

Technical Information

Hardware Requirements: Server hardware requirements are those required to run DB2® for iSeries (V4R4, or later).

Workstation hardware requirements are those needed to run the Windows software as described in the **Software Requirements** section.

QMF for Windows for iSeries, V7.2, requires approximately 35 MB of free disk space on each Windows workstation, and about the same memory as needed by a typical Windows suite application.

Software Requirements: This section describes the minimum software requirements for QMF for Windows.

QMF for Windows runs on 32-bit platforms as follows:

- Microsoft™ Windows 95
- Microsoft Windows 98
- Microsoft Windows NT® 4.0
- Microsoft Windows 2000
- Microsoft Windows ME
- Microsoft Windows XP

QMF for Windows can connect to DB2 via a direct connection over TCP/IP or SNA LU 6.2 or via the Call Level Interface (CLI) provided by the DB2 UDB Runtime Client. The following DB2 servers are supported:

Product	Version
DB2 for AS/400®	V4.3, V4.4
DB2 for iSeries	V5.1

In addition, QMF for Windows can connect to DB2 for IBM @server iSeries via ODBC.

QMF for Windows requires at least one of the following on each user machine:

- An SNA product that provides a CPI-C interface
- A TCP/IP product that provides a WinSock Version 1.1 interface
- DB2 UDB Runtime Client, V6.1, or later
- One or more ODBC 2.x or 3.x drivers

Use of QMF for Windows with natural language queries requires English Wizard 3.1 or EasyAsk 6.0 from IBM Business Partner Linguistic Technologies.

Use of spreadsheet application add-ins with QMF for Windows requires one or both of:

- Microsoft Excel 7.0, or later
- Lotus® 1-2-3® Millennium Edition, or later

Use of charting in spreadsheet applications with QMF for Windows requires one or both of:

- Microsoft Excel 97, or later
- Lotus 1-2-3 Millennium Edition, or later

QMF Query for Java™ requires WebSphere™ Application Server 3.02 or 3.5, running on one of the following platforms:

- Microsoft Windows NT 4.0 or Microsoft Windows 2000
- AIX®
- Linux
- iSeries V4R4, or later
- OS/390® 2.5, or later (with UNIX System Services)
- z/OS™ 1.1, or later (with UNIX System Services)

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In addition, a JDBC driver must be installed and configured on the application server, enabling connections to any of the database server products supported by QMF for Windows.

Performance Considerations: All factors relevant to performance are described in the *Installing and Managing QMF for Windows* publication that ships with the product.

Planning Information

Query Manager/400 Migration Tool: Rocket Software developed the Query Manager/400 Migration Tool to allow businesses that have accumulated libraries of query objects (queries and forms) in Query Manager for AS/400 to immediately convert and use those objects in the QMF for Windows query environment.

This tool quickly creates copies of existing Query Manager/400 objects and saves them as QMF for Windows objects. The new objects can be used immediately in QMF for Windows while the Query Manager/400 objects remain intact.

To obtain a copy of the Query Manager/400 Migration Tool, access the following Web site:

http://www.rocketsoftware.com/qmf

You may also contact Rocket Software at 508-655-4321 in Natick, Massachusetts, USA.

Packaging: QMF for Windows for iSeries, V7.2, is distributed in one package with the following:

- IBM International Program License Agreement (GC27-0762)

- Proof of Entitlement

- One CD-ROM (all supported languages are shipped on the same CD-ROM)

- Two publications:

  - *Getting Started with QMF for Windows*
  - *Installing and Managing QMF for Windows*

Security, Auditability, and Control

The announced product uses the security and auditability features of the supported database servers and their operating systems.

The customer is responsible for evaluation, selection, and implementation of security features, administrative procedures, and appropriate controls in application systems and communication facilities.

Ordering Information

QMF for Windows uses the iSeries tiered pricing model.

Notes

- Billing features for QMF for Windows for iSeries, V7.2, are unchanged from the previous release. Refer to Software Announcement 200-179, dated June 12, 2000.

- You must acquire a license for each iSeries server you wish to access. For each QMF for Windows for iSeries license you may attach an unlimited number of QMF for Windows clients which can access an unlimited number of DB2 for iSeries databases residing on the licensed iSeries server.

Program Name: QMF for Windows for iSeries, V7.2 (5697-G24)

The billing features for QMF for Windows for iSeries, V7.2, are unchanged from V7.1. Refer to Software Announcement 200-179, dated June 12, 2000.

The V7.1 supply features have been replaced with a single V7.2 supply feature as indicated below.

Distribution Media

Media	Feature Number
Multilingual CD-ROM	5869

National Language Version (NLV) Features

Description	Language Feature
Multilingual CD-ROM	2924

Customization Options: Select the appropriate feature numbers to customize your order with delivery options desired. These features can be specified on the initial or MES orders.

Description	Feature Number
Initial Shipments	
Serial number only (suppresses shipment of media and documentation)	3444
Ship media only (suppresses initial shipment of documentation)	3470
Ship documentation only (suppresses initial shipment of media)	3471
Expedite Shipments	
Local IBM office expedite (for IBM use only)	3445
Customer expedite process charge ($30 charge for each product)	3446

Expedite shipments will be processed to receive 72-hour delivery from the time IBM Software Delivery and Fulfillment (SDF) receives the order. SDF will then ship the order via overnight air transportation.

Terms and Conditions

Licensing: IBM International Program License Agreement. Proofs of Entitlement are required for all authorized use.

Limited Warranty: Yes

Program Services: Available until March 29, 2004

Money-Back Guarantee: 30-day, money-back guarantee, applicable to the first instance per customer enterprise. The money-back guarantee will commence on the invoice date.

Copy and Use on Home/Portable Computer: No

Volume Orders (IVO): Yes, contact your IBM representative.

Passport Advantage Applies: No

Usage Restriction: Yes

You must acquire a license for each iSeries server you wish to access. For each QMF for Windows for iSeries license you may attach an unlimited number of QMF for Windows clients, which can access an unlimited number of DB2 for iSeries databases residing on the licensed iSeries server.

Software Maintenance Applies: No

IBM Operational Support Services — Support Line: No

AIX/UNIX® Upgrade Protection Applies: No

Entitled Upgrade for Current AIX/UNIX Upgrade Protection Licensees: No

iSeries Software Subscription Applies: Yes

Variable Charges Apply: Yes

Educational Allowance Available: Yes, 15% education allowance applies to qualified education institution customers.

Prices

QMF for Windows for iSeries, V7.2 (5697-G24): Charges for QMF for Windows for iSeries, V7.2, features are unchanged from the previous release. Refer to Software Announcement 200-179, dated June 12, 2000.

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Variable Charges: The applicable processor based one-time charge will be based on the group of the designated machine on which the program is licensed for use. If the program is designated to a processor in a group for which no charge is listed above, the charge of the next higher group listed applies. For movement to a machine in a higher group, an upgrade charge equal to the difference in the then current charges between the two groups will apply. For movement to a machine in a lower group, there will be no adjustment or refund of charges paid.

Customer Financing: IBM Global Financing offers attractive financing to credit-qualified commercial and government customers and Business Partners in more than 40 countries. IBM Global Financing is provided by the IBM Credit Corporation in the United States. Offerings, rates, terms, and availability may vary by country. Contact your local IBM Global Financing organization. Country organizations are listed on the Web;

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Note: Shipments will begin after the planned availability date.

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