Information Management software

Delivering realtime access to information.

IBM Infosphere Warehouse extreme workload management capabilities

Business requirements for information on demand are redefining

the requirements for data warehousing environments. In the past, only select "power" users needed access to business intelligence solutions, making it relatively easy to allocate processing power and meet user demands. Plus, companies often separated transactional data from data used for strategic initiatives, dividing the workload between two systems. Today, however, more users and applications need to run complex queries. And companies are realizing the benefits that a single unified warehouse of information can provide. But many data warehouse solutions are unable to support the increasing number of users and applications or the mixed workloads associated with supporting transactional and strategic processes.

These factors put pressure on IT departments to meet a growing number of service-level agreements (SLAs) for internal and external customers. A single data warehouse needs to serve virtually all of a company's users and applications, and if requests aren't handled properly, responsiveness to key decision makers or customers may suffer. And that's bad for competitiveness and the bottom line.

Which is worse: delaying a month-end report by five minutes or keeping a valuable customer on hold while a service representative waits for a response from the data server? The report can wait—key customers can't.

The status quo for workload management will no longer cut it. You need an automated and reliable approach that can enable users to leverage business intelligence for realtime operational processes as well as for strategic initiatives.
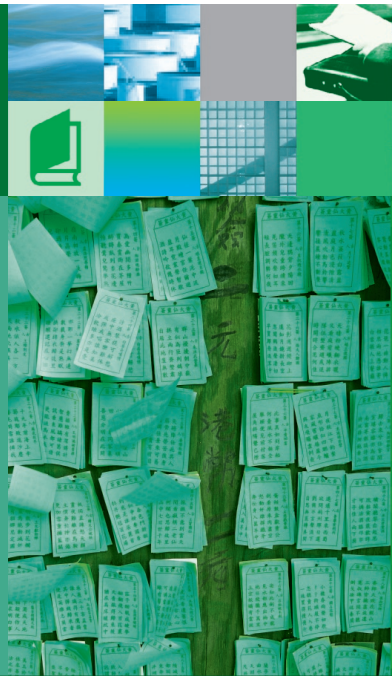
- **Supports operational and strategic processes simultaneously**

- **Delivers contextual insight to a broad set of users, helping to improve decision making**

- **Allows you to consolidate multiple datamarts and warehouses to help reduce costs**
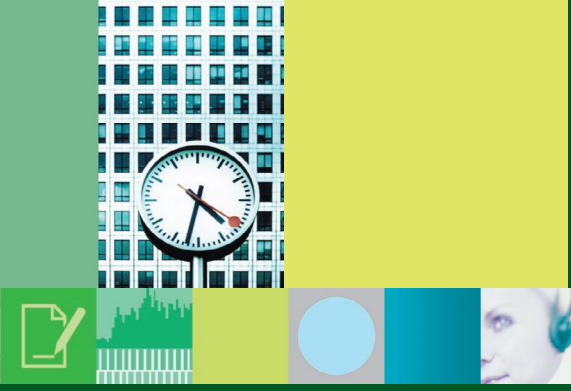
Providing both high performance and realtime insight

One company that lacked workload management capabilities experienced such significant slow-downs in warehouse response times that its executives made the decision not to risk inserting the warehouse into operational processes. That decision protected the data warehouse from performance issues, but it deprived the company of valuable, realtime information that could have made a significant positive impact on daily operations. With InfoSphere Warehouse, you won't have to decide between performance and realtime insight.

Delivering deep business insight to your business users

IBM InfoSphere™ Warehouse software is designed to provide insight without boundaries—without compromising data warehouse performance. It features a set of extreme workload management capabilities that can support your business information in a single data warehouse environment—without compromising performance. InfoSphere Warehouse workload management capabilities help you prioritize data serving based on business needs to produce predictable results and to help make sure that your business users and applications get what they need, when they need it.

IBM InfoSphere Warehouse is a comprehensive, multipurpose environment that allows you to access, analyze and act on virtually any type of information— structured and unstructured, operational and transactional, realtime and historical.

It enables you to reach farther into your business data; look deeply to find hidden relationships, patterns and trends; and act quickly using reliable, timely insight to drive sales, improve employee productivity, and strengthen and streamline relationships with customers, trading partners and suppliers while keeping risks in check.

Prioritizing workloads to support the needs of the business

With traditional data server solutions, it's difficult to balance the need to deliver realtime information to multiple users with the need to accommodate the technological strain that multiple users running queries puts on the database. With the advanced workload management capabilities in InfoSphere Warehouse, however, you can rank database queries according to business priority, helping to ensure that SLAs for key departments, customers and users are met while supporting the needs of

other users. For example, when two jobs are competing for the same resources, the job with the highest business priority is executed promptly, while the job with the lower priority is postponed until resources are available—reducing the impact of competing demands on overall database performance.

## Monitoring performance proactively to help you do more with less

To help ensure that your business needs are consistently met, InfoSphere Warehouse includes robust monitoring capabilities that enable you to proactively diagnose database issues and maintain optimal performance. These capabilities allow you to monitor your data server's capacity, determine what is going on in the system, identify potential problems and drill down into specific areas to find useful data for issue resolution.

InfoSphere Warehouse also enables you to monitor the database for certain conditions and to trigger actions if thresholds you have put in place are exceeded. For example, you can configure the database to abort a job that is taking too long to complete—which could indicate a possible problem—and try the job again at a later time. Thresholds therefore enable you to proactively maintain database performance, so you are not forced to react only after performance has begun to degrade.

These features help enable the database to predict what priority it should assign to any given request—before processing the request and potentially having a negative impact on performance. So InfoSphere Warehouse can help you deliver in-context insight to a broad set of users without compromising performance.

Consolidating workloads to lower costs

Suppose you need to consolidate your sales, marketing and financial reporting datamart environments into a single enterprise data warehouse to provide realtime updates from the warehouse to other key business applications. The workload management capabilities of InfoSphere Warehouse enable you to consolidate the workloads for these different business areas, while at the same time continuing to meet the SLAs for each group. Because InfoSphere Warehouse allows you to prioritize user and workload demands, you can share warehouse resources among a large group of applications and users. The potential results are reduced costs, a more holistic view of operations and an enhanced ability to analyze company performance across divisions and activities.
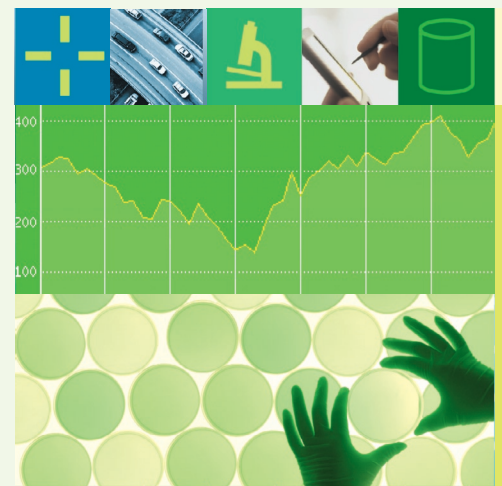
Why IBM?

IBM has the vision and the extensive industry experience to help you leverage the extreme workload management features built into InfoSphere Warehouse software. Committed to delivering a superior product along with quality services, IBM can help you significantly reduce the risks associated with transforming how your business captures, manages, uses and delivers information across your operations. In addition, IBM has a vast network of Business Partners that can deliver the support you need, as well as solutions that are designed to easily integrate with IBM technology and can help you get the most value from your investments.

For more information

To find out more about how the extreme workload management features included in IBM InfoSphere Warehouse software can help you do more with your data, contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit:

ibm.com/software/bi