IBM Information Server, Version 8.0: Virtualizing access to your enterprise data

Highlights

- ***Combine real-time data with your historical data in a single view***
- ***Gain immediate visibility into current data***
- ***Link legacy mainframe data with open source data and content***
- ***Extend the reach of information to other systems and applications***

Organizations face an information challenge that begins with locating information, getting it when needed in the form needed, and once found, discerning further insight from it. And this does not even address the concerns of information validity and control. The challenges only mount if businesses cannot ensure access to authoritative, consistent, timely and complete information.

IBM® Information Server is a revolutionary new software platform that helps you derive more value from the complex, heterogeneous information spread across your systems. It enables your organization to integrate disparate data and deliver trusted information wherever and whenever needed, in line and in context, to specific people, applications and processes. It helps business and IT personnel collaborate to understand the meaning, structure and content of any type of information across any source. It provides breakthrough productivity and performance for cleansing, transforming and moving this information consistently and securely throughout the enterprise, so it can be accessed and used in new ways to drive innovation, increase operational efficiency and lower risk.

Information is everywhere

Business process management, extended views of customer and products, regulatory compliance, mergers and acquisitions, and countless other initiatives and events are driving the need to integrate data. However, physical integration of corporate information is not always a requirement or is sometimes not possible for a variety of reasons—such as budget, resources and time. Other possible reasons include:

- ***Too big***–*Data from multiple sources is just too big to integrate on a permanent basis*
- ***Too ad hoc***–*Data is too varied and unpredictable to make an extract, transform and load (ETL) process worthwhile*
- ***Too proprietary***–*Data is owned by disparate entities/organizations*
- ***Too recent***–*Required data from multiple sources must not be updated while being read*

Industry-leading federation integrates information exactly where it resides

When physical information integration is not an option or requirement, or when you need to blend real-time data with historical data, you need virtual integration. IBM Information Server provides virtualized integration of heterogeneous data sources, enabling applications to access and integrate diverse data and content sources as if they were a single resource—regardless of where the information resides—while retaining the autonomy and integrity of the data and content sources. In essence, IBM Information Server enables you to access data anywhere in your enterprise—no matter where it resides … regardless of its format … regardless of vendor … without creating new databases and without disruptive changes to existing ones … using standard SQL and any tool that supports Java™ Database Connectivity/Open Database Connectivity (JDBC/ODBC)—while looking to the end user like a single database (see Figure 1).

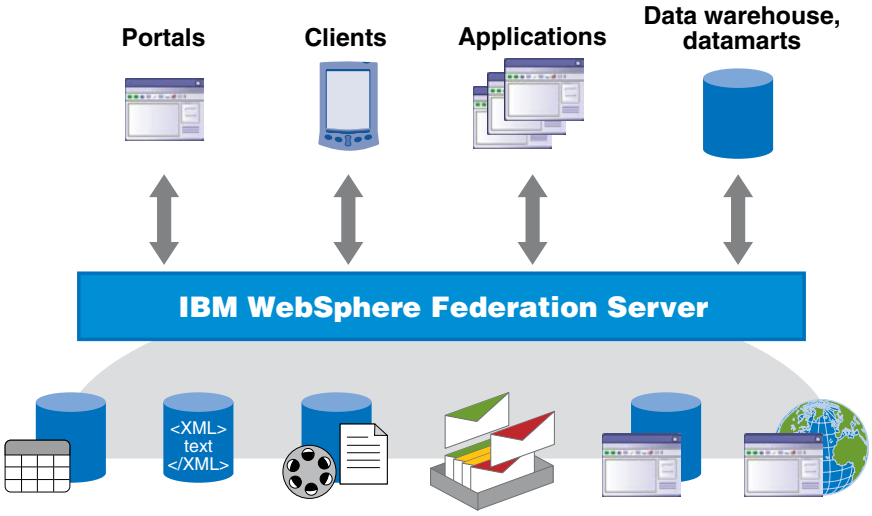

Figure 1. WebSphere Federation Server federates disparate sources

IBM Information Server delivers exactly what you need

IBM Information Server is *transparent* and *heterogeneous.* While it transparently accesses data from diverse sources including relational, structured and flat files, as well as XML, messages and Web services at the back end, it also interfaces with a wide variety of client applications, common analytical and reporting tools, development environments, portals and other standard IT infrastructure components at the front end.

As "middleware," it presents enterprise data to end users as if they were accessing a single data source, regardless of the number of sources actually being accessed and where and how the data is stored. IBM Information Server is *flexible* and *extensible*. Its Wrapper Development Toolkit enables almost any type of data source to be brought together without any disruption to data sources, existing applications and systems. IBM Information Server delivers *high function* with full query support against all data and *high performance* through the optimization of distributed queries.

Key IBM Information Server capabilities include:

- *Virtually integrating a wide variety of relational, nonrelational, Web and content sources*
- *Updating multiple relational sources with a single command*
- *Combining legacy mainframe data with relational and content sources*
- *Combining IBM DB2® XML data sources with other data sources*
- *Generating high-performance queries*

With IBM Information Server, enterprises can respond faster to market-breaking changes, quickly adapt to new business and organizational models—such as mergers, acquisitions, internal restructuring and database migrations—and accelerate time to market for multiple-source applications.

Access data through a unified view

IBM WebSphere® Federation Server, a product module of IBM Information Server, delivers virtualized access to data sources within the context of a complete information integration platform. It leverages a Service Oriented Architecture (SOA) to

IBM Information Server

- *Extends the data warehouse with real-time data*
- *Federates data from disparate database systems into a single consolidated virtual view*
- *Provides cross-departmental or corporate-wide views across multiple lines of business*
- *Rapidly prototypes a future enterprise data warehouse*

unlock information from individual silos, enabling it to be more accessible and consistent throughout the enterprise.

System requirements: IBM WebSphere Federation Server Version 9.1

WebSphere Federation Server supports the following operating systems: IBM AIX®, Linux®, Sun Solaris and Microsoft Windows®. For current, detailed hardware and software system requirements for these and other IBM Information Integration products, visit **ibm.com**/software/data/integration/federation_server

For more information

To learn more about IBM Information Integration Solutions, contact your IBM marketing representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit **ibm.com**/software/data/integration

Sources accessible via WebSphere Federation Server SQL-based federation

Relational data sources

- *IBM DB2 (for z/OS®, iSeries™ or LUW)*
- *IBM Informix® databases*
- *Oracle*
- *Open Database Connectivity (ODBC)–accessible sources*
- *Sybase SQL Server*
- *Sybase Adaptive Server Enterprise*
- *Microsoft® SQL Server™*
- *Teradata*

Mainframe data sources[1]

- *VSAM, IAM, Sequential*
- *IMS*
- *Software AG Adabas*
- *Computer Associates CA-Datacom*
- *Computer Associates CA-IDMS*

Content sources[2]

- *IBM DB2 Content Manager*
- *IBM DB2 Content Manager OnDemand*
- *IBM WebSphere MQ Workflow*
- *IBM Lotus® Domino.Doc®/Domino® Document Manager*
- *IBM Lotus Notes®*
- *Various FileNet sources*
- *EMC Documentum*
- *Microsoft Index Server/NTFS*
- *Open Text Livelink*
- *Stellent Content Server*
- *Interwoven TeamSite*
- *Hummingbird Enterprise DM*

Extensibility

- *C++ and Java Software Developers' Kits*

Packaged applications[3]

- *SAP, PeopleSoft, SIEBEL*

Life sciences sources

- *KEGG, Entrez, BLAST, BioRS*
- *HMMER, HMMSEARCH tool*

Other sources and formats

- *Web services*
- *WebSphere MQ message queues*
- *Microsoft Excel® spreadsheets*
- *Table-structured flat files*
- *XML documents*
- *OLE DB–accessible data sources*
- *Script output data (Perl, Python, and others)*

[1] Via separate license of IBM WebSphere Classic Federation Server for z/OS
[2] Via separate license of IBM WebSphere Information Integrator Content Edition
[3] Via separate license of IBM WebSphere Business Integration Adapters

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