



Achieving success in an on demand world includes having the ability to access critical business information whenever you need it. Scalable technology to handle the ever-increasing data required by the growing number of simultaneous users. A database with high performance, data replication and turnkey disaster recovery capabilities to deliver superior data availability. Industry-standard security mechanisms to protect data as well as provide easier user validation and verification. The ability to increase productivity with tools that help a small number of professionals manage a large number of systems. And integration with open-standards-based, leading-edge technology including Web services, Linux and autonomic computing.

IBM Informix® Dynamic Server, Version 9.4 continues IBM's twofold commitment to you: to provide new releases for as long as you need them and to deliver significant software improvements every 18 to 24 months. Informix Dynamic Server, Version 9.4 represents the latest evolution of the Informix Dynamic Scalable Architecture. With IBM Informix Dynamic Server, Version 9.4, you can lower total cost of ownership, shorten development cycles with rapid deployment capabilities and provide users with continuous availability—all helping you gain a competitive advantage.



Fewer investments, lower costs

Investing in Informix Dynamic Server technology offers numerous economic advantages, including fewer hardware investments and lower administrative costs. With larger databases being accessed by more concurrent users, the exceptional scalability of Informix Dynamic Server, Version 9.4 enables dynamic adjustments to core engine operating parameters—without degrading performance or increasing hardware requirements. In addition to improving performance, this scalability enables you to use today's large disk drives and eases administration overhead by significantly reducing the number of objects your database administrator must manage.

Informix Dynamic Server, Version 9.4 continues the IBM tradition of providing tools to help a small number of administrators manage a large number of systems. By eliminating, simplifying and


automating many tasks typically associated with an enterprise-class database, Informix Dynamic Server, Version 9.4 helps reduce the complexity, time, database administrator skills and cost associated with database management. The browser-based interface for Informix Dynamic Server, Informix Server Administrator, allows all common database administrator activities to be administered from anywhere on the network. In Version 9.4, this interface now supports Informix Storage Manager, enabling database administrators to edit and configure events and alarms to respond quickly to unexpected events. Automated backup and restore functions offer database administrators high-level data availability and restoration capabilities while eliminating many manual tasks. And new tape utilities help make maximum use of backup media by indicating how much data can be written to a compressing tape drive.

“Thanks to the superior thread-based technology and robust optimization features of Informix Dynamic Server, we were able to increase the availability rate of TCH’s online system from 74% to 99.1% in a single year, just by tuning and reconfiguring the database environment. Average transaction duration plummeted from seven seconds to less than half a second. And last year, when we relocated our entire data center to a larger facility to accommodate our growth, we accomplished the move with less than seven minutes of database downtime.”

—Stephen Cobb, senior administrator of systems and databases, TCH

Transportation Clearing House (TCH) provides financial services to the trucking industry,

remotely processing payment transactions at 3,400 truck fueling locations throughout North America. A majority-owned subsidiary of Flying J Corporation, TCH generates roughly 45% of its parent company's US\$7 billion in annual revenues. With Informix Dynamic Server, TCH has realized more than 500% growth in transactions—with no increase in staff—and a 100% increase in revenues, all in just three years. The company says it has achieved annual savings of more than US\$1.5 million in license fees and hundreds of thousands of dollars in database administration costs, compared to an Oracle solution. And Informix Dynamic Server has enabled TCH to avoid a planned US\$6 million restructuring project.



Informix Dynamic Server, Version 9.4 also eases application development by providing enhanced support of industry-standard SQL and continued support of the latest standards, like Java™ Database Connectivity (JDBC) and Open Database Connectivity (ODBC). And it continues to foster application development in a worldwide marketplace. New features support IBM Business Partners in publishing applications in virtually any language and in creating multinational applications. Major application vendors, including SAP, PeopleSoft, Baan and Lawson, have committed to supporting Informix Dynamic Server, Version 9.4.

A simple upgrade nets big benefits

Informix Dynamic Server, Version 9.4 is the fastest, most scalable, highest-performing release ever. A best-of-breed online transaction processing (OLTP) database to support enterprise and workgroup computing, Informix Dynamic Server has consistently served the information management needs of thousands of enterprises worldwide—from small back-office enterprise resource planning systems to life-critical

emergency response networks. Many of the largest retail chains deploy Informix Dynamic Server in their corporate data centers and in each store location. And financial institutions around the globe continue to rely on Informix Dynamic Server to manage accounts and to provide online banking services to customers.

Informix Dynamic Server, Version 9.4 provides the essential qualities—high performance and data availability—needed for today's always-available, Web-application-based OLTP. Informix Dynamic Server can also enhance your existing IBM software investments. By certifying Informix Dynamic Server with IBM DB2® Information Integrator and IBM DB2 Content Manager, and IBM WebSphere® integration middleware and IBM Tivoli® systems management software, IBM helps to ensure fast, efficient application development and distribution on a robust and scalable platform.

IBM supports Informix Dynamic Server with two major versions: Informix Dynamic Server, Version 7, of which the latest and final release is Informix

Dynamic Server, Version 7.31, and Informix Dynamic Server, Version 9, of which the current release is Informix Dynamic Server, Version 9.4. With the ability to upgrade the Informix Dynamic Server engine in minutes, transitioning from Version 7 to Version 9 is a simple, highly automated process. After performing testing and backup activities, your database and system administrators can shut down the database engine and restart it quickly to take advantage of the host of new features available in Informix Dynamic Server, Version 9.4. Standard upgrade testing and tuning are also recommended.

Superior data performance, scalability, availability and security

With Informix Dynamic Server, you can lower total cost of ownership by taking advantage of its self-managing database administration activities, shorten development cycles through the use of its rapid deployment capabilities, and gain uniform access to all information, regardless of location. IBM designed Informix Dynamic Server, Version 9.4 to deliver these business benefits through enhanced performance, scalability, availability and security for your data.

- *High performance*—With Version 9.4, Informix Dynamic Server exceeds its already high OLTP performance by 8 to 15 percent,* compared with any previous Informix Dynamic Server, Version 7 or Version 9 release, with more efficient use of large amounts of memory and even less contention between concurrent users.
- *Scalability*—Informix Dynamic Server, Version 9.4 has eliminated most of the previous data size limitations, providing faster performance and easier administration. One example of the enhanced scalability is the maximum size increase of an Informix Dynamic Server instance—from 4 terabytes to 128 petabytes.
- *Availability*—By enabling hot standby for catastrophic failover to work for all data types—as well as in conjunction

with the popular Informix Dynamic Server enterprise replication feature—Informix Dynamic Server, Version 9.4 helps ensure optimal data availability for mission-critical applications.

- *Security*—Informix Dynamic Server, Version 9.4 provides security-rich client/server encryption and flexible user authentication. Informix Dynamic Server has always supported a set of open, industry-standard security mechanisms, including roles, UNIX® password-based authentication and database management system schema authorizations. It also supports OpenSSL encryption libraries to facilitate communication security. These open standards help ensure flexibility and optimal security through easier validation and verification.



The El Salvador Tax

Authority, part of the El Salvador

Ministry of Finance, employs 1,000

people in 17 offices and collects

excise, liquor, cigarette and value-

added taxes as well as personal and

business income taxes. The organi-

zation annually evaluates and

processes tax returns linked to

almost one million taxpayer identifi-

cation numbers and processes some

60,000 sales tax returns monthly.

With Informix Dynamic Server, data

processing speed has increased

50% to 80%, it's easier and faster to

back up and staff productivity has

improved. The tax authority was also

able to complete its migration one

day ahead of the originally planned

three-day timeframe.



“Storing 10 years of tax records on a safe and reliable platform is vital to the operations of El Salvador. By leveraging the capabilities of Informix Dynamic Server, Version 9.4, which assures more reliable backups and support for our database platform, we are well prepared to handle future data growth.”

—Francisco Rovira, general director of internal taxes, El Salvador Tax Authority

Technology to extend your database

IBM Informix DataBlade™ technology brings additional business functionality to the Informix Dynamic Server, Version 9.4 engine. Specialized, user-defined data types, routines and access methods provide the capability to effectively manage all types of data, including text, images, sound, video, time series and spatial data. A major differentiator between Informix Dynamic Server and other database products, DataBlade modules enable you to extend your database so that complex objects—images, formatted documents, time-series video images and information HTML pages—can be stored, indexed and accessed directly in the database, providing greater security, performance and ease of use. With these new data types and routines, developers can more easily create and deploy richer applications that better

address your business needs. For example, the Time Series DataBlade module enables you to time-stamp data—for instance, on a constantly changing stock price—and enter it in a series within one column of a single row per day, as opposed to multiple rows containing just one data point. Using the Time Series DataBlade module, one of the world's largest banks can load tens of thousands of stock ticks per second, analyze that information in tenths of a second and act on it in real time. This helps save time, increase internal productivity and quickly deliver information to your customers.

“Informix Dynamic Server was the only database that fulfilled the stringent needs of our manufacturing environment. For example, to process time-stamped data in real time, we implemented the Informix Time Series DataBlade module, which is exclusive to Informix Dynamic Server. Powering our systems with these unique, advanced data management technologies has placed us in a very strong and strategic position.”

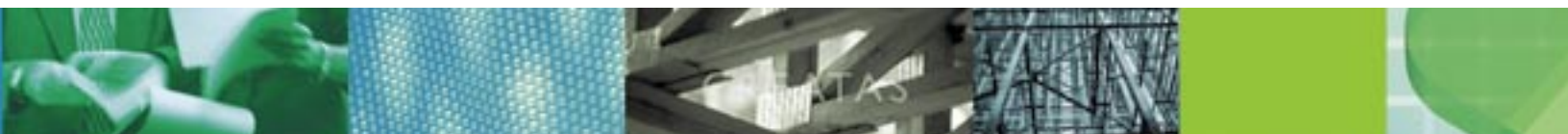
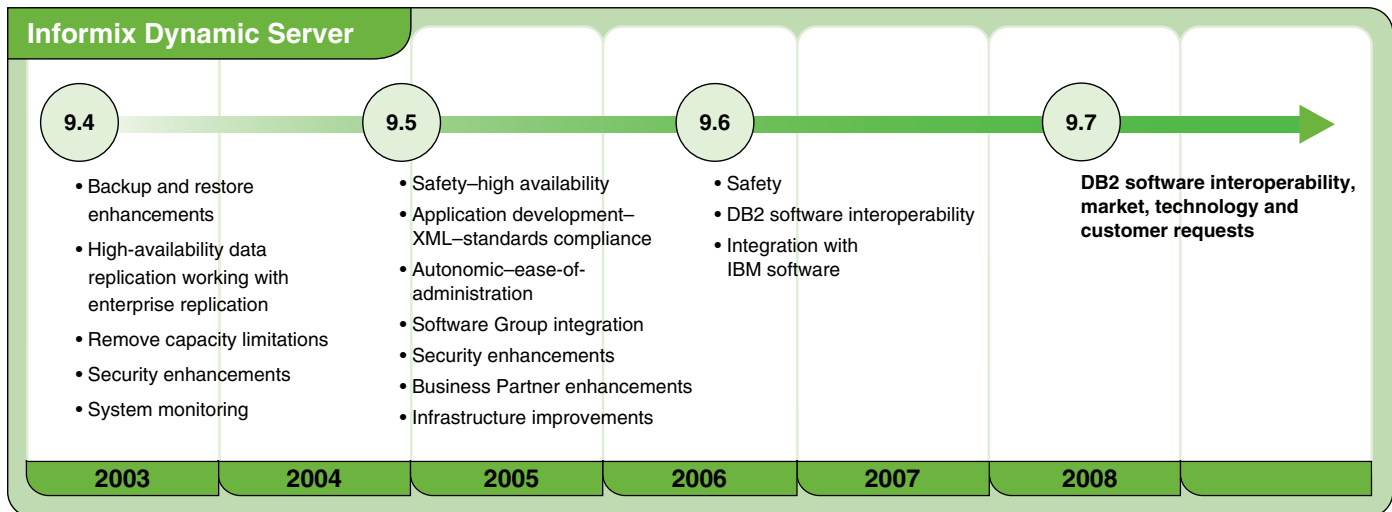
—Ged Doyle, chief information officer, ACI Packaging

**The future of information management:
information integration, Web services
and autonomic computing**

IBM Informix Dynamic Server, Version 9.4 combines unique, industry-leading technology with the depth of IBM database expertise, market share and thought leadership. IBM plans to integrate the best technology from Informix servers with IBM DB2® Universal Database™ software in a multiyear effort, with an emphasis on much more than Informix compatibility. We're making substantial investments in information integration, XML, Web services and

autonomic computing. If you are interested in exploring DB2 software now, IBM has attractively priced Gold Program software offerings for using DB2 software with Informix Dynamic Server, Informix Extended Parallel Server and IBM Red Brick™ software. These include server and tool licenses that allow you to deploy Informix and DB2 software together, in any combination, to meet your specific business requirements.

IBM has a clear vision and strategy for the future of Informix Dynamic Server and information management. It involves driving optimum performance across existing IT assets and features information that's integrated, comprehensive, uniform, analyzable and accessible all the time, across all platforms. We want to work with you over the long term to help ensure you can access, use, deliver and profit from your information to compete effectively in an on demand world.





“Will we force Informix customers to migrate to DB2? Absolutely not! We are confident in our strategy and our ability to achieve this vision. We trust that the merged product, which will represent our next-generation DB2 software, will present the next logical step for Informix users on a natural upgrade path—if and when they desire to take that journey.”

—Janet Pema, general manager, IBM Data Management Solutions

For more information

To learn more about IBM Informix Dynamic Server, Version 9.4, contact your IBM representative or visit:

ibm.com/informix/ids

For a complete description of the enhanced features and functionality of Informix Dynamic Server, Version 9.4, visit:

ibm.com/software/data/informix/
Informix Dynamic Server/

For complete product life-cycle details, visit:

ibm.com/software/data/informix/
support/plc/

To learn more about IBM's strategy for the future of information management, read the *IBM Informix Portfolio: Future Directions* white paper, available at:

ibm.com/software/data/informix/

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