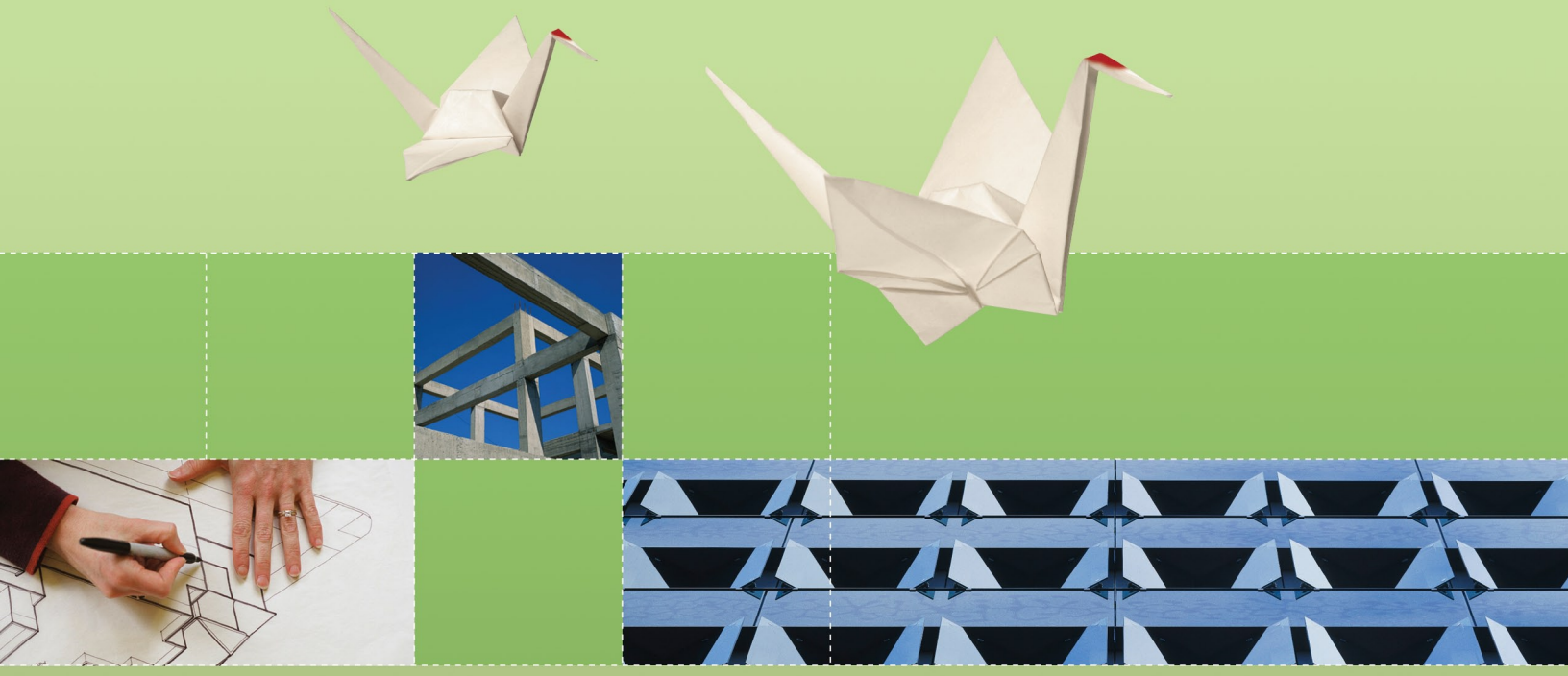
Data warehousing
To support your business objectives

Information Management software

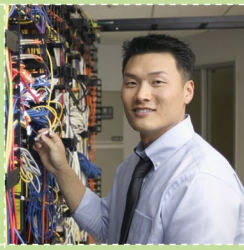


IBM Balanced Warehouse

A "ready-to-go" solution that simplifies designing, implementing and maintaining your data warehouse environment

You need information to make good decisions,

understand customer needs, drive innovation, take action and, ultimately, gain competitive advantage. Along with your employees, information is your organization's most valuable asset. But simply possessing information isn't enough—it needs to be accurate, complete, trusted and timely. In addition, information needs to be available to a variety of users, when they need it. After all, what good is information if no one can access it?



But consolidating, managing and controlling information can be painful. Why? One reason is that as the volume and variety of information increases, so does the number of systems needed to store and collect it. Over time, information is scattered across the organization, housed in silos of disparate applications. As a result, maintaining and managing the information can be a headache for IT. End users, in the meantime, may struggle to access the information they need in real time, which hampers their ability to analyze it and put it to use for the business.

But users, themselves, present another challenge. Simply stated, there are lots of them, and each requires different kinds of data and relies on a variety of resources to get it. Users of all types, from all departments, are accessing information, sharing it, analyzing it and, most probably, adding even more data—potentially straining systems. So the problem comes back to IT—which is faced with keeping systems available, all the time, so users can get the data they need, when they need it. It can be a never-ending cycle.

A complete warehouse solution that's ready to go—now

The increasingly mixed workload environments and the constantly changing needs of different business constituents have organizations rethinking their warehouse environments. Warehouse functionality that's limited to queries and reports simply won't cut it. But building the ideal warehouse environment—one that lets users access and analyze all types of information, including unstructured information, on demand, and still meets service level demands—can be a daunting experience. That is, unless you implement a solution where the work has already been done for you, one that is complete and ready to go: the IBM Balanced Warehouse™ solution.

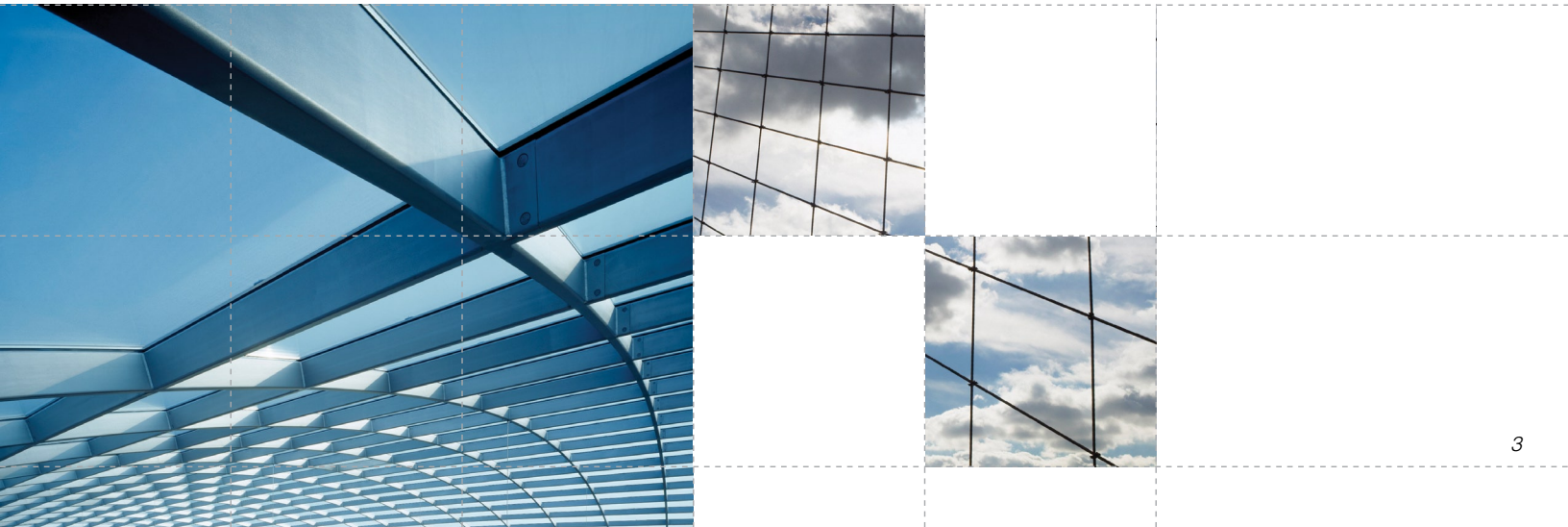
Data warehousing made simple

IBM Balanced Warehouse is not an appliance. It's a complete "ready-to-go" data warehousing solution comprising pretested, scalable and fully integrated IBM DB2® Warehouse, server and storage system components. Balanced Warehouse delivers features and functionality that are simple, flexible and optimized, helping you to reduce the complexity, cost and risk of designing, implementing, growing and maintaining your data warehouse environment.

Control your information in real time

At the heart of Balanced Warehouse is DB2 Warehouse software, a fully functioning, fully integrated data server that helps to simplify the control, management and functionality of your warehouse environment. DB2 Warehouse software delivers an integrated set of tools and capabilities specific to warehousing, giving you the control you need to deliver different views and perspectives of your data.

Balanced Warehouse is fully integrated with DB2 Warehouse software and is delivered ready to load data into the data server. In addition, DB2 Warehouse software delivers innovative functionality such as embedded analytics. Embedded analytics allow you to view right-time, in-context information from across the enterprise, including structured and unstructured data. You can also perform data mining processes and multidimensional cubing in the database. These capabilities eliminate the need to copy data to other applications or tools for queries or reports—reducing risk and ensuring real-time information.



Gain business insight without boundaries

- **Reach farther.** Acquire and access unprecedented types, volumes and combinations of information—historical and operational, structured and unstructured—to gain more meaningful insight. You can then apply that insight more broadly across your operations and supply it to more users than ever before.
- **Look deeper.** Drive better operational business decisions by gaining deeper insight into customers, products and processes to create efficiencies across your entire organization and improve product development.
- **Act faster.** Deliver information when you need it, how you need it, so you can act more quickly—with confidence in your data—to increase profitability and make decisions based on business priorities, while better managing business risks and performance.

DB2 Warehouse software also provides extreme workload management capabilities, enabling you to control and monitor workloads with minimal overhead. As a result, you can deliver data to applications, predictably and with stability, according to service level priorities. Plus, DB2 Warehouse software makes managing your information easier by delivering capabilities that help automate and simplify complex tasks. These capabilities, such as automated memory and storage management, advisors that help guide users, and improved backup facilities, allow you to spend less time and money managing and maintaining your warehouse and data systems, and more time on activities that add business value.

Gain nearly immediate time to value

With Balanced Warehouse, you can use and leverage information right from the start. The solution ships preconfigured and ready to go, and includes everything you need to build a robust and integrated warehousing solution, including:

- DB2 Warehouse software.
- The latest in IBM server technology.
- High-performance storage.
- Comprehensive, total solution support.

Lower your risk while getting the performance you need

IBM Balanced Warehouse solutions are rigorously tested, validated and tuned for performance and reliability—which means your solution is optimized and ready to perform for your business. Balanced Warehouse solutions work, because they're based on and developed through best practices IBM has developed during successful client implementations. Before releasing a Balanced Warehouse, IBM configures and stress-tests the systems for optimum reliability and security. IBM also fine-tunes them to ensure that the highest levels of query performance are met.

Increase number of users, amount of data and functionality the way you want to

Balanced Warehouse solutions* are built up and out on modular building blocks, so you're in control of when and how your data warehouse grows. IBM's flexible system includes five module types, each containing the balanced configuration you need for adding optimized functionality and capacity.

In addition to a module-based architecture, Balanced Warehouse components are readily available and are built on industry standards and an open and reusable architecture. This makes it easy to redeploy solution components as new needs arise. Finally, Balanced Warehouse is a solution that doesn't limit you or lock you into propriety solutions, and that grows according to your business needs and demands.

Optimize control and investment in your current infrastructure

Balanced Warehouse solutions provide seamless integration and are compatible with many standard reporting and extract, transform and load (ETL) tools.

Rely on a single vendor for support and service

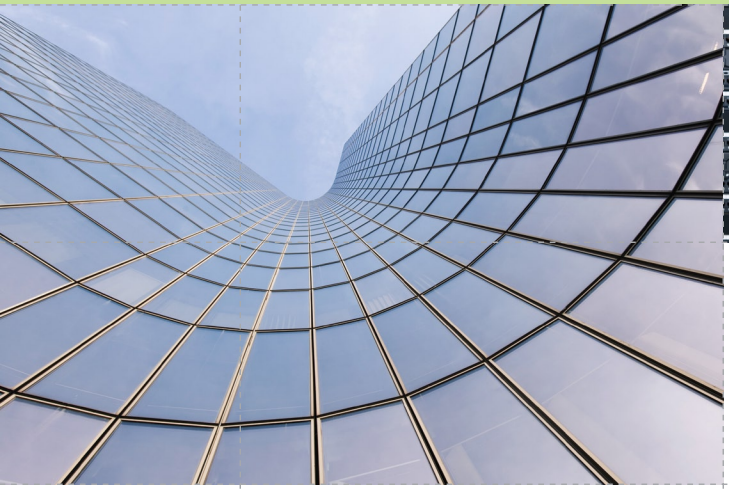
To save you time, IBM provides comprehensive solution support for your complete Balanced Warehouse. Whether your support issues lie in the server, the storage, the operating system or DB2 software, IBM provides a single point of contact to address all of your needs. IBM's customer service is staffed by support engineers who are highly knowledgeable about the Balanced Warehouse environment and can provide timely and complete solutions.

Choose the best solution for your business

Regardless of the size of your organization or where you are in your data warehouse environment initiatives, IBM provides a variety of on-ramps and roadmaps to successful warehousing. IBM's comprehensive portfolio offers three main classes of solutions, so you can choose the one that's right for your organization.

IBM Balanced Warehouse C-Class

The IBM Balanced Warehouse C-Class offering is an out-of-the-box, simple and affordable warehousing solution designed for midsize businesses and organizations with datamarts and smaller data warehouses with less than one terabyte of raw data. As are all Balanced Warehouse solutions, C-Class solutions are pretested and preintegrated with DB2 Warehouse software to reduce the complexity and costs of deployment.



These solutions were specifically created to empower smaller organizations and lines of business within larger enterprises with a fast track to business intelligence. Both rich in functionality and quick to deploy, the Balanced Warehouse C-Class brings value to your organization immediately and enables your users to start leveraging insight from your information once your data is loaded.

Optional integration of Business Objects Crystal Reports Server software allows you to create, manage and deliver reports to end users via the Web or embed reports in existing applications. Crystal Reports Server software also provides end-to-end reporting capabilities, including:

- Data access and report design.
- Report management and delivery.
- Report integration with portals and applications.

In addition to being competitively priced for smaller implementations, IBM Balanced Warehouse C-Class helps simplify integration with your existing Oracle or Microsoft® environments by providing built-in Structured Query Language (SQL) data warehouse loader tools.

IBM Balanced Warehouse D-Class

The IBM Balanced Warehouse D-Class offering is designed for growing mid- and large-size organizations that manage raw data, starting in the one terabyte range and up. Integrating optional high-availability features and providing well-defined levels of modular scalability, IBM Balanced Warehouse D-Class is a cost-effective solution that has the room and ability to grow with your organization's needs.

Through the use of modular building blocks, organizations can now tailor their Balanced Warehouse to their specific usage patterns. Able to scale out to the number of concurrent users and the amount of raw data being maintained, these solutions avoid the appliance pitfall of sacrificing warehouse flexibility and scalability for query performance. With the IBM Balanced Warehouse D-Class, you're not required to make that tradeoff. If and when your needs change, simply add another module that reflects your current demands.

The D-Class solution is also designed for organizations that are consolidating datamarts and making an investment in data warehousing on Linux® technology. Businesses can benefit from:

- Integrated system availability provided through automated failovers.
- Proactive, automated system servicing enabled by an intelligent call home feature.
- Enterprise type tools and features delivered on midrange standard hardware.
- Enhanced processing power at less cost and lower energy usage.
- Simple and logical growth based on usage demands.

IBM Balanced Warehouse E-Class

IBM Balanced Warehouse E-Class solutions are ideal for organizations that need robust, highly scalable and ultra high-performance data warehouses. Designed to support high-availability, -performance and -scalability requirements, E-Class solutions are capable of managing very large warehouses, but really start to prove their value when the raw data size is eight terabytes and more.

E-Class Balanced Warehouse solutions are direct descendants of the original Balanced Configuration Units (BCUs) and currently represent the third generation of this solution. These performance-driven solutions were developed specifically for enterprise clients that require the latest in innovative performance for their data warehouse and need to maintain the high availability and mission-critical reliability that are essential for today's competitive business environment.

E-Class solutions provide:

- **Scalability.** For organizations managing larger amounts of raw data, the solutions can be scaled out in modular units similar to those used in IBM D-Class solutions, providing unlimited options for growth and areas of focus.
- **Concurrency.** The solutions encourage pervasive business intelligence by supporting thousands of users running both complex and ad hoc queries on terabytes of information.
- **Performance.** In addition to the latest developments in high-performance processors, the Balanced Warehouse E-Class solutions utilize the upper tier of enterprise storage technologies, ensuring that your information is available when you need it most.
- **Security.** You can heighten the native system security of the Balanced Warehouse solution with the autonomic security features of the IBM AIX® operating system.
- **Advanced capabilities.** The solutions deliver advanced mining and analytics functionality and provide the option for cold spare or automated failover high availability.

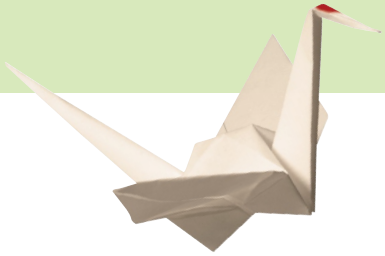
A better data warehousing approach

To enable users to turn data into actionable business insight, the ideal data warehouse must meet the expanding need for analytics and information on demand, leverage all types of information and serve increasing numbers and types of applications and users. The IBM Balanced Warehouse delivers on all accounts. Simple, flexible, optimized and ready to go, the IBM Balanced Warehouse reduces the complexity, risk and costs of deploying a complete data warehousing solution.

For more information

To learn more about the IBM Balanced Warehouse and IBM DB2 Warehouse software, please call your IBM sales representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit:

ibm.com/software/bi



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* Modules are only currently available with IBM Balanced Warehouse D5100 and IBM Balanced Warehouse E7100 solutions.

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