

## Java and IBM i

Recent announcements in the marketplace has caused many questions regarding the Java environment on IBM i.

There are 2 Java environments in use by IBM i clients.

### 1) Server-side Java, running on IBM i.

IBM has its own version of Java that has shipped with IBM i for almost 10 years. As such, there is NO additional cost / NO additional support contract required for using IBM Java on IBM i. Java on IBM i is delivered through the JV1 product. Support for IBM Java is included in the as part of the normal IBM i Software Maintenance Agreement (SWMA).

### 2) Java running on a Desktop or Laptop

Clients using desktops or laptops need to understand the Java requirements of the tools/applications that are being used.

- a) Rational Developer for i (RDi) imbeds the IBM Java environment (also called the eclipse version of Java) into the tool itself. As this is IBM Java, no additional products are required and no additional maintenance contract is required.
- b) Access Client Solutions (ACS) uses Java in the ACS interface. The tool will use any full version of Java available on the workstation. ACS requires Java 8 or higher. There are options available. One option is to run ACS in a network location, putting IBM Java into the same directory as the ACS runtime. ACS will use that IBM Java environment. For details on ACS and Java options check the support doc: <https://www-01.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=ibm10719405>

For other desktop applications or tools that use Java:

- a) Oracle Java - Currently, if Java 8 is required by code on your desktop/laptop professional applications or tools AND you need to receive the latest updates and security patches, you are required to have a service contract with Oracle. Currently, if you are able to use the latest version of Java like Java 11, service and support continues to be as it is today.
- b) Open JDK – This is a Java runtime built by the open source community. The major participant in the Open JDK community is IBM.
- c) IBM Java - IBM Java is built today based on OpenJDK project. This is also known as the Eclipse version of Java. It can be obtained by down loading Eclipse which includes the IBM version of Java