

IBM Enterprise Information Portal, Version 8

Highlights

- ***Accesses and integrates your business content easily, no matter what its format or where it resides***
- ***Includes functionality for advanced workflow, Web crawling and information mining***
- ***Provides an easy-to-use toolkit for customized application development***
- ***Runs on multiple platforms.***



A welcome reprieve from toggling between myriad applications, IBM Enterprise Information Portal can simplify and enhance the way people work.

Bridge islands of information to find business value

To gain the value that your data and digital content can provide, your workforce needs fast access to all of it, no matter what form it takes or where it resides. But if your organization is like most, its information assets are managed by disparate applications and solutions—perhaps even in different locations.

This makes retrieving information from various sources difficult and, at times, impossible. While you could manually navigate through your islands of information, it won't happen at the speed of e-business. And automating searches among silos of information can take a significant amount of programming.

IBM Enterprise Information Portal (IBM EIP) brings together disconnected information—such as content from spreadsheets, document libraries, data warehouses or Web pages. A powerful tool, IBM EIP serves as the basis for an open, extensible and consistent information integration framework.

Part of the IBM information integration portfolio, IBM EIP features an easy-to-integrate toolkit that routes and sorts information from inside and outside your business into your applications. With a single query from the desktop, users can concurrently access data and content from multiple sources, including IBM Content Manager repositories, relational databases, file systems and Web sites. IBM EIP also supports searches against IBM Lotus® Domino™, Microsoft Exchange, SAP® R/3®, Oracle and, optionally, FileNET Panagon Image Services.

IBM EIP features a Web Crawler Service that can “crawl” through content in an intranet or extranet, as well as across the Internet or in local file systems. The Web Crawler Service follows links to collect and retrieve content, optionally saving it in a cache and meta data repository. These results can be integrated transparently with other sources accessed through IBM EIP.

Enhance decision making with a consolidated view of enterprise information



Even in tight economic times, an investment in Enterprise Information Portal makes sense. According to Dataquest, the worldwide market for portal software grew by 59 percent in 2001.¹

Better strategic planning

With IBM EIP, knowledge workers and line-of-business managers can uncover hidden relationships between customers and products. They can also find new business trends and opportunities from information stores, for better strategic planning and decision making. IBM EIP serves as the common interface for information integration, breaking down queries into individual search requests against specific information sources. It then combines search results into a single, aggregated result set.

IBM EIP also provides add-on services for advanced workflow and information mining. The IBM EIP Advanced Workflow Service enables all accessed information to be included in workflow processes. Integrated with the IBM WebSphere® MQ Workflow engine and other IBM Content Manager capabilities, the Advanced Workflow Service:

- *Supplies decision points to automate decision making based on user interactions or user- or system-defined data containers*
- *Includes flexible routing that supports predefined serial and/or parallel flows, with sub-processes for iterative tasks callable by multiple workflows*
- *Enables collection-point waiting for external events before advancing*
- *Allows a work node to be defined as a user exit to run a server exit program*
- *Provides a graphical workflow builder to easily define the EIP advanced workflow processes across your enterprise.*

The IBM EIP Information Mining Service extracts valuable information from all text documents that can be gathered using the IBM EIP search capability. New functions include language identification, information extraction and clustering. In addition, the service:

- *Provides knowledge discovery to identify and extract information from individual documents and store it as meta data*

“IBM EIP will allow our remote users and insurance agents to quickly access documents, photos and voice files, giving them a full picture of policy coverage and claims history. This will set Heritage apart from other insurance companies, allowing us to provide superior customer service.”

– James Glavan, IS Director, Heritage Mutual Insurance

- *Detects common features for clustering document collections and enabling categorization training and taxonomy maintenance*
- *Includes a Web-based, graphical Information Structuring Tool to support creation and maintenance of catalogs and taxonomies*
- *Offers an advanced search function to retrieve documents based on the extracted meta data information as well as the text content and/or attributes.*

Customize applications to fit your needs

The IBM EIP information integration framework provides a rich application development toolkit, including object-oriented application program interfaces (APIs) in Java™, C++ and ActiveX programming languages, as well as a component toolkit for development. The toolkit includes JavaBeans, and the components developed by these JavaBeans can be utilized by servlets or JavaServer Pages (JSP). The ActiveX components can be used to support automation-based applications, and you can create Active Server Pages (ASP) to handle browser-based applications.



Like its companion IBM DB2® software for content management, business intelligence and data management, Enterprise Information Portal comes from an e-business software company you can trust.

With this easy-to-use development environment, developers can efficiently create and customize desktop, client/server and Web applications for end users, for system administration and for workflow and mining. Developers also benefit from:

- *An infrastructure that integrates information sources across the enterprise*
- *An interface layer that isolates applications from changes to underlying information repositories.*

Open the window to new opportunities

The IBM EIP information integration framework supports Microsoft® Windows NT®, IBM AIX® and Sun Solaris Operating Environment. On the Windows NT platform, the ODBC connector features C++ interface support. Java technology interface support is provided for all other connectors and services on AIX and Solaris.

With IBM EIP, knowledge workers and line-of-business managers no longer need to scour disparate business applications for the right information to make a decision. By empowering employees to do what they do best, IBM EIP can be your company's window to new business and revenue opportunities, more strategic plans and, ultimately, greater competitive gain.

For more information

Please contact your IBM marketing representative or an IBM Business Partner, or call 1-800 IBM CALL within the U.S. Also, visit our Web site at **ibm.com/software/data/eip**



© Copyright IBM Corporation 2002

IBM Corporation
Silicon Valley Laboratory
555 Bailey Avenue
San Jose, CA 95141
U.S.A.

Printed in the United States of America
07-02
All Rights Reserved

AIX, DB2, Domino, the e-business logo, IBM, the IBM logo, Lotus and WebSphere are trademarks or registered trademarks of International Business Machines Corporation in the United States, other countries or both.

Microsoft and Windows NT are registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States, other countries or both.

SAP and R/3 are registered trademarks of SAP AG.

Java and all Java-based trademarks are trademarks of Sun Microsystems, Inc. in the United States, other countries or both.

¹Wylie Wong, "Companies open wallets to portal software," June 11, 2002, CNET.

References in this publication to IBM products or services do not imply that IBM intends to make them available in all countries in which IBM operates.



Printed in the United States on recycled paper containing 10% recovered post-consumer fiber.

