

## IBM i for Business Intelligence



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### Highlights

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- Fully integrated to deliver high-performance business intelligence
- Engineered for rapid deployment with extract, transport, and loading of data from sourced systems that can turn operational data into actionable information in days
- Built on a foundation of IBM i (includes DB2 for i), InfoSphere data transportation software, DB2 Web Query for i and a Power 720 Express system ... a fit-for-purpose combination packaged to turn your data into information
- Offers a range of business analytics capabilities including business intelligence reporting, analysis, and dashboards

### Business Intelligence

Business Intelligence (BI) is a broad term relating to applications designed to analyze data for purposes of understanding and acting on the key metrics that drive profitability in an enterprise. Key to analyzing the data (“analytics”) is providing fast, easy access while delivering it in formats or tools that best fit the needs of the end user.

At the core of any business intelligence solution are end user query and reporting tools that provide intuitive access to data supporting a spectrum of end users from executives to “power users,” from spreadsheet aficionados to the external Internet consumer.

Companies worldwide invest millions of dollars in their transaction solutions such as ERP to improve the way they conduct business. While these transaction systems provide significant benefits, clients often struggle to meet the needs of various users with reporting systems accessing data in those operational databases. This leads to a high degree of dependency on IT for building reports to cater to the individual requirements of each user.

### Introducing the new IBM i for Business Intelligence Solution

IBM i for Business Intelligence is a packaged solution that is easy to order and easy to implement, a perfect choice for improving your capability to analyze data – turning it into information that can help transform your business.

Demonstrate immediate results with Operational Reporting and transition into a robust Data Warehouse, based on your business demands.

This solution combines the strengths of Power Systems, IBM i, DB2 for i, DB2 Web Query for i, and data transportation software to deliver an integrated platform that houses the extracted and transported data sourced from your production systems.

IBM i for Business Intelligence comes with what you need to start-up your reporting environment and it is ready when you are as an expandable, growth platform to extend your data analytic capabilities, transforming sourced data by leveraging additional ETL tooling and services to build a Data Warehouse.

This new solution is offered as three configurations (small, medium, and large) that include software and required licensing, as well as getting started services designed to get you up and running fast – no long wait times before you can show new business information to your execs.

## DB2 Web Query for i

IBM DB2 Web Query for i provides a set of efficient and flexible web-based tools for a robust, extensible, and productive operational reporting solution with no programming required. Clients can leverage DB2 Web Query to deliver data to the users that need it, when they need it, and in the formats they want.

DB2 Web Query provides the ability to query or build reports against data stored in DB2 for i databases through browser-based user interface technologies. Clients can build new reports with ease through the very intuitive, ribbon-based InfoAssist authoring tool. Building reports from DB2 for i databases is simplified through metadata and business views that eliminate the need to be a database expert

DB2 Web Query for i provides a self service reporting environment that allows end users to obtain information in many different formats, including spreadsheets, PDFs, or data that can be viewed directly from a browser or customized application. In addition, end users can interact with the data through slicing and dicing and drill-down capabilities by using an OLAP (On-Line Analytical Processing) report.

End users on the go can leverage Active Technology features to analyze data without having to be connected to the server. Executives can monitor key performance indicators (KPI) through dashboards or compound reports where you can view multiple key data points in a single view.

## Hide complexity of data

One of the biggest challenges with querying native relational databases is digging out the hidden meaning that is buried within the application database and catalog. This has historically meant that the average end user was dependent on I/T to turn that data into trusted information. Inconsistency in the meaning of data across the enterprise also creates levels of distrust. With DB2 Web Query, you can shield database complexities from report authors and end users and create consistent definitions of data elements, resulting in a trusted, single version of the truth

## Improve performance and simplify management

IBM has spent over a decade building features into DB2 for i for improved query performance and simplified management, including many functions automated by DB2 for i when processing queries. The DB2 for i SQL Query Engine (SQE) can improve performance over five times from previous technology. Take advantage of advanced indexing and statistic technologies, along with the ability to create and store aggregate (summary) data for best performance. These technologies are especially important in processing the types of requests typical in a reporting environment where analysts want to view summarized data and then drill into it. The On Demand Performance Center simplifies the ability for an administrator to understand how DB2 is processing queries and provides advice on steps to take to improve runtime performance.

## Reduce I/T support efforts

The single server-based code installation and thin client implementation of DB2 Web Query offers the following potential benefits:

- Lower installation costs—no client software needs to be loaded
- Lower maintenance costs—upgrades, patches need only be installed on the server
- User administration savings
- Simpler and more controlled document backup and archiving—everything is stored in IBM i
- Simpler and more controlled security and compliance administration—leverage IBM i security and auditing features



Features	Potential Benefits
<p><b>DB2 Web Query for i</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intuitive Key Performance Indicator dashboards</li> <li>▪ Create self-service reporting environment</li> <li>▪ Provide data to spreadsheet aficionados</li> <li>▪ Integrate reports into existing applications</li> <li>▪ Execute and distribute reports in many different formats via e-mail or saved for later viewing</li> <li>▪ Real time reporting</li> </ul>	<p><b>DB2 Web Query for i</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Give executives the means to track how the business is performing</li> <li>▪ Eliminate dependency on I/T</li> <li>▪ Real-time data</li> <li>▪ Seamless access to data</li> <li>▪ Get reports on-demand or scheduled</li> <li>▪ Quickly spot trends or exceptions</li> </ul>
<p><b>DB2 for i</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ DB2 for i is built into the IBM i operating system</li> <li>▪ DB2 for i SQL Query Engine (SQE)</li> <li>▪ Create aggregate (summary) data in DB2 for i</li> <li>▪ The On Demand Performance Center</li> <li>▪ Many typical DBA tasks are <i>fully automated</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>DB2 for i</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It's always there – there's nothing to install</li> <li>▪ Improved Query performance – more than five times from previous technology</li> <li>▪ Can provide huge performance benefits in processing the types of requests typical in a reporting environment where analysts want to view summarized data and then drill into it.</li> <li>▪ Simplifies the ability for an administrator to understand how DB2 is processing queries and provides advice on steps to take to improve runtime performance</li> <li>▪ Simplified Management saves on DBA expense</li> </ul>
<p><b>IBM i for Business Intelligence</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Packaged for Operational Reporting</li> <li>▪ InfoSphere CDD software facilitates extract, transport, and loading of data from sourced systems</li> <li>▪ Three day on-site no-charge services</li> <li>▪ Discounted packaging</li> <li>▪ Includes IBM i (with DB2 for i) , InfoSphere Change Data Delivery, DB2 Web Query for i and a Power 720 Express</li> <li>▪ Three solution sizes (Small, Medium, Large)</li> </ul>	<p><b>IBM i for Business Intelligence</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Rapid Deployment ... option to grow into a Data Warehouse</li> <li>▪ Get your data into the DB2 for i database on secondary systems fast and easy</li> <li>▪ Business ready results in days</li> <li>▪ Reduce cost of acquisition by up to 35%</li> <li>▪ Provides a range of business analytics capabilities including business intelligence reporting, analysis, and dashboards</li> <li>▪ BI solutions for any size business – serving up the needed performance with scalability to spare</li> </ul>

## A Second Server for Business Intelligence

Many enterprise reporting tools on the market today, force you to move your data out of the DB2 for i database while frequently requiring multiple servers to support various reporting functions.

It is well understood, that analyzing data can be CPU intensive and the demands put on your production system can be unpredictable.

The IBM i for Business Intelligence solution enables you to isolate BI workloads onto a single secondary server while keeping all of your data in DB2 for i, a powerful database that can be used for all your reporting needs.

The second server, with POWER7 technology and the latest IBM operating environment means you don't have to impact your production box ... to get the BI function and performance that makes this solution stand-out.

But don't let the demands of BI limit your ability to fully utilize your investment, the second server can be used for many other things - testing new levels of OS; development; a sandbox for new technologies; and possibly HA/DR.

## Summary

If you want to get more information out of your data, then you need the IBM i for Business Intelligence solution:

- ❑ Leverage the latest query optimization technology
- ❑ Value licensing for existing Query/400 clients
- ❑ Keep data in DB2 for i
- ❑ Capitalize on analytical capabilities

Business Intelligence (BI) is all about analyzing data ... turning data into information by providing fast, easy access, while delivering the data in formats that best fit the needs of the end user.

By using a second box for the reporting needs of your business – you can minimize impacts to your production environment, while ensuring you get the BI performance, function, and flexibility you need.

For IBM i clients, there is no better way to take advantage of data already resident in a DB2 for i database – then to leverage the new solution called IBM i for Business Intelligence.



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