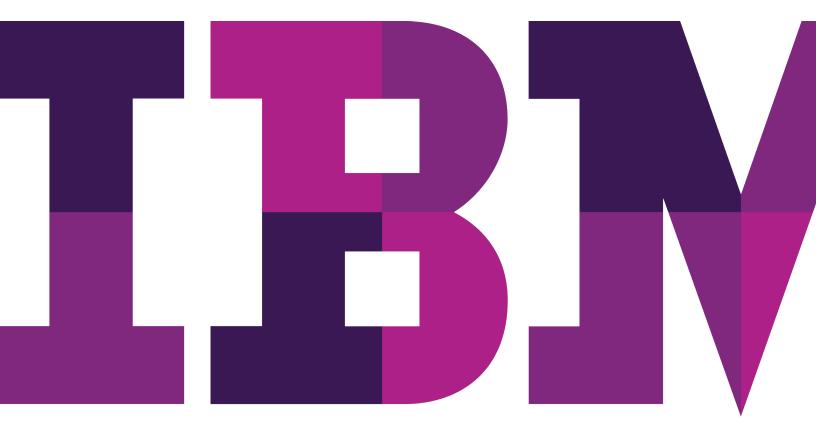# IBM Informix software product family: Version 11.7

Discover the next decade of IBM Informix

Highlights

- **Reliable:** Provides one of the industry's widest sets of options for keeping data available at all times, including zero downtime for maintenance

- **Low-cost:** Cuts development costs by nearly eliminating up-front licensing costs typically incurred during the development phase

- **Hassle-free:** Runs almost unattended with self-configuring, self-managing and self-healing capabilities

- **Best-of-breed embeddability:** Provides a proven embedded data management platform for ISVs and OEMs to deliver integrated, world-class solutions, enabling platform independence

IBM® Informix® database software has been voted number one in customer satisfaction for two consecutive years, 2008 and 2009.[1] Clients choose Informix because it is reliable, low-cost and hassle-free. Solution providers choose Informix for its best-of-breed embeddability. And it's available on Microsoft® Windows®, Linux®, UNIX® and Mac OS X platforms.

Informix 11.7 ushers in the next decade for Informix. As the engine that powers online transaction processing (OLTP) and decision support applications for businesses and partners of all sizes, it will continue to be a force in helping them to deliver smarter solutions. Take a look at Informix 11.7 and you'll discover unprecedented advantages: advanced performance, availability and efficiency, minimal complexity and lower computing costs. With the introduction of Informix Flexible Grid, it's easy to perform routine maintenance and upgrades at all your geographic locations from a single site—and you can do it with *zero* downtime.

Reliable

Informix offers one of the most comprehensive sets of high-availability options available from databases that can run on low-cost hardware, and Informix 11.7 takes that to new heights. With Informix Flexible Grid, you can distribute workloads to maximize your hardware investments while keeping data synchronized at all times, whether the servers are in the same room or on the other side of the world. In the case of a system failure, another server automatically takes over with no impact to your business. Further, Informix Flexible Grid lets you keep data available during planned outages without the need for temporary hardware or for cloning databases or applications. You can also use heterogeneous hardware and operating systems within the same grid. With Informix Flexible Grid, you can scale capacity when and where needed, bring data on- or off-line, and change your data schema throughout your grid—all from a single location, all on demand and all with no downtime.

Low-cost

Informix offers unparalleled cost-saving benefits by reducing the up-front licensing costs typically incurred during the development phase. Businesses also benefit from the ongoing savings in operational expenses, since Informix autonomic features help eliminate outages and require less performance tuning. The autonomic capabilities can handle many of the manual tasks normally performed by a hands-on administrator with other relational database management systems (RDBMS).

Informix also offers data compression technology that can produce up to 80 percent savings on disk space and I/O improvements of up to 20 percent.[2] With less data volume to process, businesses can achieve faster search times, more efficient use of their hardware resources, and reduced backup and recovery times.

Hassle-free

Informix is designed from the ground up for easy, scalable administration and includes features that allow Informix to "disappear" within an application. Thanks to the many self-monitoring and self-healing features built into Informix, such as automated storage and memory management, the database software can be customized to proactively track and react to business thresholds—and resolve them before they become an issue.

Small companies love Informix because they don't need a large technical staff to run their data processing environment. As companies grow, Informix has them covered: customers with large deployments are able to manage an average of 2,000 Informix databases with a single DBA.[3] Informix enables growing businesses to scale and manage their databases no matter where they are, on demand and with no downtime.

Want to learn more about how companies of all sizes are taking advantage of Informix? Read these success stories: **ibm.com/**software/success/cssdb.nsf/softwareL2VW? OpenView&Count=30&RestrictToCategory=dmmain_Informix DynamicServer

Best-of-breed embeddability

More than 2,500 loyal business partners have established millions of Informix deployments around the world, most of which are never seen by the actual customers. For example, Informix is in thousands of worldwide retailers, 20 of the top 25 U.S. supermarkets and 95 percent of telecom service delivery providers.[3] Market innovators such as China Mobile, Verizon, Lazare Kaplan International, DHL Express and Trafficmaster rely on Informix to deliver seamless and superior service to their customers.

Informix is available on multiple versions of Windows, Linux, UNIX and Mac operating systems, so OEMs, ISVs and VARs are not locked into a single platform and can pursue more market opportunities. Informix is standards-based and supports a wide variety of integrated development environments (IDEs) and application development languages. The same installer can be used on all platforms and can be easily customized and hidden within an embedded solution. The software's small footprint and self-managing capabilities make it an ideal choice for embedded data management solutions. Plus, Informix can be up and running in minutes, not days, and requires virtually zero administration.

Informix is also widely deployed in virtualized environments, with a profile and feature set that lends itself well to virtualization. Customers can reduce costs through server consolidation and can prepare for moving to a true cloud-computing environment, where additional economies of scale are available when supporting customers in a Service Oriented Architecture (SOA).

Informix: A complete data management solution

While Informix is low-cost and hassle-free, it still offers a comprehensive range of data management capabilities. In addition to those already described, Informix offers many other capabilities, such as:

- **Warehouse and business analytics:** Provides strong performance and value as a single platform to address both OLTP and analytical requirements; higher performance for all types of workloads means fewer servers—and less space, power and cooling
- **Application development options and tools:** Enables developers to choose their favorite language or IDE; now available are new or updated drivers for PHP, Ruby and Microsoft .NET, plus other compatibility features that make it easy to port applications to Informix
- **OpenAdmin Tool:** Provides a graphical administration tool to monitor and administer all of your Informix environments from a single console
- **Native support for advanced data types:** Provides enhanced data process functionality, enabling businesses to create richer applications with spatial, time series and geodetic data, as well as other capabilities

Informix Editions

Informix offers many editions, including no-cost editions and for-purchase editions, to meet a wide variety of enterprise, ISV, VAR and OEM needs.

Free Editions

Developer Edition: This edition provides all features of Informix for individual application development, testing and proof-of-concepts. Available on a wide variety of platforms, Developer Edition has some processing and storage limitations. Community support is available.

Innovator-C Edition: Designed for low-cost embedded or workgroup computing, the Innovator-C Edition allows small-to-midsize businesses to develop and deploy widely used database functionality, including replication and some clustering capabilities. The Innovator-C Edition is available on a wide variety of platforms and is limited to four cores over a maximum of one socket and 2 GB of memory. Selective Support at Elite Level is available as an optional purchase.

For-purchase Editions

Choice Edition for Windows: This edition gives businesses, ISVs and OEMs with Windows-based environments the ability to develop and deploy near enterprise-class functionality at low cost. The Choice Edition is limited to eight cores over a maximum of two sockets and 8 GB of memory.

Choice Edition for Mac OS X: This edition has the same functionality as the Choice Edition for Windows, but is available on Mac OS X.

Growth Edition: This edition provides powerful data management capabilities for departmental solutions or small-to-midsize businesses, including unlimited replication cluster nodes to send or receive data updates from other nodes in the cluster. This edition supports up to two high-availability cluster nodes of any type. It is limited to 16 cores over a maximum of four sockets and 16 GB of memory. Growth Edition is available on all supported platforms.

Ultimate Edition: This edition includes all Informix features on all supported platforms for development, deployment and distribution with unlimited scalability. It includes full grid and replication capabilities. Storage compression is available as an optional feature.

Informix supports a vast number of platforms and versions of operating systems. A complete list can be found online at **ibm.com**/support/docview.wss?rs=630&uid=swg27013343&S_CMP=rnav

Informix Editions summary table

Edition	Licensing	Support options	Access	Resource limits	Capabilities
Developer Edition Linux/UNIX/ Windows/Mac	Free for one developer license; no distribution	Community	Public download	• 1 GB memory • 1 CPU • 8 GB storage limit	Storage Optimization Feature not available
Innovator-C Edition Linux/UNIX/ Windows/Mac	Free to develop and deploy (distribution requires commercial license)	Optional: Selected Support charged per install/year	Public download	• 2 GB memory • 1 socket, total 4 cores	**Features unavailable:** Storage Optimization Feature, SDS, parallel features, partitioning, Advanced Access Control, Informix Warehouse Feature (SQL Warehousing Tool), multiple secondary servers **Partially available:** 2-node grid; 1 primary, 1 secondary server (HDR), ER (2 root nodes)
Choice Edition for Windows and Choice Edition for Mac OS X	Licensing via LU Socket, AU	Includes Support and Subscription in first year	Passport Advantage	• 8 GB memory • 2 sockets, total 8 cores	**Features unavailable:** Storage Optimization Feature, SDS, parallel features, partitioning, Advanced Access Control, Informix Warehouse Feature (SQL Warehousing Tool), multiple secondary servers **Partially available:** 2-node grid; 1 primary, 1 secondary server (HDR, RSS), ER (2 root nodes)
Growth Edition Linux/UNIX/ Windows/Mac OS X	Licensing via LU Socket, AU, CS, PVU	Includes Support and Subscription in first year	Passport Advantage	• 16 GB memory • 4 sockets, total 16 cores	**Features unavailable:** Storage Optimization Feature, parallel features, partitioning **Partially available:** 3-node grid; 1 primary, any 2 secondary servers (HDR, RSS, SDS), unlimited ER root and leaf nodes
Ultimate Edition Linux/UNIX/ Windows/Mac	Licensing via AU, CS, PVU	Includes Support and Subscription in first year	Passport Advantage	• Unlimited	**For-charge feature:** Storage Optimization Feature; everything else included

Note: AU: Authorized User Single Install; CAF: Continuous Availability Feature; CS: Concurrent Session; ER: Enterprise Replication; HDR: high-availability data replication; LU: Limited Use; PVU: Processor Value Unit; SDS: Shared Disk Secondary

For more information

To learn more about Informix and its capabilities, please contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner or visit the following website:

ibm.com/software/data/informix

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1 The VendorRate 2009 Year End Report. **ibm.com**/discoverinformix

2 "Deep Compression with IBM Informix" http://download.boulder.ibm.com/ibmdl/pub/software/data/sw-library/demos/informix/CompressionDemo.swf

3 Embedding Informix: Real World Experiences. **ibm.com**/software/data/informix/embed/experience.html

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