



Highlights

- Graphical interfaces and impact analysis features help accelerate job setup and make it easier to evaluate changes, reducing time to value
 - Deep automation capabilities help increase productivity and minimize effort spent on manual processes
 - Extensive migration tooling makes upgrading fast and easy
 - Integrated capabilities for metadata management, data profiling, data quality, data discovery, data lineage and more add significant value
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Why upgrade to IBM InfoSphere Information Server 8.5?

No matter how you access, transform or deliver data, IBM® InfoSphere® Information Server makes it possible with new and vastly improved capabilities that can add significant value to your strategic, information-centric initiatives.

A key component of the InfoSphere Information Server portfolio, IBM InfoSphere DataStage® enables high-performance data extraction, transformation and loading between multiple sources and targets. What's more, the current version, InfoSphere DataStage 8.5, delivers a wide variety of features and functions that greatly enhance developer productivity and increase process automation. With InfoSphere DataStage 8.5, you can achieve anywhere, anytime, any way data integration, for both batch and real-time processes—and you can get it done faster and easier than ever.

Enhance developer productivity

InfoSphere DataStage 8.5 offers a wide range of features to help developers work faster and more efficiently. The end result is that developers can complete and launch projects more quickly, and those projects can begin delivering value to the business sooner.

For example, InfoSphere DataStage provides capabilities that enable developers to “see” what they’re working on, starting with a graphic paradigm for connector properties that helps simplify configuration. Also, graphical impact analysis allows users to visualize how a change will affect any job, so they can correctly judge the impact of the change and the effort involved.



What is IBM InfoSphere Information Server?

The InfoSphere Information Server platform helps organizations derive more value from the complex, heterogeneous information spread across their data silos. It enables organizations to understand, cleanse, integrate and deliver disparate data and deliver trusted information wherever and whenever needed, in line and in context, to specific people, applications and processes. It is built on a solid metadata-driven framework and is designed to provide breakthrough productivity and flexibility.

InfoSphere DataStage 8.5 also gives developers more powerful tools for managing and moving through projects. For example, connector objects and parameter sets help simplify operational management and standardize job design. Advanced search features in the designer help developers find objects of interest, like shared containers and table definitions, more quickly and accurately. Version 8.5 also provides job, table and routine comparisons to assist in merging different code branches, plus new capabilities (supported through the user interface and command line) to integrate directly to source code control repositories. This helps simplify code management and promotion to ensure that all required objects are migrated to production. And when it is time to run a job, new optimization capabilities maximize throughput and resource utilization.

InfoSphere DataStage 8.5 is ready to slip into an organization's existing environment and standard workflow. There is no developer learning curve, because writing code in InfoSphere

DataStage 7.x and 8.x is the same. Also, InfoSphere DataStage shares common metadata with other tools of the InfoSphere Information Server platform, streamlining the entire data integration lifecycle. Meanwhile, deep globalization support means that teams can work in the language with which they are most familiar.

Promote automation and boost performance

Data integration projects can be complicated and time-consuming. DataStage 8.5 offers automation features that help developers focus less on manual management and more on solving problems and delivering value to the business. For example, a job resource estimator tool graphically illustrates the resources consumed across the stages of the job and recommends additional storage, CPU and memory requirements as data volumes increase.

Also, the InfoSphere DataStage 8.5 balanced optimizer automatically highlights transformation patterns that can be pushed to a source or a target database management system (DBMS) to maximize the processing power of the database. With new support for distributed transactions, InfoSphere DataStage 8.5 can guarantee data delivery to target systems while automatically managing the source queue or change data capture (CDC) technology. The latest version also delivers built-in support for high availability and disaster recovery scenarios, and an installation process with patch management capabilities that enables developers to quickly create exact replicas of the software environment for testing—saving valuable time.

While automation helps ease the burden on developers by offloading manual tasks, InfoSphere DataStage 8.5 also eases the performance demands on enterprise systems by enabling performance optimization across parallel runtimes, supporting smarter resource utilization and adding several new stages that enable better-optimized data integration construction. With these features and capabilities, organizations can more effectively manage their batch windows as data volumes continue to grow.

Other noteworthy capabilities in InfoSphere DataStage 8.5

In addition to the productivity, automation and performance-enhancing features, InfoSphere DataStage 8.5 offers many more strategic capabilities:

- The Transformer stage has been expanded to include looping over a record, caching for group-based analysis and more than 30 new transformation functions
- New XML capabilities bundle an integrated user interface for hierarchical data structures with scalable engine components to specifically handle XML while minimizing resource consumption
- A new parallel stage handles both vertical and horizontal pivoting data
- Automation of slowly changing dimensions with various styles of surrogate key support
- Lookups now handle range tests where exact key matches are not possible
- An expanded set of connector stages and options includes IBM InfoSphere Change Data Capture software, IBM Netezza®, iWay software and Oracle Essbase

Upgrade to the latest version of InfoSphere DataStage now

Upgrading to the latest version of InfoSphere DataStage has never been easier. Version 8.5 includes migration tooling that can be used to create a new target environment for the full complement of job objects and all other infrastructure components, such as user and group roles, report objects, suite-wide metadata and so on.

To facilitate testing of data integration assets, the Job Migration Test Assistant identifies the differences between the new and old environments, allowing administrators to focus their efforts on those areas. The tool can be used for a variety of transition and migration scenarios, such as version upgrades, topology or hardware changes, as well as production deployments. The Job Migration Test Assistant also manages user comments on follow-up activities and tracks user acceptance of approved variations, helping to streamline the approval process.

Like all prior versions of InfoSphere DataStage, DataStage Server Edition and DataStage MVS Editions are fully supported without requiring any job canvas migration.

Additional valuable functions in InfoSphere Information Server 8.5

InfoSphere DataStage 8.5 becomes even more powerful when used in tandem with other components of the InfoSphere Information Server platform.

InfoSphere Information Server versions 8.0 and above contain industry-leading capabilities to help customers discover, profile, cleanse, transform and deliver information. These capabilities, built on a single integrated metadata platform, effectively interact and interoperate to deliver significant value to your organization.

InfoSphere Blueprint Director: Available as a bundled component of all Information Server product modules, it helps teams establish a vision for their information projects and then manage their execution. By linking blueprints to reference architectures and reusable best practices and methodologies, teams can improve predictability and increase their chance for success.

InfoSphere Business Glossary: Enables organizations to create and manage an enterprise vocabulary and classification system as well as link the terms to the information assets. An optional library of ready-to-use, industry-specific standard terms and definitions helps accelerate the population of the glossary. A consistent, easy-to-reference enterprise vocabulary helps closely align business and IT.

InfoSphere Metadata Workbench: Helps organization govern their information infrastructure effectively by allowing them to easily discover the data lineage: Where does this data come from and where does it go? Knowing the data source and lineage promotes line-of-business trust in the data and helps organizations comply with eDiscovery regulations. Additionally, it enables project teams to accurately analyze the impact of changes to the structure of source system data.

Enhanced connectivity: InfoSphere Information Server now provides high-performance native connectivity to data sources such as Oracle Essbase and Salesforce.com. Additionally, integration with IBM WebSphere® Cast Iron® provides connectivity to many of the leading software-as-a-service (SaaS) providers in the cloud, which helps many organizations address the challenges associated with hybrid onsite/offsite data integration needs.

InfoSphere FastTrack: Accelerates the translation of business requirements into data integration projects by capturing and defining business requirements in a common, familiar format and then transforming that business logic directly into InfoSphere DataStage data integration jobs.

InfoSphere Information Analyzer: Helps organizations quickly and easily understand data by offering data quality assessment, flexible data rules design and analysis, and data quality monitoring capabilities.

InfoSphere Discovery: Using patented analytics capabilities, InfoSphere Discovery analyzes both the metadata and the data values of the information infrastructure to intelligently capture business-object relationships and determine the applied transformations and business rules.

Streamline data delivery

InfoSphere DataStage is designed to simplify and streamline the critical process of accessing, transforming and delivering data. Version 8.5 offers an easy upgrade path and is filled with new capabilities. It adds powerful new features that help improve developer productivity and automate important tasks, making it possible for organizations to deliver high-value data projects more quickly and efficiently.

For more information

To learn more about InfoSphere DataStage 8.5, InfoSphere Information Server and related services from IBM, please contact your IBM marketing representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit: ibm.com/software/data/integration

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