



IBM Software Group

Application Support Facility for z/OS V3 R3

Customer Overview

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<http://www.ibm.com/software/applications/office/asf/>

Agenda

- ASF V3 R3 Overview
- Motivation for developing a Web client
- What is the ASF Web client?
- The graphical user interface
- DCF conversion for use in GUI editor
- ASF Web-Client and 3270-ASF
- ASF V3 R3 - Product structure
- Changes in the classical ASF
- Migration
- Experiences from beta customers
- ASF follow-on perspectives

ASF V3 R3 Product Overview and Structure

- ASF V3 R3 base includes
 - ▶ ASF V3 R2 base plus maintenance through March 31, 2003
 - ▶ ASF V3 R2 Document Composition feature plus maintenance
- Components and features not available in ASF V3 R3, but still available in V3 R2
 - ▶ Document Writing feature
 - ▶ Application Connectivity feature
 - ▶ Interface to OV/MVS
 - ▶ Interface to DISOSS
- Document Connect for ASF (Web client)
 - ▶ Available as a separately priced feature of ASF V3 R3
 - ▶ Includes
 - z/OS code for production use
 - Windows code for evaluation and/or development environment

The Most Urgent Requirements of ASF Users

- "State of the art" graphical front-end
 - ▶ Easy-to-learn for ASF newcomers
- Easy typing of text
 - ▶ As easy as doing it at home with a word processor
 - ▶ Address decreasing "DCF-skill"
- Flexibility in a changing IT world
 - ▶ New program interfaces
 - ▶ Document format for use in Web context

What is the ASF Web Client?

- A new separately priced feature of ASF V3 R3
 - ▶ Evolution instead of revolution
 - ▶ Officially named Document Connect for ASF
 - ▶ Commonly referred to as the Web client
- An answer to the most urgent requirements
 - ▶ New Web-based front-end for users
- An alternate way to create Letter-Request Records (LRRs)
- A thin client application
 - ▶ Specifically requires MS Internet Explorer as the browser

Prerequisites for ASF V3 R3

- OS/390 V2 R10 or later or z/OS R1 or later
 - ▶ Must include Language Environment
- One of the following:
 - ▶ IMS V7 or higher
 - ▶ CICS TS for OS/390 V1 R3 or later
 - ▶ CICS TS for z/OS V2 R1 or later
- DCF V1 R4 at most recent service level

Prerequisites for Document Connect for ASF

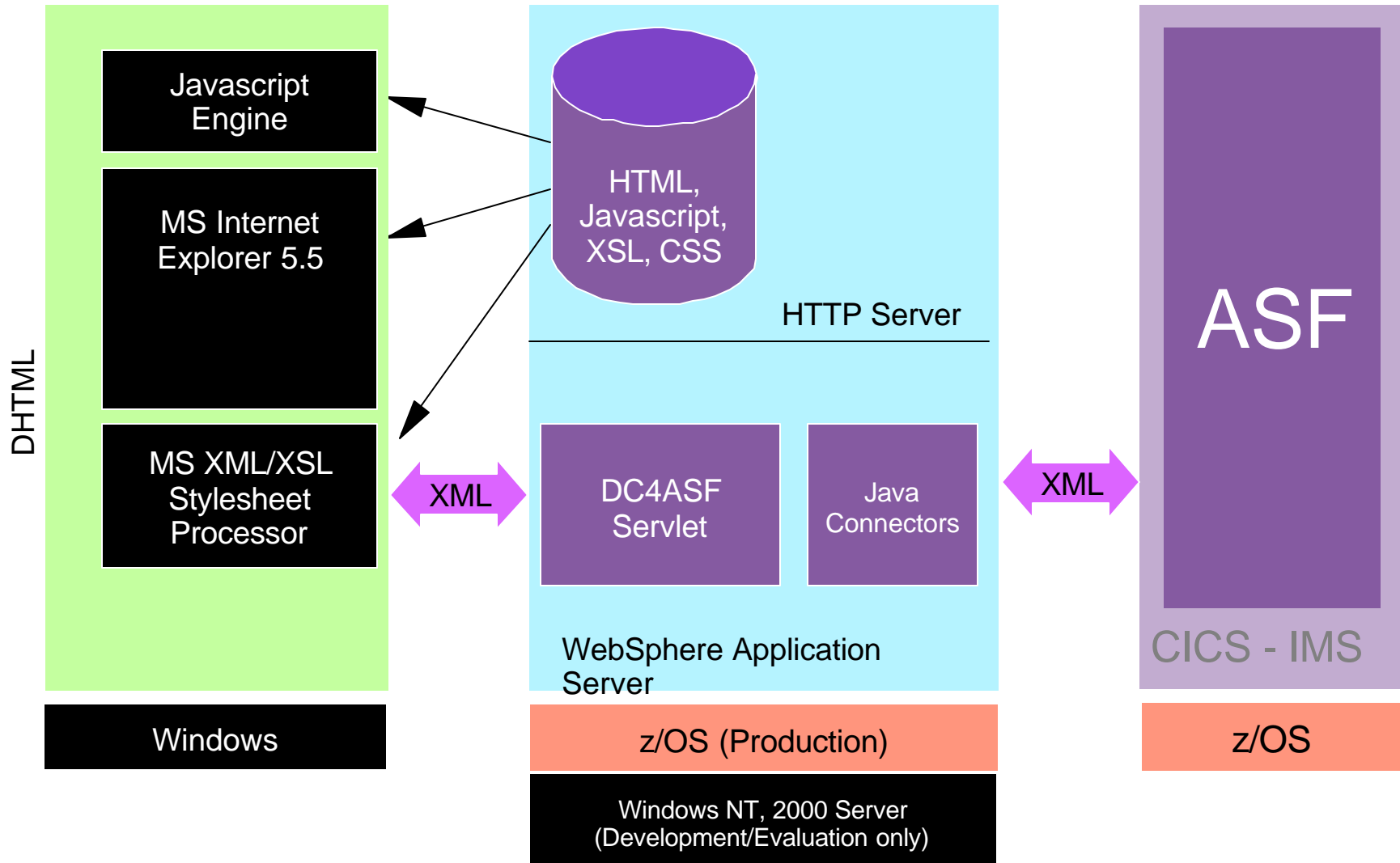
- WebSphere Application Server for OS/390 V3.5 or WAS for z/OS and OS/390 V4.0.1
- One of the following
 - ▶ MQSeries for OS/390 V5 R2
 - ▶ WebSphere MQ for z/OS V5.3
 - ▶ IMS Connect for OS/390 V1 R1
 - ▶ IMS Connect for z/OS V1 R2
 - ▶ CICS Transaction Gateway for S/390 V4 or V5
- End user workstations require
 - ▶ MS Internet Explorer 5.5 or later
 - ▶ MS Windows Installer 2.0
 - ▶ MS XML 3.0 and 4.0
 - ▶ MS Java Virtual Machine 5.0

Optional Corequisites: DC for ASF

- End user workstation software
 - ▶ AFP viewer (provided with ASF)
 - ▶ PDF viewer (for example, ADOBE Acrobat Reader)

- Server software
 - ▶ AFP to PDF transform
 - Must be z/OS (OS/390) based
 - Example: InfoPrint Server Transforms AFP to PDF
 - ▶ Archiving solution
 - Example: IBM Content Manager
 - ▶ Fax solution

Document Connect for ASF - Architecture



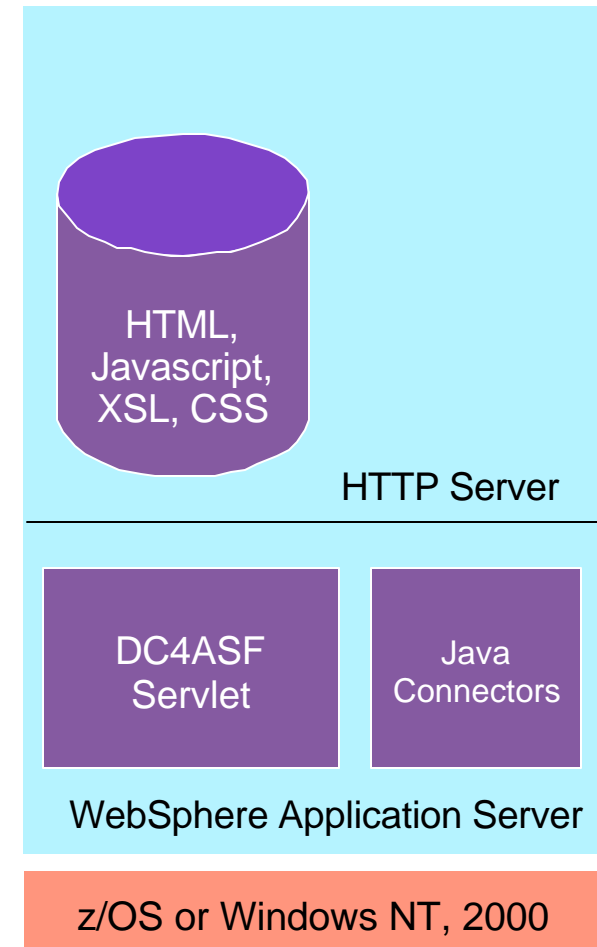
Mainframe ASF

- **CICS, OS/390 Batch:**
 - ▶ Virtually unchanged
 - ▶ Added:
 - Communication monitor, to process server requests
 - XML Building Services, to read the ASF databases and build XML
 - Server Command processor, to apply server commands
 - Minor enhancements to the document administration functions.
 - ▶ Formatting, post-processing, and APIs unchanged.



Server

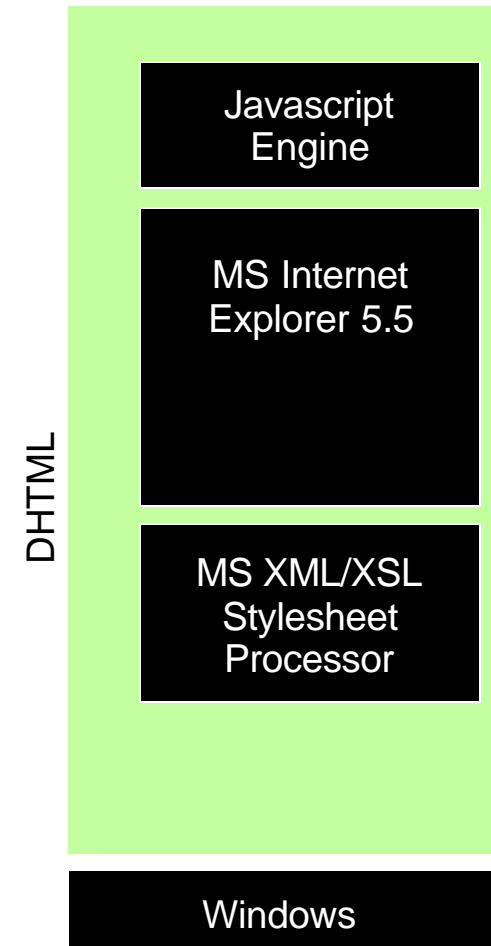
- **WebSphere Application Server**
 - ▶ z/OS required for production
 - ▶ Windows - optional for development and/or evaluation
 - ▶ Includes
 - Static components
 - Servlet:
 - "ASFPProxy": communication (MQSeries, IMSConnect, CICS Universal Client)
 - "ASFOjects": representation of XML objects created on the mainframe
 - Configuration using XML
 - Receives XML, sends commands



Client

■ Windows, Microsoft Internet Explorer:

- ▶ JScript:
 - Deal with user actions
 - Store processing state
- ▶ Applet:
 - Server communication
 - "Intelligent clipboard"
- ▶ Style sheet processor:
 - Process "original" XML
 - Create dynamic HTML (DHTML)
- ▶ Receives XML, sends commands





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Document Connect for ASF

Graphical User Interface



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Usability: User Centered Design

- ISONORM 9241/10
- "US and EU Accessibility" requirements
- Users with host background
- Users with workstation background
- Customizable
 - ▶ Customer standards
 - ▶ Integration with customer program environment

Graphical Web Interface

- Joint iterative development and validation with customers
- "State of the art"
 - ▶ Color, Text, Graphics, GUI-elements
- Use of mouse and/or keyboard (F-keys)
- Customizable
 - ▶ "Corporate Identity" standards
 - ▶ Layout, "visual design"
 - Font type and size, panel text

Supported Functions

- Paragraph selection
- Parameter prompting
- WYSIWYG individual text editing
- Preview of the formatted document
 - ▶ Quick preview of text only
 - ▶ Full preview of document as if printed
- Document composition termination
- List panels of SLL and CLL items in plan

Paragraph Selection

- Authorizations
 - ▶ According to GIL definitions

- New
 - ▶ Mandatory SPs cannot be deleted
 - ▶ Definition of fixed positions: first/last SP
 - ▶ Search for additional SPs by keywords (DB2 only)
 - ▶ Guidance through must-be-modified SPs



Plausibility Checks

- Use of existing plausibility exit FSNHLPS
- Some checks could become superfluous
 - ▶ Due to positional LTD entries



Editing of Individual Text

- Editor provides functions expected by word processing users
 - ▶ Bold, underscore, italic
 - ▶ Orientation
 - ▶ Ordered and unordered lists, tables
 - ▶ Fonts
 - ▶ Cut and paste
- Spell-checking and hyphenation
 - ▶ Server-based
 - ▶ Support of central dictionaries
 - Including customer-defined amendments

Parameter Prompting

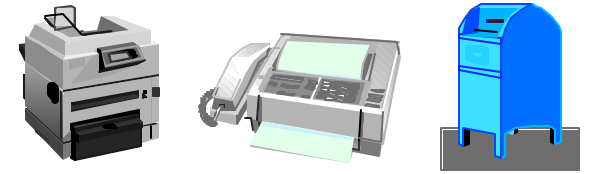
- Graphical elements
 - ▶ Tool tips
 - ▶ Guidance through mandatory fields
 - ▶ Coloring of processed fields
- Incorporation of customer data
 - ▶ Use of data passed upon invocation
 - ▶ Call of existing parameter-determination programs (PDP)
 - PDP interface:
 - SIB Typ 1 as known so far
 - Maximum 32767 parameters

Document Preview

- Formatting with DCF on the host
 - ▶ In z/OS environment
 - ▶ Use of AFP resources

- Preview in a separate window
 - ▶ Quick preview (line mode presentation)
 - ▶ Print preview (WYSIWYG)
 - AFP
 - Requires AFP viewer plug-in for browser
 - PDF
 - ADOBE Acrobat Reader plug-in for browser
 - Transformation of AFP to PDF
 - InfoPrint Server Transform for z/OS can provide this

Post-Processing



- **Printing**
 - ▶ All existing functions are supported
- **Fax**
 - ▶ Host-based solution via "Remote Print"
- **Workstation print & fax**
 - ▶ Via print preview
 - ▶ API/exit planned

Summary

- **ASF V3 R3**
 - ▶ Combines ASF V3 R2 base with Document Composition Feature
- **New Document Connect for ASF feature provides**
 - ▶ Web client interface to Document Composition function
 - ▶ Dramatically improved usability for new and existing users
 - ▶ Additional functions not available in 3270 interface
 - ▶ Text editing that looks and feels like popular word processing programs