

# IBM Informix software product family: Version 11.5

*Discover hassle-free data management*



---

## Highlights

- **Reliable:** Provides uninterrupted data access, even if one or more servers fail
  - **Low cost:** Cuts development costs by nearly eliminating up-front licensing costs typically incurred during the development phase
  - **Hassle-free:** Runs virtually unattended with self-managing capabilities that let you “set it and forget it”
  - **Best-of-breed embeddability:** Provides a reliable 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, according to the VendorRate Q2 2009 Report.<sup>1</sup> 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 is an object-relational database that delivers exceptional performance, reliability, embeddability and manageability, along with a complete range of application development options. With several Informix editions to choose from, OEMs, ISVs and businesses of all sizes can benefit from an affordable, yet simple, unbreakable and complete data management solution that can be deployed on low-cost hardware and on the operating system platform of choice.

## Reliable

Informix delivers continuous data availability that can be implemented using low-cost hardware in a cluster environment. Each server can be used to distribute workload, providing increased processing power to get the most from your hardware investments. Data is synchronized immediately—whether the additional servers are in the same room or around the world.

Informix also offers flexible replication and redundancy choices that provide built-in business continuity. In the case of a system failure, another server automatically takes over with no impact to your business.

Informix customers routinely achieve 99.999 percent data availability,<sup>2</sup> avoiding the high cost of both planned and unplanned application downtime.

## Low cost

Informix offers unparalleled cost-saving benefits by reducing the up-front licensing costs that are 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.<sup>3</sup> 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, with many features that allow Informix to “disappear” within an application. In addition to the self-monitoring and self-healing features built into Informix, 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 the company grows, Informix has them covered: customers with large deployments are able to manage an average of 2,000 Informix databases with a single DBA.<sup>4</sup> Informix also helps growing businesses scale on demand, with the ability to add processing capacity in minutes. In addition, businesses can distribute transactions across an entire network of servers and establish predefined business rules to distribute connections according to business needs.

---

**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=dmain\\_InformixDynamicServer](http://ibm.com/software/success/cssdb.nsf/softwareL2VW?OpenView&Count=30&RestrictToCategory=dmain_InformixDynamicServer)

---

## Best-of-breed embeddability

Thanks to over 2,500 loyal business partners, there are 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.<sup>2</sup> 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 described previously, Informix offers many other capabilities, such as:

- **Warehouse and business analytics:** Includes a powerful extract, load, transform (ELT) tool for users who want to build business intelligence and reporting solutions using data from various sources, including Informix
- **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 for Informix:** Provides a graphical administration tool to monitor and administer all of your Informix environments from a single console
- **IBM Informix DataBlade® modules:** Provide 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, it allows small to medium-sized 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 one socket, or a maximum of four cores 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 8 cores over a maximum of 2 sockets and 8GB 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 medium-sized 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 4 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 cluster 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](http://ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=630&uid=swg27013343&S_CMP=rnav)

## Informix Editions summary table

Edition	Licensing	Support options	Access	Resource limits	Capabilities
<b>Developer Edition</b> Linux/UNIX/ Windows/Mac	Free: 1 developer license; no distribution	Community	Public download	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 GB memory</li> <li>1 CPU</li> </ul>	All-inclusive
<b>Innovator-C Edition</b> Linux/UNIX/ Windows/Mac	Free to develop and deploy (distribution requires commercial license)	Optional: Selected Support charged per install/year	Public download	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 GB memory</li> <li>1 socket, total 4 cores</li> </ul>	<p><b>Features unavailable:</b> Compression, SDS, parallel features, partitioning, Advanced Access Control, Informix Warehouse Feature (SQL Warehousing Tool), multiple secondary servers</p> <p><b>Partially available:</b> 2-node cluster; 1 primary, 1 secondary server (HDR), ER (2 root nodes)</p>
<b>Choice Edition for Windows &amp; Choice Edition for Mac OS X</b>	Licensing via LU Socket, AU	Includes Support and Subscription in first year	Passport Advantage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8 GB memory</li> <li>2 sockets, total 8 cores</li> </ul>	<p><b>Features unavailable:</b> Compression, SDS, parallel features, partitioning, Advanced Access Control, Informix Warehouse Feature (SQL Warehousing Tool), multiple secondary servers</p> <p><b>Partially available:</b> 2-node cluster; 1 primary, 1 secondary server (HDR, RSS), ER (2 root nodes)</p>
<b>Growth Edition</b> Linux/UNIX/ Windows/Mac OS X	Licensing via LU Socket, AU, CS, PVU	Includes Support and Subscription in first year	Passport Advantage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16 GB memory</li> <li>4 sockets, total 16 cores</li> </ul>	<p><b>Features unavailable:</b> Compression, parallel features, partitioning</p> <p><b>Partially available:</b> 3-node cluster; 1 primary, any 2 secondary servers (HDR, RSS, SDS), unlimited ER root and leaf nodes</p>
<b>Ultimate Edition</b> Linux/UNIX/ Windows/Mac	Licensing via AU, CS, PVU	Includes Support and Subscription in first year	Passport Advantage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unlimited</li> </ul>	<b>For-charge feature:</b> 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 Web site:

[ibm.com/software/data/informix](http://ibm.com/software/data/informix)

---

© Copyright IBM Corporation 2010

IBM Corporation  
Software Group  
Route 100  
Somers, NY 10589  
U.S.A.

Produced in the United States of America  
July 2010  
All Rights Reserved

IBM, the IBM logo, [ibm.com](http://ibm.com), DataBlade and Informix are trademarks or registered trademarks of International Business Machines Corporation in the United States, other countries or both. If these and other IBM trademarked terms are marked on their first occurrence in this information with a trademark symbol (® or ™), these symbols indicate U.S. registered or common law trademarks owned by IBM at the time this information was published. Such trademarks may also be registered or common law trademarks in other countries. A current list of IBM trademarks is available on the Web at “Copyright and trademark information” at [ibm.com/legal/copytrade.shtml](http://ibm.com/legal/copytrade.shtml)

Linux is a registered trademark of Linus Torvalds in the United States, other countries or both.

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

UNIX is a registered trademark of The Open Group in the United States and other countries.

Other company, product or service names may be trademarks or service marks of others.

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. All statements regarding IBM's future direction and intent are subject to change or withdrawal without notice, and represent goals and objectives only.

1 The VendorRate 2009 Year End Report. [ibm.com/discoverinformix](http://ibm.com/discoverinformix)

2 Informix Roadmap. December 2008.  
[ibm.com/ro/events/informix/pdf/IBM\\_Informix\\_Roadmap.pdf](http://ibm.com/ro/events/informix/pdf/IBM_Informix_Roadmap.pdf)

3 “Deep Compression with IBM Informix Dynamic Server (IDS) 11.5.”  
<http://download.boulder.ibm.com/ibmdl/pub/software/data/sw-library/demos/informix/CompressionDemo.swf>

4 Embedding Informix: Real World Experiences.  
[ibm.com/software/data/informix/embed/experience.html](http://ibm.com/software/data/informix/embed/experience.html)



Please Recycle