

Moving to the DI Client

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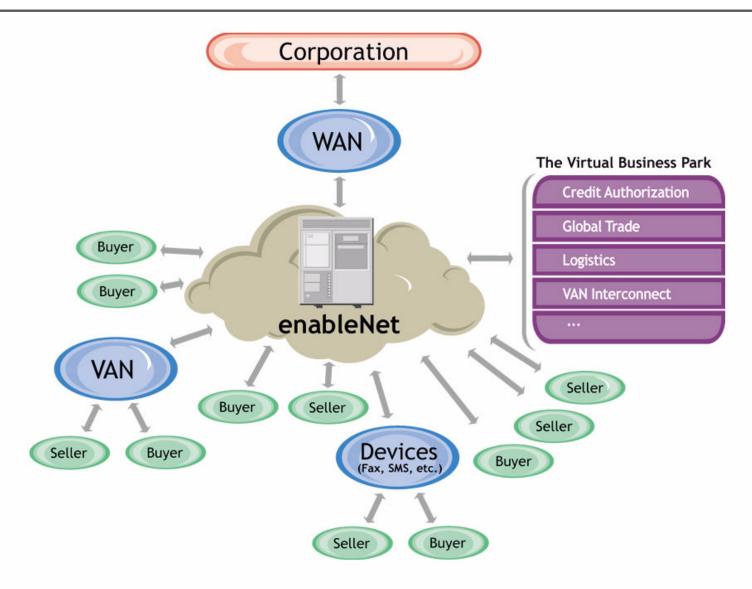
Who is CommerceQuest?



- Outsourced B2B Solutions Provider
- enableNet
 - e-Adapter suite of B2B integration software
 - Professional services
 - Transport, transformation, assured delivery, protection, and recovery
- ★ Any-to-any translation/transformation
- XML-based application integration toolkit
- ★ IBM MQ Series transport
- Security X.509 PKI

What is enableNet?





The Environment



- ★ New DI Installation
- ★ Provider of Data Transformation Services
- ★ Small Set of Customers (Hubs)
- ★ Many EDI trading partners
- ★ Few transaction sets
- Rapid growth environment

Considerations



- ★ Few, but experienced (host) mappers
- ★ Potential "off-shore" mapping
- Potential customer mapping
- High growth in number of mappers
- ⋆ DB2 environment
- ★ Three system environment
 - Development
 - ▶ Pilot Test
 - Production

Concepts

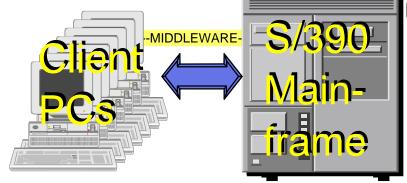


- ★ GUI Interface Drag and Drop Mapping
- Windows Access
- ★ Translation on Host
- Improved Terminology
- ODBC Data Base Access
- ★ Stand-alone Mode
- ★ Client/Server Mode
- ★ Middleware

Implementation



Phase I



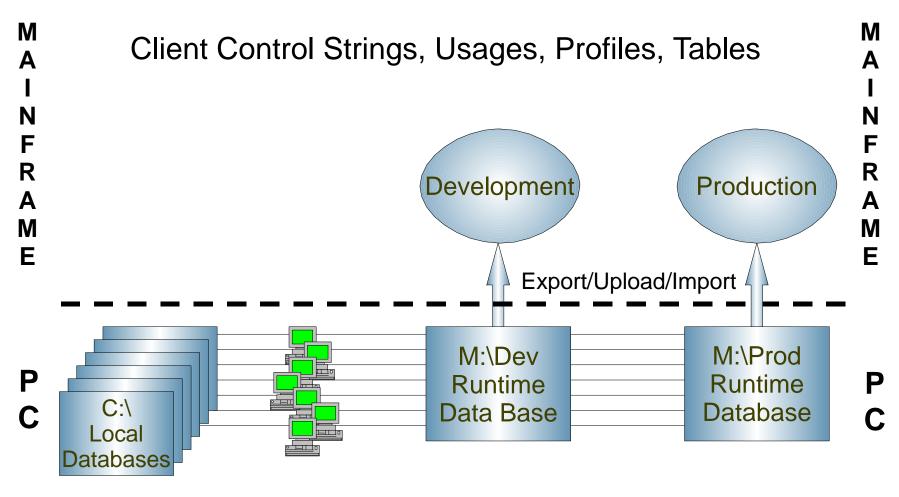
Phase III



Phase II

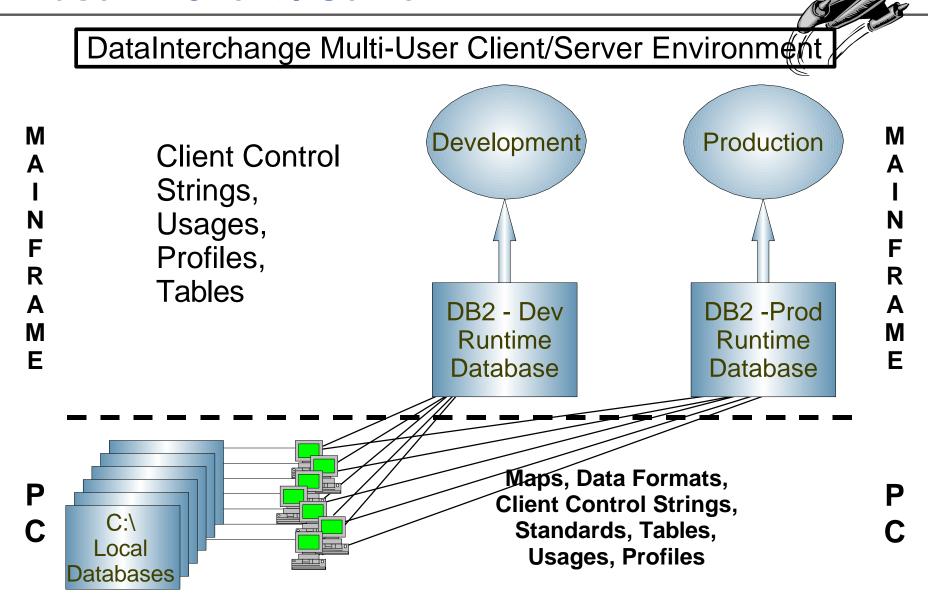
Phase II - Stand Alone

DataInterchange Multi-User Stand-Alone Environment



Maps, Data Formats, Client Control Strings, Standards, Tables

Phase III- Client / Server



We Learned a New Vocabulary



DI-CLIENT VOCABULARY

DI-HOST	DI-CLIENT
Requestor Profile	Mailbox
Validation Table	Code List
Security Profile	Network Security
System Profile	CICS Performance
Network Operation Profile	Network Commands
Envelope Profile	Envelope Default
ADFs	Data Formats
Trading Partner Transactions	Mapping / Maps
T-Type Translation Table	Forward Translation
R-Type Translation Table	Reverse Translation
Generate	Compile
Structures Passed Separately	Records
Structures Not Passed Separately	Structures
Profiles (except Trading Partner)	Setup
ADAM Control Table	User Exits
Multiple Occurrence Mapping	Path Qualified Mapping
Log File	Log Data
Application Definition Profile	Application Defaults

What We Learned about Implementation



- Stand-alone setup is simple.
- ★ Export, File Transfer, Import is a "pain" in stand-alone mode.
- ★ In addition to the shared databases, it was useful to have local databases on each system.
- ★ Don't bother with Stand-alone Implementation if you plan to use Client/Server.
- ★ Each workstation required installation of DB2 Connect in Client/Server mode.

What We Learned about Using the Client



★ It is easy to have lots of windows open.

★ Print Preview allows the "Export" of print files in many formats.

Queries provide for custom sorting and filtering of lists of DI objects.

An object may be "locked" because you, yourself, have it open in another window.

What We Learned about Using the Host with the Client



★ General Rule:

Administration - Client Translation - Host

- However... in Client/Server mode, Profiles, Usages, and Tables may be created and maintained on either the host or the Client.
- Maps, ADFs, and Standards are in a different format for the Client.
- It worked well to have only Maps, ADFs, and Standards, and Tables on the Client in Stand-alone mode.

What We Learned about Data Formats



- Proper use of the Dictionary takes planning, but can save time.
- ★ The Data Format Hierarchy is more well defined:
 LOOP / RECORD / STRUCTURE / FIELD
- ★ Each level in the data format hierarchy must be saved before defining the next level.
- ★ The Client "helps" when entering field names.
- Names need not be unique!

What We Learned about Mapping



- Multiple Occurrence mapping is "Drag and Drop" (Dragging the first record in the data format loop to the standard loop).
- Single Occurrence mapping is a "Double-click" on the segment.
- Element repeat mapping is a "Double-click" on the element or on the existing mapping.
- ★ The drop down list of accumulator actions is limited. (For an inbound translation, an accumulator can be mapped to an AN field, but not to a CH field.)

What We Liked



- Dictionary concept can be efficient and effective.
- The Client is easy to learn and use.
- ★ The terminology is better.
- The Client offers private database capability.
- ★ Objects are easy to print.
- Views are available for lists of Client objects.
- Comments may be entered at various levels.
- Objects are userid, date, and time stamped.
- It is easy to migrate objects between systems.

What We Didn't Like



- ★ There is a "re-learning" curve for experience host mappers.
- Middleware and ODBC connections required some expertise.
- Print formats are not as readable.
- Multiple copies of the Client need to be maintained.
- Usages cannot be associated with control strings.
- Control strings cannot be directly migrated to other systems.
- ★ Table entries cannot be selected if data lengths are inconsistent.
- Client control strings cannot be exported from the mainframe.

Conclusion



- DI Client (with ODBC) was easier to install than anticipated.
- ★ Mapping is much easier in the Client.
- Data Format (ADF) organization is better.
- ★ It is easier to print from the Client.
- ★ Print formats take some "getting used to".
- If converting to the Client, make the "leap" to multi-user Client/Server with all objects maintained on the Client.
- ★ We're glad we did it!