

IBM Introduces eNetwork Wireless Family of Products

Renames ARTour, Introduces New and Enhanced Products for Improved Mobile Connectivity

RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, N.C. September 9, 1997 . . . IBM today announced several enhancements to the eNetwork Wireless family of products, formerly known as ARTour. These announcements include the introduction of beta programs for eNetwork Emulator Express, eNetwork Wireless Gateway/Client and eNetwork Web Express.

The IBM eNetwork Wireless family of middleware products extends the reach of the network by providing mobile users access to existing IP-based applications over wireless and dial-up networks, without complex reprogramming. This software can reduce the cost, complexity and time required to deploy mobile computing solutions. These products continue to deliver on the IBM eNetwork Software promise of providing customers with access anytime, anywhere to their mission critical information, whether host or web based.

"IBM eNetwork Wireless is the most comprehensive, open, end-to-end wireless solution in the marketplace today," said Julie Roberson, manager of mobile marketing for IBM Networking Software division. "We provide the broadest network coverage available for truly global solutions. By incorporating TCP/IP, Web and host access we offer unparalleled ease in application integration."

IBM eNetwork Emulator Express - *Extending Your Enterprise*

IBM eNetwork Emulator Express lets customers seamlessly extend their existing host applications to mobile employees over wireless or dial-up networks. It provides mobile access to the same familiar screens and commands that an in-office worker would use if directly connected to the network, enabling users to build on their existing systems and investments.

The product includes an entry version of IBM's eNetwork Personal Communications emulation software, and works with any other standard emulator which provides TN3270 and TN5250 emulation. eNetwork Wireless Emulator Express clients and servers work together to significantly reduce the amount of data transferred over the network - critical in a low bandwidth wireless environment.

Highlights of eNetwork Emulator Express include:

- Reduces data transmission by more than 50%.
- Provides optimized 3270 and AS/400 5250 emulation.
- Improves performance by transmitting only modified data via data caching.
- Delivers multiprotocol support for wireless and dial-up networks when used with IBM eNetwork Wireless Gateway and Clients.

The town of Bossier City, Louisiana is one customer who is taking advantage of IBM eNetwork Emulator Express. "The eNetwork Emulator Express is the most flexible system I have seen. It is going to allow us to implement our vision of the future. We will be able to customize the system to meet the needs of our city and the surrounding cities," said Keith Rider, director of information services for Bossier City, Louisiana.

IBM eNetwork Wireless Gateway and Client - *Foundation for Wireless Solutions*

The eNetwork Wireless Gateway and Client provide TCP/IP communication over wireless and dial-up networks and offer performance-enhancing applications. A beta version offering Windows NT** support

for the client is being announced today, widening the range of devices supported. Other enhancements for this beta version include:

- DATARADIO support means better network integration because it supports industry wireless devices widely used in the public safety arena. This enhances the already wide range of devices and protocols supported by eNetwork Wireless software.
- Primary Rate ISDN support saves customers money because it allows customer to use ISDN 30 lines in Europe - a 15 times improvement over Basic Rate ISDN.
- TCP/IP Optimization improves the cost of data transfer and performance over all networks. This optimization dramatically improves process flows between the gateway and client, through data compression and stripping.
- Caller Line Identification (CLI) or Caller ID support is now available to provide customers added convenience and security while connected to an ISDN network.
- Call Duration Records (CDR) support allows customers to track usage by seeing the total time connected for ISDN-connected networks, and will be helpful for billing purposes.

IBM eNetwork Web Express - *Web Without Wires, Web Without Waiting*

In addition to providing wireless access to the Internet and company intranets, eNetwork Web Express reduces data traffic from 70-90%, supports most popular Web browsers and enables background queuing of requests and disconnected operations. The performance and usability enhancements for this beta version of eNetwork Web Express mean more network efficiency and better user productivity, and include:

- Improved client graphic user interface (GUI) allows users to intuitively learn how to use the product, resulting in more productivity in less time.
- Improved configuration interfaces for both the client and server, resulting in faster set up time.
- Multithreading capabilities in the background allow customers to queue up multiple browser requests even while disconnected.
- Performance improvements resulting in reduced line connection times and costs.
- Automatic browser configuration avoids a separate step of setting up the browser for Web Express, and lets the customer use the product faster.

Pricing and Availability

Since the enhanced versions of IBM eNetwork Emulator Express, IBM eNetwork Wireless Gateway/Client and eNetwork Wireless Web Express are currently only available in beta, full pricing and availability information will be announced later this fall.

Information about IBM eNetwork Wireless and other IBM mobile offerings can be found at <http://www.software.ibm.com/mobile>.

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