IBM

DB2® Information Management Software

Informix to DB2 Migration - Frequently Asked Questions

SAP discontinues support for Informix

■ *What are SAP's announced plans regarding future support for Informix?*

In a letter released by SAP® in early March 2005, SAP announced plans to discontinue support of IDS as an underlying database, beginning with SAP products released in the 2nd half of 2005. This change will not affect SAP's commitment to IDS V10 or SAP's support of IDS for WAS 6.40 as part of SAP Netweaver™ 04. Only those customers who require Unicode enablement, support for Java written SAP applications or enhancements requiring the use of future releases of SAP will be affected by this change. For additional information on SAP support plans for IDS, please visit the SAP Service Marketplace at *www.service.sap.com* (S-User ID required for access).

■ *What is IBM's response?*

IBM continues to deliver on its commitment to the growth, enhancement and innovation of the Informix® Dynamic Server that meet the needs of clients and partners who embed IDS in their applications. In fact, in the first quarter of 2005, IBM announced IDS V10, a new version with rich features that further build on the strengths of IDS. This new version comprises the most significant changes to the product since its introduction in 1999. In parallel to enhancing IDS, IBM has continued to work closely with SAP to deliver leading functionality into DB2 Universal Database (UDB), much of which is based on existing IDS product technology. Customers who must transition are encouraged to consider DB2 and it's proven performance and extensive enhancements specifically for the SAP environment.

■ *Is SAP recommending that its customers migrate to DB2?*

Thirty years ago, SAP and IBM teamed to create one of the world's most powerful technology alliances. Today, IBM has delivered solutions to customers worldwide, in the process establishing one of the fastest growing alliances with SAP. To continue this phenomenal growth, IBM and SAP have agreed to extend the product integration of IBM DB2 Universal Database™ with SAP solutions. SAP views DB2 as a natural transition option for customers considering migration or requiring functionality not supported by IDS.

■ *Where can I get more information about SAP's plans?*

For additional information on SAP support plans for IDS, please visit the SAP Service Marketplace at *www.service.sap.com* (S-User ID required for access).

Migrating to DB2

■ *How are IBM and SAP working together to ensure a successful migration?*

IBM has years of experience in migration with countless success stories. Our greatest strength is in the migration, tuning and configuration of the database. We've made significant investments in developing tools to simplify and automate the migration process. IBM's certified SAP migration specialists are highly skilled and well trained to perform the migration. If we encounter any problem with the SAP application, IBM has direct access to resources at SAP who will work to ensure that the entire process runs smoothly and efficiently.

Ensuring a seamless integration of DB2 and SAP

■ *Why DB2?*

IBM has put significant resources into building a technology plan to ensure DB2 and SAP work in harmony, making the database a seamless component of the SAP application. The first release of this technology plan is delivered in DB2 V8.2.2, a release tailored specifically for the SAP environment. The enhancements include 'Silent Install,' which allows DB2 to be installed as part of the SAP installation, a new SAP DB2 workload setting to automate the configuration of DB2 in an SAP environment and SQL optimizations tailored for SAP applications.

■ *What are the benefits of migrating to DB2?*

When it comes to SAP, DB2 delivers. Our innovative technology, tight integration, joint development efforts, long standing and trusted relationship with SAP and widely proven performance make us a perfect match for customers considering migration.

■ *What is the migration offering?*

The migration offering consists of:

- *No charge migration assessment: IBM Migration Practice will provide customers with an estimate of the duration and scope of the migration. This will be performed remotely and take approximately one week to complete.*
- *No-charge license exchange (Informix to DB2).*
- *Migration planning and migration services at discounted prices.*
- *DB2 for SAP Education: Customers who purchase IBM migration services qualify to receive one prepaid seat for use in DB2 for SAP Education.*

■ *Is the migration offering available in all geographies?*

Yes.

■ *Do I have to migrate all my SAP applications at once, or can I migrate selected applications?*

The applications can be migrated all at once or in a planned sequence. The sequence is assessed early in the project, and the migration strategy is agreed upon with the customer.

■ *How will migrating to DB2 affect my SAP application hardware platform?*

DB2 can run on any of the hardware platforms that your SAP applications currently reside on, with the exception of Tru64.

■ *Can an SAP upgrade be performed in conjunction with a database migration?*

Yes, a migration and SAP upgrade can be completed as part of the same project.

■ *How does DB2 pricing compare to other competitive databases?*

IBM offers simple and flexible pricing options for DB2. This pricing strategy allows any organization, from small and midsize businesses to large enterprises, to choose the strategy that best meets their requirements and fully optimizes their software investment.

■ *Will there be a license charge to migrate to DB2?*

IBM customers can exchange Informix licenses for equivalent DB2 licenses at no charge, provided they are fully licensed and current on maintenance.

■ *Can I convert OEM licenses for Informix on SAP to a direct DB2 license that is unlimited use?*
Yes. Customers may choose to procure their DB2 licenses via the IBM Enterprise License Agreement (ELA) and gain wider use of their DB2 licenses outside their SAP environment.

Staffing for migration

■ *What skills will my staff need to learn to transition to DB2?*
Excellent training is required to ensure the long-term success of your SAP implementation. IBM provides technical documentation and training materials at no cost to you to ease the transition to DB2. Classes on transitioning to DB2 are available from the IBM Migration Practice during the migration. Also, many customers have found that their DBA productivity increases when they invest in extended DB2 education. IBM and SAP provide many educational offerings that are available for a nominal fee or at no cost. IBM will work with you to determine what works best for your organization financially.

■ *My staff has limited DBA skills outside of Informix. What education and training do SAP and IBM offer?*
SAP offers formal DB2 for SAP education in many local areas. Customers may enroll in these classes directly through SAP or take advantage of educational options available directly through IBM. IBM offers a limited number of free seats in SAP's DB2 for SAP classes as part of IBM's migration services. Customers who do not qualify for this offering may leverage IBM's advanced course offerings for experienced DBAs. For more details on IBM education, log on to our Web site at **ibm.com**/education.

■ *Where can I learn more about IBM classes and DB2 certifications?*
Information about IBM classes on DB2 can be found at **ibm.com**/software/data/education. DB2 certification information can be found at **ibm.com**/software/data/education/cert. There are a number of free tutorials by IBM that are offered online to assist your team in becoming skilled and certified on DB2. They can be found at **ibm.com**/developerworks/db2.

■ *What factors affect the amount of effort to migrate SAP systems to DB2?*
The factors affecting the amount of effort required to migrate SAP systems to DB2 include:

- *The number of customizations made to the delivered SAP schema, i.e., the number of new or modified columns, tables, views and indexes.*
- *The amount of data to be migrated, especially the number of tables with row counts over 1 million or larger than 1GB. These counts determine which utilities will be used to move the data to stay within the cut-over window specified by the client. The utilities also determine whether datatype transformation scripts between the source and target database are required.*
- *The number of interfaces that require conversion.*
- *The combination of platform and SAP release.*
- *The availability of the hardware.*
- *Backup and recovery procedures to be customized.*

■ *What is the recommended makeup of my migration team?*
The customer's project team should include a project manager, a DBA who is familiar with your source system and several SAP developers familiar with the source system.

■ *What is the makeup of the IBM migration team?*
The IBM team includes, at a minimum, an IBM project manager, a senior SAP basis consultant and a SAP certified migration specialist. Additional technical resources may be required to provide subject matter expertise as needed.

■ *Can IBM assist me if I want to perform the migration using internal resources?*

Yes. IBM can offer assistance in the form of pre-sales support, IBM Redbooks, migration assessments, migration tools, education and other aids to ease the transition. IBM can also provide skilled services staff to augment the customer's team if they only require select skills to make the migration a success.

Phases of the migration

■ *What is SAP's recommended approach to migration?*

The IBM team follows an SAP approved migration plan. These phases include:

- *Perform a full SAP migration assessment: Ensure that the project is fully scoped and a proper SAP approved project plan can be created.*
- *Obtain an SAP migration key to certify the migration.*
- *Test and plan the database and application migration.*
- *Migrate development databases and SAP applications.*
- *Review and refine the migrated development system.*
- *Test the migration of the production system.*
- *Refine, tune and plan for the Go-Live production which accurately identifies the duration and impact of the off-line window for the migration.*
- *Perform full production migration including downtime window.*
- *Tune DB2 and SAP performance on the new live production system .*

■ *What is a migration assessment?*

IBM offers two forms of migration assessment:

- *Free assessment: The customer fills out a questionnaire with information on customizations, stored procedures, triggers, UDFs, customized scripts, amount of data, interfaces requiring conversion, bolt-on third-party applications and other considerations. The deliverable to the customer is a ballpark estimate of service hours and costs associated with the migration.*
- *Formal onsite assessment: For the migration assessment engagement, the services include running of SAP comparison reports and reviewing customizations, review of customer documentation, identification of customized applications and identification and review of interfaces. The deliverables are a migration strategy plan and a project statement of work. This assessment requires the purchase of services.*

■ *How do I get started, whom do I contact regarding IBM's migration program?*

IBM has set-up a special e-mail address for customers interested in this migration program. Please send all requests to:

IDSSAPDB@us.ibm.com. Please include all important information such as company name, contact name and phone number.

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