



INFORMATION

Technology Partner Program Business Objects and Ipedo

Ipedo XIP and Business Objects

- Integrates internal and external information, such as multiple databases and Web Services, to enable real-time operational business decisions
- Speeds deployment of new universes that rely on disparate and complex data
- Improves ROI on existing information sources and systems
- Reduces the cost of change with an extensible infrastructure
- Delivers high performance using advanced query optimization and caching

Enterprise Information Integration Platform with the Power of SQL and Flexibility of XQuery

Ipedo helps organizations extend the value and utility of their Business Objects deployment to help make better business decisions.

Ipedo XIP is an Enterprise Information Integration (EII) product that leverages SQL and XML to integrate and manage information and metadata from disparate, complex data sources. EII is a new style of integration that uses federated queries across virtual views to collect data from distributed sources on demand. Ipedo XIP provides a powerful and robust system for managing information and adding value to data to enable real-time business decisions. Ipedo's query-based integration approach complements BusinessObjects Data Integrator product, which loads a data warehouse using a batch data migration.

Ipedo's novel approach treats existing corporate databases and external data flows as a single, virtual data source. This allows Business Objects users to automatically aggregate and present information from disparate sources. These sources may be relational databases, legacy applications, Web Services, message queues, file systems, or collections of documents.

Synopsis of Solution

The key to making informed decisions is having the right data in the right place at the right time. Executives and line managers rely on business intelligence (BI) and reporting tools, such as BusinessObjects Web Intelligence and Crystal Reports, to deliver timely, accurate, and relevant data for both strategic and operational decisions.

Ipedo provides an information integration layer that complements the Business Objects reporting, query and analysis tools. Ipedo's approach treats all information, both inside and outside the firewall, as a single, virtual data source. It allows business users to perform on-demand queries across all their data, leveraging highly interactive tools from Business Objects, to generate the information they need as they need it.

Web Intelligence and Crystal Reports users connect to Ipedo as they would connect to any other database. In Ipedo, they can build views that combine information from disparate relational databases, Web Services, or other data sources. Each view appears as a different data source in Web Intelligence or Crystal Reports. Once the views are created, users do not need to know the details of where the data originates, although data lineage information is available. Users can simply create reports and do analyses using all the information they need in a single source -- Ipedo.

Business Objects and Ipedo

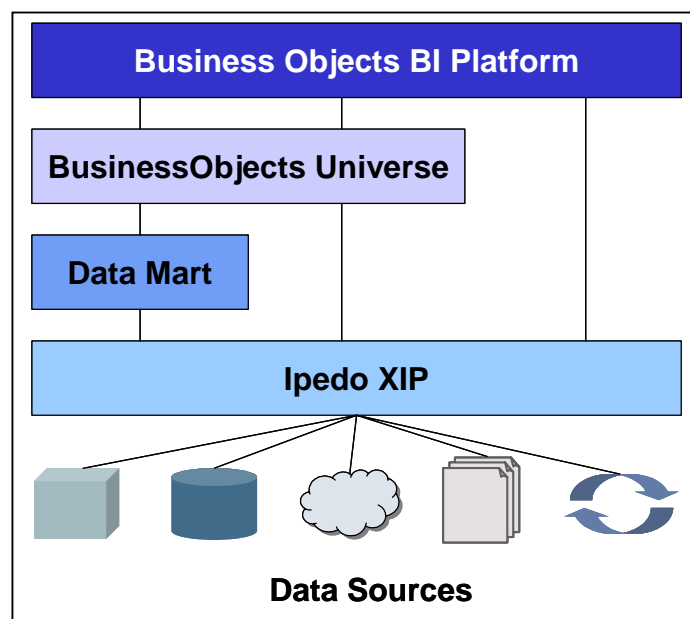
Solution Details

Ipedo XIP allows enterprises to build a strategic competitive advantage by using their existing IT investments in innovative ways. Ipedo exploits the power of SQL and the flexibility of XML to leverage existing information sources and systems to extend their useful life.

To business intelligence or enterprise reporting applications, Ipedo looks like either a relational database or XML document. For each schema visible to these applications, Ipedo has connections and mappings to multiple data sources. Ipedo XIP uses a Dual-Core (SQL and XQuery) query engine to manage both structured and unstructured data in their native format.

SQL works best for querying relational data, while XQuery is especially well suited for querying Web Services, data streams, and message queues, any of which may contain arbitrarily complex hierarchical structures or schemas.

Ipedo can function in several ways to enable broader enterprise reporting. First, it can load a data mart with information from Web Services, along with XML and relational data. Users can reuse this information or share it with other applications. Second, Ipedo can provide a universe with access to information from both static and live sources. Rather than building a data mart, users would build a universe on top of Ipedo, which appears as a relational database, even though it is really mapping to multiple data sources. Third, Ipedo can deliver real-time data directly to Business Objects analytics or reporting tools, streamlining the reporting process and simplifying data access to relational or unstructured data sources.



Ipedo XIP adds value to Web Intelligence and Crystal Reports in several key ways.

- Extends access to real-time information
- Provides access to data from multiple sources
- Incorporates Web Services and other unstructured data
- Reduces data replication

Extends access to real-time information

Ipedo allows users access to up-to-the-minute information by providing on-demand views of different information sources to BI software. Ipedo's SQL and XQuery engines evaluate and optimize queries across multiple data sources to provide rapid access to all information sources quickly and efficiently in a single view.

Ipedo XIP's optimization engine performs remote source optimization to determine affinity, lowest-cost join ordering, and join algorithms. It applies heuristics when cost-based optimization information is unavailable. Ipedo further improves query performance by storing queries and results in a configurable cache for rapid access to information. An additional benefit of caching frequently used information is that it reduces the load on back-end systems.

Provides access to data from multiple sources

Ipedo XIP makes all data universally accessible by consolidating different data topologies, formats, and locations. Its unique Dual-Core query engine searches information across multiple sources using a unique approach that fuses the power of SQL and flexibility of XQuery.

Ipedo appears to BI tools as a single source, containing fresh information. The ability to integrate information from disparate sources across the enterprise enables more informed decision making. Ipedo ensures consistency across disparate systems and documents by expressing all information in either in the form of a virtual relational database schema or virtual XML schema.

Incorporates Web Services and other unstructured data

Ipedo XIP makes it easy to use data from Web Services in a data mart, Universe, or report. It hides the complexity of Web Services registries, multiple databases, content repositories, and message streams, each with its own different access protocols. Ipedo provides a flexible and scalable infrastructure that makes BI tools more powerful, useful, and valuable. Its relational and XML views perform real-time analysis and filtering on data from relational databases (Oracle, DB2, SQL Server, Teradata, MySQL), legacy applications, file systems, or collections of documents, and present the results in Web Intelligence and Crystal Reports.

Reduces data replication

Ipedo XIP add flexibility to the reporting infrastructure by eliminating the need to replicate local data marts used solely for providing information to supply reports. In addition, Ipedo's EII capabilities reduce the load on production systems by retrieving only the required information and making it reusable to multiple tools rather than having each one perform its own queries.

Summary

For organizations that need to create reports based on information that spans different data sources, regardless of whether those databases are from different vendors, are distributed geographically, or incorporate live data from Web Services, Ipedo delivers a convenient solution. By connecting to Ipedo XIP's virtual data layer, Business Objects users can gain access to information that spans the enterprise or beyond.

Using Ipedo as an EII layer to support business intelligence and enterprise reporting:

- Produces better reports with up-to-date information that spans diverse data sources, both structured and unstructured
- Reduces data replication by leaving information in place and querying on demand
- Cuts the cost of integrating data from disparate systems and external analysis tools by replacing expensive custom programming with simple queries
- Eliminates manual error checking by using real-time business rules processing

Contact

For further information, please contact technologypartner@businessobjects.com.

► www.businessobjects.com

Americas Tel: +1 800 877 2340	Asia-Pacific Tel: +65 6887 4228	Europe, Middle East, Africa Tel: +33 1 41 25 21 21	Japan Tel: +81 3 5447 3900
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