TIBCO Spotfire Application Data Services

Spotfire®

Technical Overview

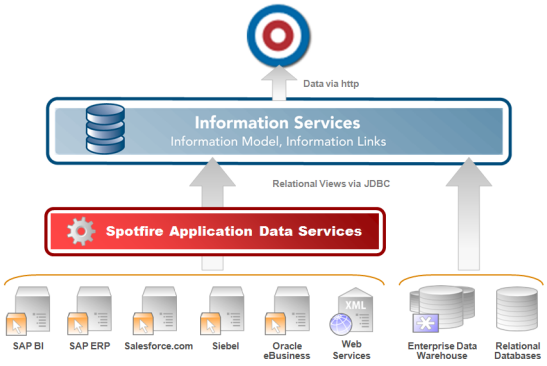
TIBCO Spotfire® Application Data Services enable instant access to packaged applications such as SAP, Siebel, and Oracle E-Business Suite, and deliver their content as pre-built, reusable data views. Spotfire® Application Data Services allows enterprises to quickly and easily implement a data connectivity layer, providing companies with the ability to build Spotfire solutions that support dynamic business needs.

Extracting data from packaged applications is not a trivial task. Specialized consultants are often needed to decipher these systems' proprietary interfaces and data structures. Combining packaged application data with other data sources is even more challenging.

Spotfire Application Data Services unlocks data from packaged applications and deliver it as standards-based SQL. Spotfire Application Data Services deliver high-level abstracts of the most common business objects, such as Orders, Invoices, and Customers. This enables the Spotfire® platform to consume the content, providing users with the visibility they need to effectively run their businesses.

Spotfire Application Data Services is an on-demand data integration platform, with common underlying features and benefits:

- Data caching – of frequently used data
- Access management – to the underlying system
- Administrative console – to monitor queries
- Connectivity tuning – for load management
- Metadata management – view procedure or table definitions
- High performance – faster than basic adapters, no XML transforms required



ADVANTAGES

TIBCO Spotfire Application Data Services go beyond basic connectivity and offer many project advantages, including:

- Lower risk – Spotfire Application Data Services reduce the need for expensive, specialized resources, lowering the time, cost, and risk of developing powerful and data rich applications.
- Combine information, on-demand – Spotfire Application Data Services work together with or independently of vendor provided data warehouses such as SAP BW to mix and match information from across the company. Data Services provide an incremental development approach, reducing or eliminating the need for data warehouse schema or ETL changes.

USES

Spotfire Application Data Services provide the following capabilities:

- Single View of a Customer – On-demand aggregation of operational and historical data about a given customer (or any other business object) across data sources improve visibility for sales and service professionals.
- Data Federation– Access, combine, and deliver information from disparate data sources, including Siebel, SAP, Oracle EBS and Salesforce.com.
- Operational Business Intelligence – Use Spotfire Application Data Services to power the Spotfire platform. On-demand information from packaged applications enable better management visibility and day-to-day business decisions.

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TIBCO Spotfire Application Data Services

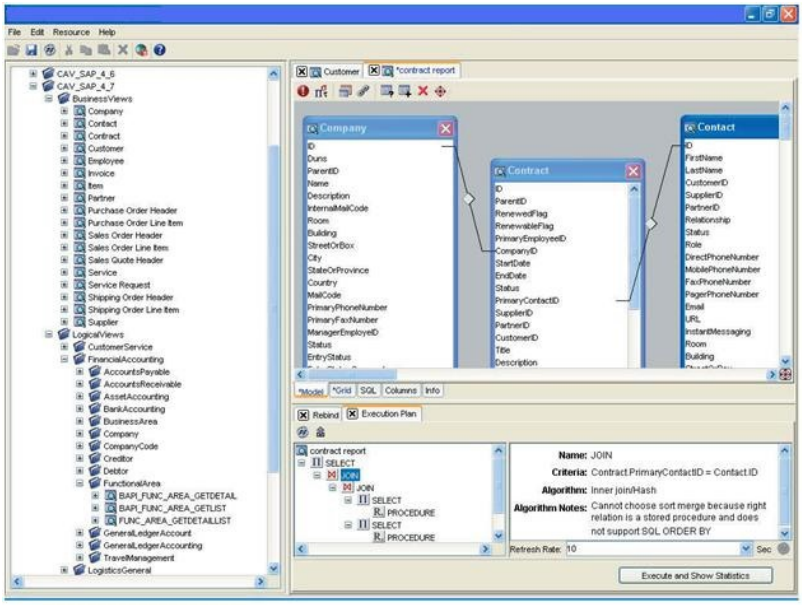
ATTRIBUTES & CAPABILITIES

Connectivity

Spotfire Application Data Services provide a pre-defined data abstraction of SAP, Oracle, Siebel, and Salesforce.com data. They provide high-level summaries of the most common application objects. Semantics and data types are derived directly from the packaged applications, allowing users to easily find the data required to meet their business needs. Spotfire Application Data Services also provide more detailed access to underlying application resources.

Spotfire Application Data Services:

- Eliminates the need to pre-build a data warehouse or mart for CRM or ERP systems
- Offloads queries against mission critical transaction systems to "just in time" caching layer
- Introspects data models from packaged, API-based applications and delivers it as standards-based SQL to Spotfire Information Services
- Accelerates data modeling with a pre-built set of the most common data views for each application
- Transforms the data into the form required by Spotfire software with a complete set of powerful and flexible tools
- Speeds up data access from slow data sources by taking advantage of the optional caching layer



Spotfire Application Data Services from a developer's perspective. The left tree shows some of the hundreds of available pre-built data services for a packaged application. On the right is a new custom view being assembled on top of the available out-of-the-box services for reporting purposes. Bottom right outlines the execution plan. The underlying data platform assembles disparate information sources as if they were in a single location.

TIBCO Software Inc. (NASDAQ: TIBX) is a leading independent business integration software company and a leading enabler of real-time business, helping companies become more cost-effective, more agile and more efficient. TIBCO has delivered the value of real-time business, what TIBCO calls The Power of Now®, to thousands of customers around the world and in a wide variety of industries.

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Application Sources
- SAP 4.6, 4.7, 5.0
- SAP BW 3.5
- Siebel eBusiness Applications 7.x
- Oracle E-Business Suite 11.5.8 ,11.5.9, 11.5.10
- Salesforce.com
- Any other file, relational, or procedural sources as supported by Spotfire Information Server

Data Sources
- JDBC – Any JDBC-compliant data source including:
- IBM DB2 v7, v8
- Informix 9.x
- MS SQL Server 2000
- MySQL 3.x, 4.x
- Netezza NFS
- Oracle 8i, 9i, 10g
- Sybase 12.5
- ODBC: MS Access 2002, MS Excel 2000
- LDAP v3
- Web Services
- Flat Files
- Mainframes (through 3rd-party software)

Access Interfaces
- JDBC 2.0

Standards
- JDK 1.4, J2EE 1.3, JAAS, JNDI
- WSDL 1.1, SOAP 1.1, XSLT 1.0, XML Schema 1.0, SAX and DOM
- SQL 99
- Unicode support

Platforms
- Server
- Microsoft Windows 2000, 2003, XP
- SUN OS 5.8 / Solaris 8 or higher
- LINUX RedHat Enterprise Release 3

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