

S-Designer Version 5

S-Designer: the Very Model of Powerful Design

Intelligent analysis and design, solid database construction, model-driven development—these offer client/server developers the surest foothold toward successful, high-performance applications. ▶ S-Designer offers a comprehensive modeling solution that designers, DBAs, and developers can tailor to

their specific needs. Its modular structure offers affordability and expandability, so organizations can apply the tools they need to match the size and scope of their projects. ▶ With S-Designer, business analysts turn a high-level view of requirements into a conceptual framework. Database designers translate the conceptual framework into

high-quality databases. Developers accelerate their efforts by generating efficient, manageable objects for applications from within S-Designer. Throughout the process, teams of client/server professionals rely on user administration, model-locking security, and dictionary browsing facilities to take charge of their complex projects. ▶ As a complete modeling solution, S-Designer not only accelerates the development process. It also provides application end users with an efficient architecture for managing and accessing information.

**A complete analysis and design
environment for complex
model-driven development.**

Smart Analysis and Design S-Designer couples unmatched ease-of-use with a sensible bi-level design method for separate conceptual and physical data models—two critical perspectives for quality design. In addition, users can design complex systems by splitting large models into submodels while maintaining definition unity. ▶ S-Designer's process modeling capability offers an elegant first step for complex database projects. It helps you illustrate functional dependencies of the system, so you can define interactions that act on and elaborate the lifecycle of "data items" and domains in a natural way. ▶ Plus, S-Designer provides advanced reporting features on all modeling information to help you streamline communication throughout the project.

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Optimized Databases with Lifecycle Support With S-Designer, you can automatically generate databases for more than 30 DBMS platforms, including Sybase, Oracle, Informix, DB2, Access, Paradox, and dBASE. You can easily manage all database physical properties, and its instant reverse engineering feature produces a physical “blueprint” of an existing database to help you visualize, maintain, and document its structure. Plus, you can retarget the database to a new DBMS.

Rapid Model-Driven Development S-Designer helps you accelerate the development process even further by generating application objects from within the design environment. The customizable object templates build high-quality objects for your applications—even basic, ready-to-run applications. This not only increases productivity and object reusability; it also helps generate consistent code and ensures synchronized modeling by incorporating the specific elements supported by your 4GL environment.

Advanced Teamwork S-Designer offers the robust additional dictionary features needed for effective teamwork and complex projects. Project teams use a central dictionary built on a SQL database implemented on a local Sybase® SQL Anywhere™ database or an ODBC-compliant DBMS.

The powerful new MetaBrowser allows designers, developers, and database administrators to ensure data consistency through a dictionary for modeling information.

**Comprehensive modeling,
tailored to the needs of business
analysts, designers, DBAs,
and developers.**

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“S-Designer is fast, easy to learn and use...remarkably flexible.”

.....
David Plotkin
*Database Programming
& Design*

“...the ProcessAnalyst module makes it easy to model business functions and present them to end users during requirements definition JAD sessions. My end users can really understand their business structures when using the tool. That gives me a big edge in designing the ideal process and data models.”

.....
Jim Griffin
*Software Engineer,
Owen HealthCare, Inc.*

“S-Designer’s bi-level data modeling provides the level of abstraction I need to easily and efficiently design databases. It comes down to letting me focus on what I want to design before deciding how to implement it.”

.....
John Nara
*Lead Developer,
Process Data Control*

S-Designer Tools

An Integrated Architecture

As a modular toolset, S-Designer offers data modeling, process modeling, model-driven development, and advanced teamwork capabilities for database designers and application developers alike.

For All Users

The complete S-Designer modeling environment gives you the power to design within one module and leverage that work across the toolset. All modules function independently, while offering consistent, seamless integration of modeling information.

- Intuitive Windows 95 interface: long file names, ability to email models, tab control, property sheets, and dialog boxes. Plus zoom in/zoom out, add freehand graphics, and color.
- Domains and data items are common elements across all S-Designer modules. Modeling information is entered via intuitive pop-up editors.
- Comprehensive and completely customizable reporting features. Users define and save a report structure in a template.

“Since AppModeler generates PowerBuilder objects, we’re seeing the speed of development and the quality of prototypes improving. We’re able to automate the use of our class library with the tool, reducing training requirements and cementing the correct use of our ancestor components.”

.....
Wain Kellum
*Vice President,
Omni Technology Centers*

“Our new application package had 550 tables, plus those of a legacy system. We were able to convert this to an S-Designer physical model in about a half hour. It was a remarkable feat, quite stunning. We simply ran a query against Sybase and loaded that into S-Designer, and there was the diagram, instantly.”

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Duncan Dwelle
*President,
Applied Information Systems*

S-Designer MetaWorks

For Each Project Team Member

A vital addition for larger projects, S-Designer MetaWorks

offers efficient management of modeling information and

provides special dictionary facilities that complement a

team environment.

- S-Designer MetaWorks offers a convenient “homebase” from which design team members can launch each modeling tool and access the central dictionary.
- Define administrator and user access read/write privileges, and add model-locking security.
- MetaBrowser allows easy viewing of information across models and submodels, ensuring consistent object definitions.
- Consolidate and extract modeling information on an internal SQL Anywhere database, or an external DBMS of your choice.

S-Designer ProcessAnalyst

For the Business Analyst

The S-Designer ProcessAnalyst module provides

data flow diagramming capabilities as a first step in

designing complex applications. Use this module to

capture business processes, then transfer pertinent

information to DataArchitect for complete database design.



S-Designer DataArchitect

For the Database Designer

The flagship module of the S-Designer toolset, DataArchitect

offers data modeling capabilities for the database designer and

robust support of DBMS features for the database administrator.

- Create data flow diagrams with your choice of methodology notation. Plus, obtain fully customizable reports.
- Click on an object to define its characteristics and add notes.
- Decomposition feature allows you to break large subprocesses for detailed analysis.
- DataArchitect’s bi-level method abstracts designs into conceptual and physical levels. The intuitive conceptual data model (CDM) lets you define business entities and their relationships.
- Manage all your triggers and stored procedures—and ensure data integrity—with DataArchitect’s extensive trigger editor.
- In the robust physical data model (PDM), you can optimize database characteristics including tables, indexes, referential integrity, triggers, views, etc.
- DataArchitect handles complex models through convenient submodels.
- Reverse engineering—obtain a “blueprint” of an existing database structure; document it; retarget it to a different DBMS.
- Generate databases for more than 30 DBMS platforms, including Sybase SQL Server, Oracle, Informix, Microsoft SQL Server, DB2, Sybase SQL Anywhere, Microsoft Access, and Paradox.

S-Designer AppModeler

For the Application Developer

S-Designer AppModeler provides rapid generation of

application objects based on a designer’s database model

(currently available for 16- and 32-bit versions of

PowerBuilder® versions 4.0 and 5.0, and Visual Basic

versions 3.0 and 4.0). It offers data modeling interfaces

to other popular development environments as well.

- Robust physical data modeling features let you define your database’s characteristics: tables, columns, primary and foreign keys, extended attributes for your development tool, etc.
- Generate applications by selecting objects based on your physical data model and class library.
- Generate, reverse engineer, maintain, and document databases for more than 30 DBMSs.
- Interact with your AGL tool through extended attribute definitions such as edit styles, validation rules, and format masks.
- Customizable, ready-to-run applications include windows, menus, and underlying database structures.

S-Designer ProcessAnalyst

S-Designer ProcessAnalyst provides data flow diagramming capabilities for the business analyst and designer of complex databases.

- Complete functional model and data flow diagram definition: process, data store, data flow, control flow, external entity
- Flexible choice of notations: Functional Model from Object Modeling Technique (OMT), Gane & Sarson, Yourdon/DeMarco, and SSADM
- Decomposition for defining nested subprocesses
- Model verification checks
- Completely customizable reports
- Multiuser model sharing
- Bi-directional link with S-Designer DataArchitect: transfer data items and domains between ProcessAnalyst and DataArchitect
- Dictionary browser, model-locking security, and user administration
- Windows 95 interface

ProcessAnalyst helps you capture all the process information pertinent to database design. It allows you to create effective, easy-to-understand presentations of data flow for end users, perform rapid analysis of data items and domains derived from existing databases, and describe your business process in the notation best suited for your target audience.

S-Designer DataArchitect

DataArchitect offers database designers the most efficient way to define and maintain databases in response to changes in business or technology.

- Bi-level design method: abstract database design into conceptual data model (CDM) and physical data model (PDM)
- Automatic translation between CDM and PDM with synchronization between the two levels for robust, iterative design
- Optimize database characteristics via convenient viewing of PDM: tables, columns, indexes, referential integrity, views, physical storage, triggers, stored procedures
- Automatic PDM backup facility retains previous version of a model upon saving
- Generate databases for more than 30 target DBMSs, including most popular DBMS platforms
- Reverse engineering to obtain "blueprint" of existing database structure
- After reverse engineering, visualize, document, modify, or retarget the database to a different DBMS
- Generation of appropriate alter commands during database modification to guarantee security of existing data
- Interface with variety of 4GL tools through extended attribute support: define edit styles, validation rules, format masks in database design, and import them to your application during development
- Reverse engineer extended attributes from selected development environments
- Comprehensive, customizable reporting, including ability to drag and drop items within a report template
- Multiuser model sharing
- Advanced teamwork through interface to S-Designer MetaWorks
- Windows 95 interface

Like a blueprint for architectural design, an effective data model communicates a consistent and understandable structure for everyone involved in a database project.

DataArchitect is easy to use and learn. It lets you separate "what" the database looks like conceptually from "how" it will be implemented and managed physically. The designer maintains a high-level view of the database structure, which can be optimized in its separate, physical representation.

S-Designer AppModeler

AppModeler gives you a strong headstart on your application development project. It teams with your development tool through extended attribute definition; and AppModeler will leverage your database model to generate high-quality, customizable PowerBuilder and Visual Basic objects. Also available in Desktop edition.

Generate quality application objects-- even basic ready-to-run applications—derived from your data model. This removes much of the drudgery in application development, allowing you to apply your development talents in the 4GL environment as you build on the generated application.

AppModeler promotes consistency among the objects created for your organization's client/server applications. And it gives you a fast, efficient means for generating these objects.

You can leverage the expertise of your most senior developers, who can create development templates for a variety of class libraries targeted for PowerBuilder applications; or templates for Visual Basic applications that accommodate forms, Visual Basic controls, projects, and controls for ActiveX.

For PowerBuilder Developers

- Generate application objects based on templates that implement tables, views, etc. coupled with class libraries for target environment—currently supports PowerBuilder versions 4.0 and 5.0 (16- and 32-bit)
- Supports new PowerBuilder 5.0 PowerBuilder Foundation Class (PFC) library
- Templates inherit objects from the same class libraries as your PowerBuilder development environment, ensuring application consistency and quality

For Visual Basic Developers

- Generate application objects based on customizable, prebuilt templates that implement projects, forms, menus, and other controls for your Visual Basic application—currently supports Visual Basic versions 3.0 and 4.0
- Templates allow generation of SDI and MDI style applications, as well as master/detail forms and reports—as many as your application requires
- Create wholly new templates to meet specific needs

For All Development Environments

- Interface with your 4GL development tool by including extended attribute definitions such as edit styles, validation rules, and format masks. Supports extended attribute definition for PowerBuilder, Uniface, Progress, SQLWindows, Axiant, PowerHouse, and NS-DK
- Includes physical database modeling capabilities, with support for more than 30 DBMSs
- Database generation, maintenance facilities, reverse engineering, and analysis reports
- Interface to S-Designer DataArchitect for superior data modeling
- Interface to S-Designer MetaWorks for advanced teamwork
- Multiuser model sharing
- Windows 95 interface

S-Designer MetaWorks

Equally beneficial for designers, project managers, or DBAs, MetaWorks introduces advanced team features, including dictionary management, to the S-Designer toolset.

- Multiproject dictionary located on a SQL database including Sybase, Oracle, Informix, Microsoft SQL Server, or SQLBase DBMSs
- Central information management for team design
- MetaBrowser for easy viewing across process and data models for consistent object definitions
- Model locking for heightened security and data integrity
- Management of users, users' rights, projects, models, objects, and object consistency
- Global and hierarchical view allows drill-down to detailed information about a specific object on a specific model
- Presents clear view of all models belonging to a dictionary, whether conceptual, physical, or process models
- Windows 95 interface

MetaWorks allows easy viewing of information across process models and data models to ensure consistent object definitions. The special dictionary facilities enable powerful and efficient management of modeling information. User administration and model-locking facilities add the security critical for managing large projects.

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The model for client/server solutions.™

Must See...

- ProcessAnalyst™** — For the Business Analyst
- DataArchitect™** — For the Database Designer
- AppModeler™** — For the Application Developer
- MetaWorks™** — For Each Project Team Member

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Read about customer success with S-Designor, including the San Francisco Opera, the University of Minnesota, and Unisys Corporation.

Find out about seminars and other events where you can see full demonstrations of S-Designor in action!

Or use our FaxLine (fax-on-demand) system to receive technical information immediately. Call 1-508-287-1600, and request one or more of the following documents:

ProcessAnalyst (process modeling)5609
DataArchitect (data modeling)5607
AppModeler (application object generation)5606
MetaWorks (advanced teamwork)5608

S-Designor DataArchitect and AppModeler support the following databases:

Desktop databases supported • Sybase SQL Anywhere • Access • Clipper • Visual dBASE • dBASE • Visual FoxPro • FoxPro • Paradox
Server databases supported • Sybase SQL Server™ • Watcom™ • ALLBASE • AS/400 • AskOpen/Ingres • CA-DB • Datacom • DB2 • Empress • Informix • Ingres • Magic Software Enterprises • Microsoft SQL Server • Oracle • NonStop SQL • OS/2 Database Manager • Progress (Native and SQL) • Rdb • SQL/Data System • SQLBase • Superbase IV • Supra Server • Teradata • Unify 2000 • uniVerse • XDB

Minimum System Requirements

For Windows 95 or NT 3.5 • 486 or higher processor • 12 MB RAM • VGA monitor • CD-ROM drive
For Windows 3.1 • 386 or higher processor • 8 MB RAM • VGA monitor • CD-ROM drive
Hard Disk Space • DataArchitect—10MB • AppModeler—12MB • ProcessAnalyst—5MB • MetaWorks—5MB

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