

Universal Database Connectivity

From OpenLink Software

Press Release

Universal Database Connectivity across all mainstream operating systems.

London, United Kingdom ----- 28th October 1994, OpenLink Software announces the imminent release of its long awaited Universal Database Connectivity Technology (UDBC) .

UDBC is an ODBC/SAG CLI compatibility layer enabling the migration or development of ODBC/SAG CLI compliant client applications using operating systems such as UNIX, OS/2, and VMS. UDBC ensures source code compatibility of ODBC/SAG Data Access API calls across Windows, Macintosh, UNIX, OS/2, NextStep, and VMS.

According to OpenLink Software's President, **Kingsley Idehen** "It has always been an innate desire within our organisation to deliver Open Database Connectivity, with no lock in at the Communications or Operating System level. Our innovative ODBC Drivers have very successfully championed the concept of Database Independent Communications Technology as an integral part of ODBC Driver implementations, UDBC is championing a similar campaign at the Operating System level".

Who Makes Up The UDBC Constituency ?

In response to the above question Kingsley had this to say "The UDBC constituency consists of Hardware Manufacturers, Operating System, 4GL, 3GL, Object Oriented Language & Development Environment, Vertical & Horizontal Application vendors, seeking to access, grow or consolidate markets, by leveraging off the ever increasing desire on the parts of End-users and Developers alike for unrestricted Database Independence at all levels with the hierarchy of technologies that make up the Client-Server Computing Model".

Implications For Application Developers ?

UDBC provides source code compatibility to Developers of Windows based ODBC compliant applications seeking to migrate their ODBC compliant applications to non Microsoft Windows based operating systems, It also enables non Microsoft Windows based application developers to write to the ODBC/SAG CLI without a compromise in Operating Environment mentality. Thus in the UNIX world a UNIX developer writes ODBC/SAG CLI compliant code with a UNIX rather than Windows mentality.

Is UDBC an Alternative API ?

UDBC is strictly a compatibility layer (header files, object libraries, and example code), you must write applications based on the ODBC/SAG CLI specification.

Are User/Developers locked into OpenLink Data Access Drivers ?

Writing a driver for UDBC is no different to writing a Driver for ODBC, as Driver developers only have to deal with the operating environment differences rather than the ODBC/SAG API itself. The SAG CLI specification has always been Operating System independent.

How Many UNIX flavours will be supported ?

In its first release UDBC will be available for SCO UNIX, LINUX, HP-UX, AIX, AT&T UNIX 5.4, DG-UX, IRIX, SUNOS, SOLARIS (Intel & Sparc), DYNIX/PTX, SINIX, ULTRIX and OSF/1.

Support for OS/2, NeXTStep and VMS is slated for commercial release in December.

What About Database Engine Support ?

OpenLink Software's High Performance ODBC Drivers are UDBC ready today, thus developers can write UDBC based applications with immediate support for **ORACLE 6 & 7, SYBASE 4.x & 10.x, INFORMIX 5.x & 6.x, INGRES 6.4.x, PROGRESS 6.x & 7.3.x, and UNIFY 2000 2.4.x** Database Engines. The OpenLink UDBC Drivers are equipped with the much acclaimed "Session Rules Book" and Database Independent Communications Technology, currently associated with the OpenLink ODBC (MT) Drivers.

Configuration Examples

UDBC will allow UNIX, OS/2, NeXTStep, VMS client applications access local or remote Database Engines residing on UNIX, OS/2, NeXTStep, Windows NT, and VMS servers.

Product Pricing & Availability

The UDBC compatibility layer will cost \$250 with no runtime royalties or platform specific pricing.

UDBC will be commercially available from the 19th of November.

Product Features

1. ODBC Core + Level 1 and Level 2 Compliance
2. Full Transaction Support
3. High Performance Database Independent Communication Technology, that delivers Blistering Performance !!!!
4. Concurrent access to different Database Engines
5. Client Operating Environments - Windows, Windows NT, Macintosh, UNIX, OS/2
6. Server Operating Environments - UNIX, Windows NT, OS/2 VMS, and Novell
7. "Rule Book" approach to Client-Server infrastructure management
8. Supports Synchronous or Asynchronous mode of operation in Networked Environments.

Product Benefits

1. Cost Effective Solution based on Concurrent Workstation/PC pricing
2. High Performance Network Solution
3. Provides the ability to mix and match "Best of Class" Client-Server products
4. Enables the development of robust, enterprise-wide client-server solutions

CompuServe Forum

OpenLink Software operates a CompuServe Forum (GO WINAPF). Product Pricing Information, Technical White Papers etc... are freely available on this forum.

Company Information

OpenLink Software is an international software company, specialising in the development of advanced, enterprise wide, "Open Data Access & Prefabricated Component Technology". It currently has offices in the United Kingdom, France, Germany with Integration Business Partners (IBPs) world-wide. OpenLink Software is also in the process of setting up offices on the east and west coasts of the U.S.A in the coming weeks.

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