



For Immediate Release

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News Release

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Viaserv Expands Mainframe Outreach

ViaSQL Blue Direct Enables S/390 Access to LAN Systems

Boulder, Colorado – October 1, 2002 – Viaserv, an innovative developer of mainframe access middleware, has released a middleware product that allows S/390 mainframes to act as clients to LAN databases, executing either SQL or database stored procedures.

Using ViaSQL Blue Direct, organizations with S/390 mainframes have new options for application architectures, data access, and data centralization and distribution. ViaSQL Blue Direct is designed to support both batch and CICS applications. Using ViaSQL Blue Direct, mainframe programs can either pull data from or push data to LAN systems. For example, a batch process written in COBOL might use ViaSQL Blue Direct to retrieve the latest sales or production figures from LAN servers and integrate the data with existing mainframe data. After processing, the batch program can use ViaSQL Blue Direct to send summary data, detail data, or XML-formatted data to local servers or to data warehouses or data marts. Other ViaSQL Blue Direct functions include retrieving LAN data for display and editing via 3270 screens, updating LAN systems with mainframe data, and integrating LAN data into mainframe databases. ViaSQL Blue Direct can even be used for LAN database management.

According to Kim Manchak, Viaserv President: “ViaSQL Blue Direct answers a number of needs that our customers have expressed to us. Their mainframe applications needed access to data throughout the enterprise, but until now, access to LAN data was difficult or impossible. Furthermore, we contribute to our customers’ bottom line because any business process, from production control to customer relationship management to Web-based marketing and sales to decision support, is enhanced by current, accurate, and complete data.”

Howard Lipson, Viaserv’s Chief Technical Officer, said, “Offering a mainframe-centric approach to enterprise data distribution is a good idea for several reasons. Most data-crunching applications are already on the mainframe, and it’s easier to bring the data to them than to port the code to the various LAN platforms. The big, multi-terabyte databases are also on the mainframe, and it makes sense to run access and distribution from the same platform. Our advanced performance-enhancement features allow the user to optimize data movement, whether for a few records, a few hundred records, or thousands. And the mainframe offers the best scheduling and security systems available.”

Lipson added, “Of course, mainframe-centric isn’t the only answer for all enterprise connectivity requirements, so the ViaSQL product line also includes middleware solutions that support LAN or Web client architectures.”

ViaSQL Blue Direct is available immediately for both OS/390 and VSE platforms, as a separate product or included with Viaserv’s flagship product, ViaSQL Integrator. ViaSQL Blue Direct is compatible with the following LAN databases: SQL Server, Sybase, Oracle, DB2/UDB, Informix, and any ODBC-accessible database.

Viaserv, Inc.

Viaserv is a Boulder, Colorado-based software company specializing in data access, delivery, and integration products for the S/390 mainframe environments. Viaserv is committed to liberating enterprise data for use in broader application architectures and solutions, by enhancing interoperability between IBM's mainframe systems and other computing environments. Viaserv is a member of IBM's System/390 Partners in Development Program.

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