



For Immediate Release

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News Release

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Viaserv Adds Web Services Support

ViaSQL v4.1 Enables Universal Access to S/390 Systems

Boulder, Colorado – December 3, 2002 – Viaserv, an innovative developer of mainframe access middleware, announces Web Services support in v4.1 of its flagship product, ViaSQL.

ViaSQL enables client access to data and programs residing on OS/390 or VSE. With the Web Services enhancement, an S/390 mainframe can function as a Web Services server, allowing Web Services clients to access data, applications, and procedures residing on the mainframe. The Web Services feature extends S/390 access to Windows, UNIX, LINUX, Macintosh, or other systems running as PCs, Web servers, or application servers, using either public (internet) or private connectivity.

According to Howard Lipson, Viaserv's Chief Technology Officer: "The Web Services advantages over other client/server architectures are simplicity and open standards. The SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol) implementation is an integration of HTTP and XML, which people already know how to work with."

Kim Manchak, Viaserv President, added, "Because Web Services can operate over the internet, with no special connectivity requirements, it's ideal for public and commercial use, as well as private. For example, a financial services company could offer a tax preparation package, with the Web Services client available for downloading. Fees are charged based on access to the Web Services server component. Or an organization could distribute a Web Services order entry client to its business partners, with access controlled by password, and a Web Services inventory management client to employees, with free access from the intranet."

Cory Isaacson, President and Chief Technology Officer of Compuflex International, Inc., manufacturer of WebAccel and distributor of Viaserv products, commented, "Our customers have a continual need to provide access to COBOL procedures on the mainframe. ViaSQL is the most direct approach that we know of. We've implemented ViaSQL in a number of customer sites as part of our WebAccel solution. Now that Web Services is available, it is by far the best way to integrate disparate resources across a company, and ViaSQL is the best way to turn your mainframe into a Web Services server."

Isaacson continued, "Before this release, we had to build a three-tier system to handle our clients' requirements. A request for mainframe services would arrive from the internet, and our custom server converted that request into JDBC before sending it on to the mainframe. When the result arrived, we converted it to XML and passed it back to the client. Viaserv's support for Web Services allows us to eliminate the middle tier completely, with a corresponding savings in initial investment and ongoing maintenance, not to mention the improved performance that results from the streamlined architecture."

ViaSQL v4.1 is available immediately for both OS/390 and VSE platforms. ViaSQL provides access to VSAM, sequential, DB2, IMS, DL/I, Datacom, Adabas, and other S/390 data stores, and to mainframe applications and procedures.

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.

Compuflex International, Inc.

Compuflex International is based in Woodland Hills, California, and is the provider of WebAccel, an integrated package of components, development tools and powerful Design Patterns that supports fast development for a wide variety of application requirements. WebAccel has received the Editor's Choice Award for Development Tools, 2002, from *WebSphere Advisor Magazine*.

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