



Who am I?

- I am part of the IBM SWG Channel Technical Sales organization in Germany
 - Focus on IDS enablement for business partners, but also IM brand focal point in the CTS team
 - Lots of IDS 11 / Mach 11 related enablement activities like one-day technical Cheetah workshops since February 2007 and two-day IDS 11 technical deep dives
 - I am currently involved with IDS virtual appliances and IDS on Mac OS
- · Co-author of a few IBM Redbooks...
 - IDS/WebSphere, 4GL/EGL, IBM Data servers/SOA, IDS 10 and IDS 11
- IDS11ToGo is a ,skunkworks project', primarily done in my free time... ©
- I joined Informix in 1989...
 - Tech Support → Advanced Support → 1st SAP/Informix project manager → ATG (manager) → CTO group (Munich manager)



The **Power** Conference For Informix Professionals

Agenda

- Why Use IBM Informix Dynamic Server (IDS)?
- · Prepare for IDS Embedding
- Install IDS / Footprint Customization
- Configure IDS
- Run and Monitor IDS
- Upgrading
- Virtual Appliances and IDS 11
- Summary



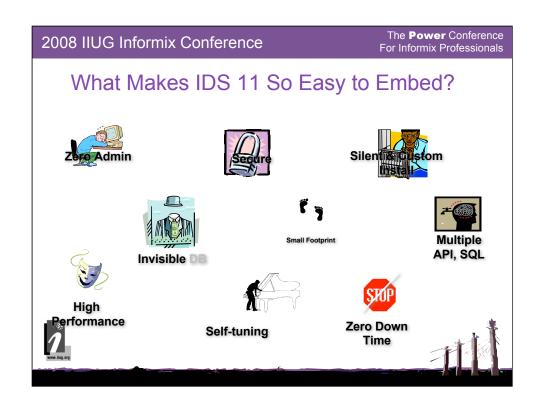


Why Use IBM Informix Dynamic Server?

- Because it works for you!
 - It is effective.
 - · It performs well.
 - It is easy to embed.
 - · It fits in small spaces.
 - · It works well with both large and small databases,
 - And with growing databases that start small and end up big.
 - · It is mature and reliable.
 - It works on the platforms you need it to work on.







Scenario 1: Embedding for Enterprise

- Application framework developed by a business partner or by the customer that will use IDS as the datastore
 - Minimal exposure of database to the ultimate user
- The main features of providing IDS for this space are:
 - Reliability
 - · Performance and Scalability
 - Low Management
 - Keep up with HA, Performance, SQL features, and features provided by competition
 - Middleware is everywhere (ODBC/JDBC support)
 - Backup and Restore would be an operation via the application



 Autonomic Computing: Minimal administration, Dynamic Tuning, zero downtime

Scenario 2: Embedding for SMB

- IDS is packaged along with an ISV product
 - · The database not visible to the end user
- · Required IDS features include:
 - Customers could/should be unaware of IDS installation underneath the application
 - Ease of embedding IDS within the software is important (e.g. silent and customizable installation)
 - · Autonomic Computing:
 - · Zero Administration is a high priority
 - Self Tuning of any configurable value is important
 - Dynamic Administration (Changing a configurable value of the database without any downtime)
 - Administration APIs: Application should be able to expose database administration capabilities to the user easily
 - Low footprint: both installation disk space and memory footprint
- 2 www.liug.org

 Configurable Install: Enable ISVs to embed and install just the required components

Scenario 3: (Deep) Embedding for OEM Solutions

- Real small installations that require high availability and reliability with very minimal overhead costs
- Requirements for that scenario include:
 - IDS should be invisible
 - Low everything maintenance, visibility, administration & tuning
 - All opportunities to automate a task by the technology provider will be important
 - · Site of deployment will NOT have any administration capability
 - Typically low volume of data [50-60 GB]
 - Very long application cycles. Upgrade of applications and IDS can be rare





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Planning

- The crucial step!
 - It affects all the steps that follow.
- There are many issues to worry about
- Is IDS the only DBMS your application uses?
 - Does your application have to work with other DBMS?
 - Concurrently with IDS, or just at other customer sites?



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Planning

- Will your application use one IDS instance or many?
- Will your application use on database or many?
- Will other databases be allowed in an instance?
- Will other tables be allowed in a database?
- Namespace controls?
- Database logging modes?





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Planning

- Which users or groups will administer the application?
 - Administering IDS
 - Backup and restore
 - · Checking backups?
- Who will own database objects?



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Planning Development

- · Which programming languages are to be used?
- · Which tool sets?
- Which platforms?
- Which platform is used for development?
- Is the deployment on the same platform?
- Which browsers should be supported?





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Planning Installations

- How is the application installed?
 - By whom?
 - Is IDS a separate install from the application?
 - Who provides the information about the resources for IDS?
 - Is the application on the same CD as IDS?
 - Is the system installed onto new hardware?





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Installing the Application

- Installing IDS is only part of the story.
- The application must be installed too.
 - And the other supporting packages.
- · You may have files to remove.



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Installing the Application

- · Generate checksums on installed software
 - Use MD5 or SHA1 values.
 - · Save them in a file.
 - Generate a checksum for the file of checksums.
- Record the correct permissions too
 - Owner, group and mode.
- · Periodically check that the files are still valid:
 - Checksums.
 - Permissions.
 - · Additional files or directories.



· Missing files or directories.

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Installing IDS

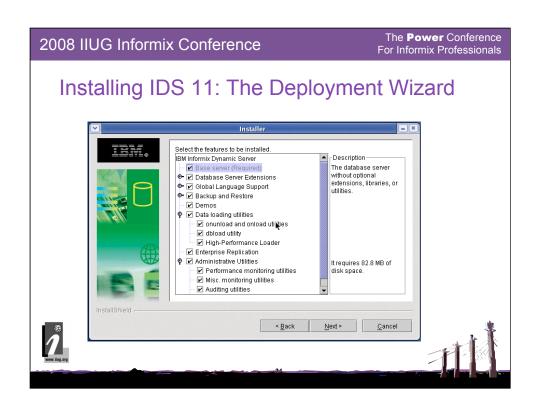
- · Install IDS separately from the application
 - INFORMIXDIR should not be cluttered.
 - It is easier to upgrades if you can replace it.
- INFORMIXDIR should not be a home directory
 - · Not even for user informix.
- · Consider installing I-Connect separately from IDS
 - · Allows separate upgrades.
 - · Allows better separation of privileges.
 - Do not install ClientSDK on a production machine.
 - Unless your production server is also the development machine.

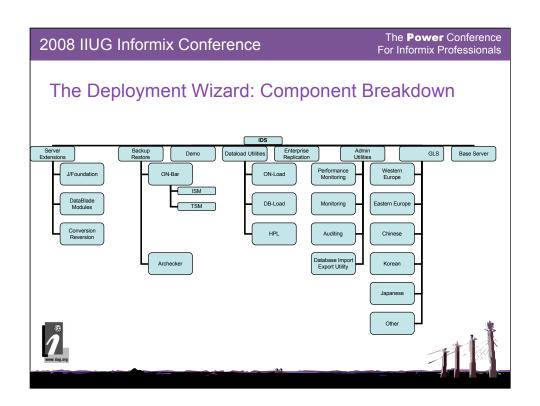


Installing IDS 11: The Deployment Wizard

- · Is supported in all the three installation modes
- · Linux/Unix: Console (default), GUI and silent mode
- · Windows: GUI and Silent mode
- The feature is available for all LUW platforms that currently support ISMP based (Java) installation and Windows platforms
- The ability to pick and choose features to be installed is available only via the 'custom' install option (in console, GUI and silent mode)
- All IDS features that have been broken down have a short description and an estimated size on disk
- The deployment feature will allow users to record the response of their installation in a simple ASCII file that can then be used for all future silent installs.







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IDS 11 Install – Deployment Wizard – Best Practices

- Use the Java-based for best functionality
- To add features to an existing installation re-launch installserver
 - Can use GUI, console or the silent install to add components
 - On Windows use setup.exe
- \$INFORMIXDIR/uninstall_ids to uninstall
 - Do not manually remove files, always use the uninstall wizard
- Use of a new IDS version when upgrading/adding one component will upgrade all installed components



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Installing IDS 11: Silent Install

- Each product has its own installation ".ini" file which controls component installation for that product
- · Can be viewed after extraction and before installation

DO NOT ALTER THESE FILES OR INSTALLATION WILL FAIL!

- Server + all options
 - \$expand_dir/bundle.ini
- Server only
 - \$expand_dir/SERVER/server.ini
- CSDK only
 - \$expand_dir/CSDK/

WINDOWS/Setup.ini UNIX/csdk.ini

- IConnect only
 - \$expand_dir/ICONNECT/

WINDOWS/Setup.ini UNIX/conn.ini





Creating the silent install driver, option #1

- Make a COPY of and rename the appropriate .ini
 cp bundle.ini my_silent.ini
- · Modify the copy's settings as needed
- Use the copy ini as a parameter to the installation process install_ids -silent [-acceptlicense=yes] -options my_silent.ini [other parameters]
- Other command strings:
 - installserver
 - installconn



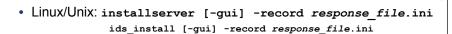
installclientsdk

Do Not

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Creating the silent install driver, option #2

- Record an installation so it can be replayed on other servers
 - Windows: setup.exe -r -f1C:\temp\response_file.ir -f2c:\temp\install.log Disturb



Use the "recording" in the silent install process install_ids -silent [-acceptlicense=yes] -options response_file.ini [other parameters]





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Configuring IDS

- Building the initial instance of IDS:
 - · Build from first principles
 - · Provide customized ONCONFIG file
 - Run oninit -iy
 - Utilize the IDS 11 SQL Admin API
 - Create DBSPACEs and CHUNKs from scratch
 - · Create IDS built-in Scheduler entries for routine tasks
 - · Reduces the need for OS specific scripts
 - Alternatively
 - · Recovery from level 0 archive
 - · Direct disk image copying





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Configuring IDS 11: The SQL Admin API

- A set of User Defined Routines (UDRs) to administer the Informix database server.
- The major categories of administration include:
 - · Space Management.
 - Configuration Management.
 - Routine task maintenance.
 - System Validation (oncheck functionality).

· Feature Benefits:

- · SQL Based Administration.
- Remote Administration.
- Tracking of command execution and results in a system table.





Configuring IDS 11: The Built-in Database Scheduler

- · Ability to schedule SQL, Stored procedures or UDR's.
- The schedule entities are called "tasks".
- There are different types of tasks:
 - Tasks.
 - Sensor.
 - Startup Task.
 - Startup Sensor.
- · Tasks are driven by the data inside a table called ph_task.
- Sensors are a specialized task designed to collection information:

 - Easy to add and configure.Collect information and stores it in database tables.





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IDS Admin API and automated configurations
(1)

database sysadmin;

(**** Create a table of dbspaces which are to be created ****)

create table dbspaces

type
varchar (255),
path
varchar (255),
offset varchar (255),
offset varchar (255),
insert into dbspaces values ("dbspace", "dbspace", "$INFORMIXOIE/CHUNS/ablob1", 0 , "50 MB" );
insert into dbspaces values ("dbspace", "dbspace", "$INFORMIXOIE/CHUNS/dbspace1", 0 , "50 MB" );
insert into dbspaces values ("dbspace", "dbspace1", "$INFORMIXOIE/CHUNS/dbspace1", 0 , "50 MB" );
insert into dbspaces values ("dbspace", "bspace1", "$INFORMIXOIE/CHUNS/dbspace1", 0 , "50 MB" );
insert into dbspaces values ("dbspace", "bspace1", "SINFORMIXOIE/CHUNS/dbspace1", 0 , "50 MB" );
insert into dbspaces values ("dbspace", "bspace1", "SINFORMIXOIE/CHUNS/dbspace1", "0 , "50 MB" );
insert into dbspaces values ("blobpace", "bspace1", "$INFORMIXOIE/CHUNS/blobdbs", 0 , "50 MB" );
insert into dbspaces values ("blobpace", "bspace1", "$INFORMIXOIE/CHUNS/blobdbs", 0 , "50 MB" );

(***** Create a table of chunks which are to be created *****)

create table chunks

("dbspace1", "$INFORMIXOIE/CHUNKS/chunk*,0 , "10 MB" );
insert into chunks values
("dbspace1", "$INFORMIXOIE/CHUNKS/chunk*,0 , "10 MB" );
insert into chunks values
("dbspace1", "$INFORMIXOIE/CHUNKS/chunk*,0 , "10 MB" );
insert into chunks values
("dbspace1", "$INFORMIXOIE/CHUNKS/chunk*,0 , "10 MB" );
```

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IDS Admin API and automated configurations

(2)

[***** Create all the dbspaces ****)

SELECT task ("create "|| type, dbspace, path, size, offset)

FROM dbspaces;

[**** Add the chunks to the dbspace, path, size, offset) from chunks;

[**** Add 3 logical logs ****)

execute function task ("add log","logdbs", "5 MB", 3, "true");

execute function task ("add log", "logdbs", "5 MB", 3, "true");

select task ("drop log", number)

from symmater:syslogfil

where chunk = 1 and sysmaster:bitval(flags, "0x02") ==0;

execute function task ("checkpoint");

select task ("onmode", "1") from sysmaster:syslogfil

where chunk = 1 and sysmaster:bitval(flags, "0x02")>0;

execute function task ("checkpoint");

[**** Drop the current logical log in the rootdbs ****)

select task ("drop log", number) from sysmaster:syslogfil where chunk = 1;

execute function task ("alter plog", "physdbs", "49 MB");

execute function task ("checkpoint");
```

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Configuring IDS

Don't forget (if required):

- HDR configuration.
- ER configuration.
- ON-Bar configuration.
- PAM configuration.
- SNTP configuration.
- SNMP configuration.



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Running IDS

- In use, IDS 11 looks after itself a lot
 - · Many parameter are self tuned
 - Auto adjust of LRU parameters and Checkpointing behaviour
 - · Dynamic AIO VP adjustments
 - · Automatic shared memory adjustments
- Routine cleanup (file system)
 - · Trim log files
 - Delete unwanted shared memory dumps
- Standardized boot sequences
 - Ensure a consistent environment for the server.



Running IDS: Avoid out of space situations

- Provide enough room to grow upfront in the defined DBSPACES
 - Some tables in the ROOTDBS can grow also
 - Provide temporary DBSPACES
- Create TASKs to cleanup staging/reporting tables in regular intervals
- Semi-Automatically add new chunks on-the-fly via the Admin API
 - Modify your application to catch SQL error -271 and ISAM error -131
 - If that error occurs programmatically execute



...and then retry the failed operation (e.g. INSERT, UPDATE)

Monitoring IDS

- Standard scripts for reporting IDS problems
 - alarmprogram.sh:
 - · For general purpose alarms and problem reporting.
 - · Fairly capable but very big.
 - · Inevitably needs customizing.
 - · evidence.sh:
 - For taking evidence of what happened when a VP crashed.
 - Fairly big.
 - · Seldom needs customizing.
- · Extensive command line tools



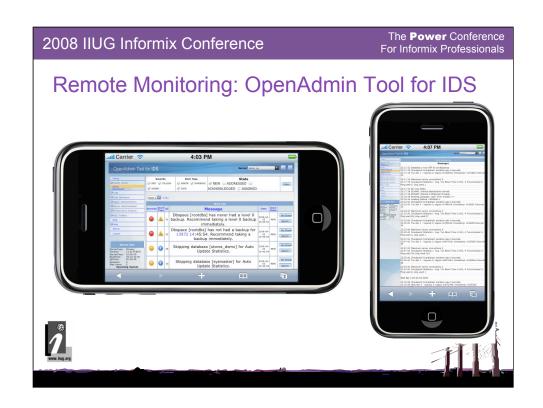
• For monitoring and administering the server.



Monitoring IDS

- Automatic Monitoring and Corrective Actions (IDS 11+)
 - Benefits (recap):
 - SQL Based Administration
 - · Remote Administration
 - Tracking of command execution and results in a system table
 - Supported Functionality for Automatic Monitoring:
 - SQL Tracing (Query Drill Down)
 - · Specialized Tasks (Sensors) to collect information
 - Alert System
 - Sysmaster, Sysadmin Databases provide extensive statistics
 - IDSAdmin Tool





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Monitoring IDS with the Query Drill Down Feature

- Questions DBAs like to ask:
 - How long did SQL statements take?
 - How many resources of each category did a statement take?
 - Disk I/O
 - Memory
 - CPU
 - How long and how many times did we wait on each resource?
 - Locks
 - Disk I/O





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Monitoring IDS with the Query Drill Down Feature

Controlling SQL Query Drill Down:

- ONCONFIG variable SQLTRACE
 - Level =[off,low,med,high]
 - Ntraces=[number of traces]
 - Size=[size of each trace buffer]
 - Mode=[global|user]

SQLTRACE level=low,ntraces=2000,size=1024,mode=global

Turn off SQL Tracing for session id 147

execute function task("SET SQL USER TRACING OFF",147);



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Monitoring IDS with the Query Drill Down Feature

Controlling SQL Query Drill Down:

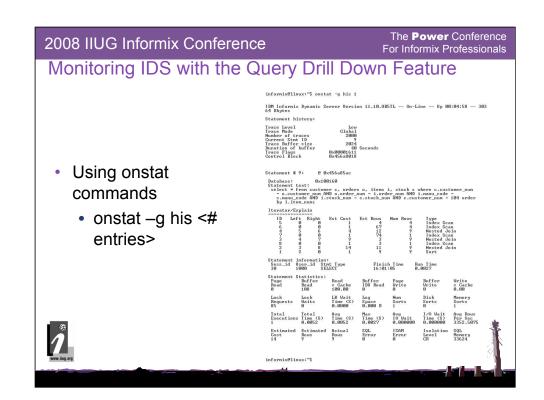
- ONCONFIG variable SQLTRACE
 - Level =[off,low,med,high]
 - Ntraces=[number of traces]
 - Size=[size of each trace buffer]
 - Mode=[global|user]

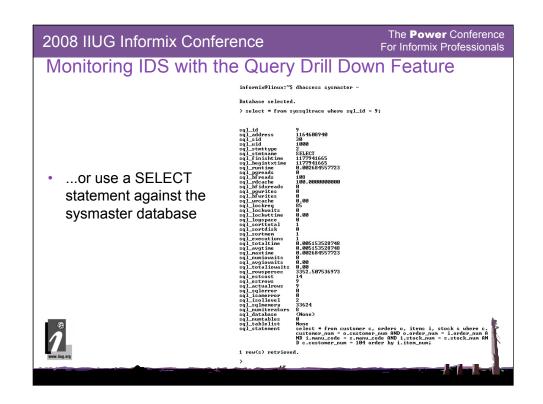
SQLTRACE level=low,ntraces=2000,size=1024,mode=global

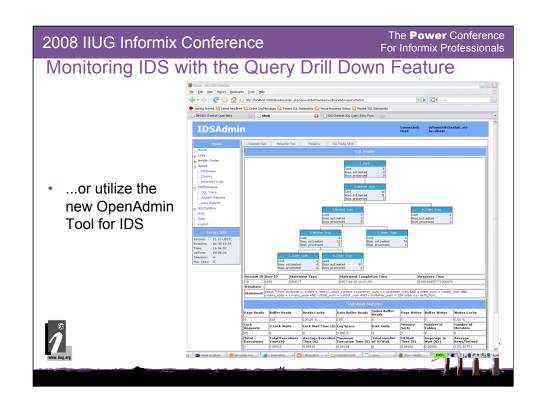
Turn off SQL Tracing for session id 147

execute function task("SET SQL USER TRACING OFF",147);









Monitoring with the built-in Database Scheduler

- Use the TASK/SENSOR feature together with the Alert system
 - · Create TASKs to monitor the usage of resources
 - DBSPACE utilization
 - Memory usage
 - Create entries in the sysadmin ph_alert table
 - · Visualize alerts via IDSAdmin
 - Notify a DBA if required (e.g. via SMS or Email)





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Upgrading

- · How will upgrades be done?
 - Send CD or DVD to site for users to upgrade?
 - Send engineer with CD to site to do upgrade?
 - Send data to site over Internet (VPN) connection?
- Plan for minimum time upgrades:
 - Install new software in version-specific location.
 - · Configure whatever needs to be configured.
 - · Backup what needs to be backed up.
 - · Take old system offline.
 - Switch canonical symlink from old system to new system.



· Restart new system.

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Upgrading Over a Network

- · Limited bandwidth connections?
 - · Critical to minimize data to be sent over wire.
 - · Differencing of the data files,
 - · Such as message files or locale components.
 - · Reducing the amount of software installed.
 - Compressing the data.
 - In general, bzip2 is better than gzip or zip.
 - In terms of compression from gzip and zip are comparable.
 - Both are better than compress.
 - · Which is way better than pack.





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What is an (database) appliance?

- Two definitions (Source: Wikipedia)...
 - A software appliance is a software application combined with just enough operating system (JeOS) for it to run optimally on industry standard hardware (typically a server) or in a virtual machine. Software appliances simplify server applications by minimizing the tasks typically associated with installation, configuration and maintenance.
 - A virtual appliance is a minimalist virtual machine image designed to run under Parallels, VMware, Xen, Microsoft Virtual PC, QEMU, Usermode Linux, CoLinux, Virtual Iron, VirtualBox or other virtualization technology. Virtual appliances are a subset of the broader class of software appliances. Like software appliances, virtual appliances are aimed to eliminate the installation, configuration and maintenance costs associated with running complex stacks of software.



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What are the advantages of an appliance?

- Easy to install and to operate: "Set it and forget it"
- The appliance can be pre-tuned for the specific type of appliaction
- Portable appliances (e.g. a Web based product catalog) can be easily created
- Can be prepared to run one appliance on different host OS
- Great to showcase the capabilities of an application to customers w/o the need of a time consuming installation





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The Building Blocks of a virtual appliance

The five ingredients

- A virtual machine
- An small footprint OS
- A web server
- IDS 11
- PHP 5 / PDO_Informix







Building Blocks (VM)

- A virtual Machine for the appliance OS
 - Allows a real black box concept (OS within OS)
- Multiple choices
 - VMWare Workstation/Player
 - · Robust, broad acceptance, Linux & Windows hosts supported
 - Xen
 - Very popular on Linux hosts, Fast, may require specific CPUs
 - QEMU
 - Open Source VM, supports a broad range of host & guest OS
 - · Can be easily started w/o prior installation



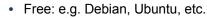
Others

MS VirtualPC: Windows host only

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Building Blocks (OS)

- The OS for an appliance should be just enough to run the software application (see definition) → "JeOS"
- Windows could be used, but doesn't really fullfill the JeOS requirements (too much overhead)
- Linux is a very good foundation for an appliance
 - · Small footprint installations are supported
 - Non GUI environments can be easily setup
 - Low resource requirements (Memory, CPU)
- · Choice of Linux distributions
 - · Commercial: e.g. Novell SUSE & Red Hat





Building Blocks (Web-/App-Server)

- A web server is required to support the OpenAdmin Tool for IDS
- An application server can be helpful for serving e.g. SOA interfaces into the IDS based appliance
- Apache2 is a robust web server
 - · Typically bundled with most Linux distributions
 - · Simple configuration and integration with PHP
 - Can be enhanced with Tomcat
- WebSphere Application Server Community Edition can be an interesting alternative, but requires additional installation and configuration steps



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Building Blocks (PHP 5 / PDO_Informix)

- PHP is required for the OpenAdmin Tool for IDS
- Hypertext Preprocessor (PHP) is a powerful and popular server-side scripting language for Web servers
- PHP Data Objects (PDO) is a fast, light and pure-C standardized data access interface for PHP 5.
- PDO_Informix is a robust, native driver for PHP PDO which provides high performance while accessing IDS 11
- PDO_Informix can be obtained as a supported driver through Zend

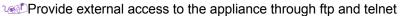




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How to create a virtual IDS Linux appliance

- Choose an appropriate virtual machine (VMware, Qemu, Xen etc.)
- Create an empty virtual disk drive (with room to grow!)
- Install a small footprint Linux distribution within the virtual machine (e.g. Ubuntu JeOS)
- Make sure PHP 5 and Apache2 are installed and configured
- **■** Install/configure IDS 11 and CSDK 3.0
- Solution Download and configure PDO Informix
- Create and configure the required init.d scripts for IDS and Apache2
- Download, install and configure OpenAdmin Tool for IDS





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Summary

- IDS is very embeddable.
 - Small footprint.
 - Easy and automatable installation, configuration.
 - Powerful, scriptable monitoring.
- IDS is very powerful once embedded and easy to maintain.





