

IBM Informix



Version 3.50



IBM Informix OLE DB Provider Programmer's Guide

IBM Informix



Version 3.50



IBM Informix OLE DB Provider Programmer's Guide

Note:

Before using this information and the product it supports, read the information in "Notices" on page C-1.

This document contains proprietary information of IBM. It is provided under a license agreement and is protected by copyright law. The information contained in this publication does not include any product warranties, and any statements provided in this publication should not be interpreted as such.

When you send information to IBM, you grant IBM a nonexclusive right to use or distribute the information in any way it believes appropriate without incurring any obligation to you.

© Copyright International Business Machines Corporation 1996, 2008. All rights reserved.

US Government Users Restricted Rights – Use, duplication or disclosure restricted by GSA ADP Schedule Contract with IBM Corp.

Contents

Introduction	v
About This Publication	v
Types of Users.	v
Assumptions About Your Locale.	v
What's New in OLE DB Provider for Client SDK, Version 3.50	vi
Documentation Conventions	vi
Typographical Conventions	vi
Feature, Product, and Platform Markup	vii
Example Code Conventions	vii
Additional Documentation	viii
Compliance with Industry Standards	viii
How to Provide Documentation Feedback	viii
Chapter 1. Overview and Setup	1-1
Introducing IBM Informix OLE DB Provider	1-1
Software Dependencies	1-1
System Requirements	1-2
Installing and Configuring IBM Informix OLE DB Provider	1-2
Manual Updates to the Registry	1-2
Upgrading from Previous Versions	1-2
Sample Programs	1-3
Support of OLE DB Specifications	1-3
Support of LDAP Authentication in Windows	1-4
Chapter 2. Using IBM Informix OLE DB Provider	2-1
Supported Applications	2-1
Connecting to a Data Source	2-2
Using Cursors	2-3
Data Types	2-4
Data Type Mappings	2-4
The INTERVAL Type Mapping.	2-5
The DATETIME Type Mapping	2-6
The Decimal and Money Type Mapping	2-6
Large Object and User-Defined Data Type Mapping	2-7
Data Conversions for Setting Data	2-8
Data Conversions for Getting Data	2-10
Threading Support	2-12
Transaction Support	2-12
Distributed Transactions	2-12
Local Transactions	2-12
Distributed Transaction Support	2-12
Using Identifiers	2-12
Support for DYNAMIC QUERY EXTENSION	2-13
Support for SQL 99 Joins	2-13
Working with International GLS Locales	2-13
Converting Between Unicode and MBCS Character Sets	2-13
Using the UNICODE Provider String Keyword	2-13
Using the REPORTSTRINGASWSTRING Provider String Keyword	2-14
Resolving Problems	2-14
IBM Informix OLE DB Provider Not Registered	2-14
Class Not Registered.	2-14
Cannot Establish a Connection	2-15
Database Not Found.	2-15
Oledbversion Table Not Found	2-15
Nonalphabetic MBCS Characters Generate Syntax Errors	2-15

Server-Side Cursor Fails to Update Records	2-16
Attempt to Use Provider from Web Server or Other Server Fails	2-16
Cannot Connect to Transaction Manager	2-16
Driver Not Found Error	2-17
Appendix A. Supported Interfaces	A-1
Appendix B. Accessibility	B-1
Accessibility features for IBM Informix Dynamic Server	B-1
Accessibility Features.	B-1
Keyboard Navigation.	B-1
Related Accessibility Information.	B-1
IBM and Accessibility.	B-1
Notices	C-1
Trademarks	C-3
Index	X-1

Introduction

About This Publication	v
Types of Users.	v
Assumptions About Your Locale.	v
What's New in OLE DB Provider for Client SDK, Version 3.50	vi
Documentation Conventions	vi
Typographical Conventions	vi
Feature, Product, and Platform Markup	vii
Example Code Conventions	vii
Additional Documentation	viii
Compliance with Industry Standards	viii
How to Provide Documentation Feedback	viii

In This Introduction

This introduction provides an overview of the information in this publication and describes the conventions it uses.

About This Publication

This publication describes the software requirements for using IBM Informix OLE DB Provider, shows how to install and configure the provider for your use, and explains how to use IBM Informix OLE DB Provider to enable client applications, such as ActiveX Data Object (ADO) applications and Web pages, to access data on an Informix® server.

Types of Users

This publication is written for the following users:

- Database administrators who install and configure Informix database servers, databases, and connectivity products
- Developers who write applications using IBM Informix OLE DB Provider

This publication is written with the assumption that you have the following background:

- A working knowledge of your computer, your operating system, and the utilities that your operating system provides
- Some experience with Microsoft® OLE DB
- Some experience working with relational databases or exposure to database concepts

If you have limited experience with relational databases, SQL, or your operating system, refer to the *IBM Informix Dynamic Server Getting Started Guide* for your database server for a list of supplementary titles.

Assumptions About Your Locale

IBM Informix products can support many languages, cultures, and code sets. All the information related to character set, collation and representation of numeric data, currency, date, and time is brought together in a single environment, called a GLS (Global Language Support) locale.

The examples in this publication are written with the assumption that you are using the default locale, **en_us.1252-1**. This locale supports U.S. English format conventions for date, time, and currency. In addition, this locale supports the ISO 8859-1 code set, which includes the ASCII code set plus many 8-bit characters such as é, è, and ñ.

If you plan to use nondefault characters in your data or your SQL identifiers, or if you want to conform to the nondefault collation rules of character data, you need to specify the appropriate nondefault locale.

For instructions on how to specify a nondefault locale, additional syntax, and other considerations related to GLS locales, see the *IBM Informix GLS User's Guide*.

Important: IBM Informix OLE DB Provider follows the ISO string formats for date, time, and money, as defined by the Microsoft OLE DB standards, unless you override this by setting an Informix environment variable or registry entry, such as DBDATE.

What's New in OLE DB Provider for Client SDK, Version 3.50

For a comprehensive list of new features for this release, see the *IBM Informix Dynamic Server Getting Started Guide*. The following changes and enhancements are relevant to this publication.

Table 1. What's New in IBM Informix OLE DB Provider Programmer's Guide

Overview	Reference
BIGINT and BIGSERIAL data types	"Data Type Mappings" on page 2-4
These data types are similar to INT8 and SERIAL8, but have performance advantages.	"Data Conversions for Setting Data" on page 2-8 "Data Conversions for Getting Data" on page 2-10

Documentation Conventions

This section describes the following conventions, which are used in the product documentation for IBM® Informix Dynamic Server:

- Typographical conventions
- Feature, product, and platform conventions
- Example code conventions

Typographical Conventions

This publication uses the following conventions to introduce new terms, illustrate screen displays, describe command syntax, and so forth.

Convention	Meaning
KEYWORD	Keywords of SQL, SPL, and some other programming languages appear in uppercase letters in a serif font.
<i>italics</i>	Within text, new terms and emphasized words appear in italics. Within syntax and code examples, variable values that you are to specify appear in italics.

Convention	Meaning
boldface	Names of program entities (such as classes, events, and tables), environment variables, file names, path names, and interface elements (such as icons, menu items, and buttons) appear in boldface.
monospace	Information that the product displays and information that you enter appear in a monospace typeface.
KEYSTROKE	Keys that you are to press appear in uppercase letters in a sans serif font.
>	This symbol indicates a menu item. For example, “Choose Tools > Options ” means choose the Options item from the Tools menu.

Feature, Product, and Platform Markup

Feature, product, and platform markup identifies paragraphs that contain feature-specific, product-specific, or platform-specific information. Some examples of this markup follow:

```

_____ Dynamic Server _____
Identifies information that is specific to IBM Informix Dynamic Server
_____ End of Dynamic Server _____

```

```

_____ Windows Only _____
Identifies information that is specific to the Windows operating system
_____ End of Windows Only _____

```

This markup can apply to one or more paragraphs within a section. When an entire section applies to a particular product or platform, this is noted as part of the heading text, for example:

Table Sorting (Windows)

Example Code Conventions

Examples of SQL code occur throughout this publication. Except as noted, the code is not specific to any single IBM Informix application development tool.

If only SQL statements are listed in the example, they are not delimited by semicolons. For instance, you might see the code in the following example:

```

CONNECT TO stores_demo
...

DELETE FROM customer
  WHERE customer_num = 121
...

COMMIT WORK
DISCONNECT CURRENT

```

To use this SQL code for a specific product, you must apply the syntax rules for that product. For example, if you are using DB–Access, you must delimit multiple statements with semicolons. If you are using an SQL API, you must use EXEC SQL at the start of each statement and a semicolon (or other appropriate delimiter) at the end of the statement.

Tip: Ellipsis points in a code example indicate that more code would be added in a full application, but it is not necessary to show it to describe the concept being discussed.

For detailed directions on using SQL statements for a particular application development tool or SQL API, see the documentation for your product.

Additional Documentation

You can view, search, and print all of the product documentation from the IBM Informix Dynamic Server information center on the Web at <http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/idshelp/v115/index.jsp>.

For additional documentation about IBM Informix Dynamic Server and related products, including release notes, machine notes, and documentation notes, go to the online product library page at <http://www.ibm.com/software/data/informix/pubs/library/>. Alternatively, you can access or install the product documentation from the Quick Start CD that is shipped with the product.

Compliance with Industry Standards

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the International Organization of Standardization (ISO) have jointly established a set of industry standards for the Structured Query Language (SQL). IBM Informix SQL-based products are fully compliant with SQL-92 Entry Level (published as ANSI X3.135-1992), which is identical to ISO 9075:1992. In addition, many features of IBM Informix database servers comply with the SQL-92 Intermediate and Full Level and X/Open SQL Common Applications Environment (CAE) standards.

How to Provide Documentation Feedback

You are encouraged to send your comments about IBM Informix user documentation by using one of the following methods:

- Send e-mail to docinf@us.ibm.com.
- Go to the Information Center at <http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/idshelp/v115/index.jsp> and open the topic that you want to comment on. Click **Feedback** at the bottom of the page, fill out the form, and submit your feedback.

Feedback from both methods is monitored by those who maintain the user documentation of Dynamic Server. The feedback methods are reserved for reporting errors and omissions in our documentation. For immediate help with a technical problem, contact IBM Technical Support. For instructions, see the IBM Informix Technical Support Web site at <http://www.ibm.com/planetwide/>.

We appreciate your suggestions.

Chapter 1. Overview and Setup

Introducing IBM Informix OLE DB Provider	1-1
Software Dependencies	1-1
System Requirements	1-2
Installing and Configuring IBM Informix OLE DB Provider	1-2
Manual Updates to the Registry	1-2
Upgrading from Previous Versions	1-2
Sample Programs	1-3
Support of OLE DB Specifications	1-3
Support of LDAP Authentication in Windows	1-4

In This Chapter

This chapter describes the software you can use with IBM Informix OLE DB Provider and explains how to install and configure it for your use.

Introducing IBM Informix OLE DB Provider

Microsoft OLE DB is a specification for a set of data access interfaces designed to enable a variety of data stores to work together seamlessly. OLE DB components are: data *providers*, data *consumers*, and service components. Data providers own data and make it available to consumers. Each provider's implementation is different, but they all expose their data in a tabular form through virtual tables. Data consumers use the OLE DB interfaces to access data.

You use IBM Informix OLE DB Provider to enable client applications, such as ActiveX Data Object (ADO) applications and Web pages, to access data on an Informix server.

IBM Informix OLE DB Provider is a component of the IBM Informix Client SDK.

Tip: This publication describes the characteristics of the *IBM Informix OLE DB Provider*. It does not describe the architecture of OLE DB providers in general or how to program with OLE DB. For information about OLE DB architecture and programming, go to the Microsoft web site (<http://www.microsoft.com>) and search for "Introduction to OLE DB".

Software Dependencies

IBM Informix OLE DB Provider can be used with the following Informix database servers:

- IBM Informix Dynamic Server (IDS), Version 7.3 and later
- IBM Informix Dynamic Server with Advanced Decision Support and Extended Parallel Options, Version 8.2 and later
- IBM Informix Extended Parallel Server, Version 8.3 and later
- IBM Informix Dynamic Server (IDS), Version 9.2x and later

System Requirements

To use the IBM Informix OLE DB Provider, you must run on one of these supported operating systems:

- Microsoft Windows NT® Version 4.0 with Service Pack 4 or later
- Microsoft Windows® 2003 Server, Microsoft Windows XP, or Microsoft Windows Vista

Installing and Configuring IBM Informix OLE DB Provider

IBM Informix OLE DB Provider is distributed with IBM Informix Connect and the IBM Informix Client Software Development Kit (SDK).

When you install the Client SDK, IBM Informix OLE DB Provider is installed by default. The installation includes other necessary components and performs required updates to the registry.

After installation, you must run the script **coledbp.sql** on the Informix server against the **sysmaster** database as user **informix**. IBM Informix OLE DB Provider requires the stored procedures added to the server by the **coledbp.sql** script. The script is located in the **INFORMIXDIR\etc** directory. (To remove the stored procedures, you can run the **doledbp.sql** against the **sysmaster** database as user **informix**.)

Manual Updates to the Registry

If you need to manually add or remove IBM Informix OLE DB Provider to or from the registry, you can do it as follows.

To add IBM Informix OLE DB Provider to the registry:

1. Using the command prompt, change directory to **INFORMIXDIR\bin**.
The file **ifxoledbc.dll** is present in this directory.
2. Type the following command and press Enter:

```
Regsvr32.exe ifxoledbc.dll
```

To remove IBM Informix OLE DB Provider from the registry:

1. Using the command prompt, change directory to **INFORMIXDIR\bin**.
The file **ifxoledbc.dll** is present in this directory.
2. Type the following command and press Enter:

```
Regsvr32.exe /u ifxoledbc.dll
```

Upgrading from Previous Versions

To upgrade from previous versions of IBM Informix OLE DB Provider, your database administrator should follow these steps:

1. Run the script **doledbp.sql** against the **sysmaster** database as user **informix**.
Ignore any messages about missing database objects.
2. Run the script **coledbp.sql** against the **sysmaster** database as user **informix**.

Version 2.8 of IBM Informix OLE DB Provider changes the way some features used to operate in earlier versions. If you have used a pre-2.8 version of the IBM Informix OLE DB Provider, the issues you need to be aware of are:

- OLE DB Provider handles the INTERVAL type differently in this release. In pre-2.8 versions, interval data was returned as decimal numbers with different sections of that number corresponding to year, month, day, and other fields within the value. Knowledge of the start and end fields of the interval column was required in order to interpret the decimal number correctly.

In this release, the default type is a string with the format as described in the *IBM Informix Guide to SQL: Reference*, with the provision that a conversion to a numeric type is also allowed. If a datetime interval is requested in DB_TYPE_I8 format, the number returned will have 1/100,000 seconds as the unit of measure.

- OLE DB Provider handles complex data types, collections, and row types differently in this release. Data of these types is presented in string format as LVARCHAR data. This is similar to the method that is used to interact with this data using the DB–Access tool. As an example of the format being presented, if a column has the definition:

```
my_date    MULTISSET(date not null)
```

Data contained in this column is returned to the application in the format:

```
MULTISSET{'08/15/2000','02/02/2002','10/11/1999'}
```

- Type handling for the DECIMAL, MONEY, and DATETIME types has changed from the previous release. See “Data Types” on page 2-4 for information about how the current release handles these types.

Sample Programs

A sample program, **Demo1**, is included in the following location:

```
%INFORMIXDIR%\demo\oledbdemo\Demo1
```

It is a complete project that introduces how to use OLE DB interfaces in a C++ application. It performs the following tasks:

- Connects to IBM Informix Dynamic Server by creating a DataSource object
- Creates a Session object
- Creates a Command object
- Executes SQL statements to perform the following tasks:
 - Drop the table **MyTable**, if it exists
 - Create the table **MyTable**
 - Insert records in **MyTable**
- Deletes the Command object
- Deletes the Session object
- Disconnects the database and server connection and deletes the DataSource object

Another sample program is included in:

```
INFORMIXDIR\demo\oledbdemo\DistTxn\
```

Support of OLE DB Specifications

The IBM Informix OLE DB Provider supports level 0 of the OLE DB provider specification, including some additional level 1 interfaces. For more information about supported interfaces, see Appendix A, “Supported Interfaces,” on page A-1.

The IBM Informix OLE DB Provider is built and tested with Microsoft Data Access Components (MDAC) version 2.8.

Support of LDAP Authentication in Windows

You can use LDAP Authentication in Windows with IBM Informix OLE DB Provider, which is similar to the Pluggable Authentication Module (PAM) that is used on UNIX[®] and Linux[®]. When you want to use an LDAP server to authenticate your system users, use the LDAP Authentication Support module. The module contains source code that you can modify to fit your specific requirements. For information on the LDAP Authentication Support module, see the *IBM Informix Security Guide*.

Chapter 2. Using IBM Informix OLE DB Provider

Supported Applications	2-1
Connecting to a Data Source	2-2
Using Cursors	2-3
Data Types	2-4
Data Type Mappings	2-4
The INTERVAL Type Mapping	2-5
The DATETIME Type Mapping	2-6
The Decimal and Money Type Mapping	2-6
Large Object and User-Defined Data Type Mapping	2-7
Data Conversions for Setting Data	2-8
Data Conversions for Getting Data	2-10
Threading Support	2-12
Transaction Support	2-12
Distributed Transactions	2-12
Local Transactions	2-12
Distributed Transaction Support	2-12
Using Identifiers	2-12
Support for DYNAMIC QUERY EXTENSION	2-13
Support for SQL 99 Joins	2-13
Working with International GLS Locales	2-13
Converting Between Unicode and MBCS Character Sets	2-13
Using the UNICODE Provider String Keyword	2-13
Using the REPORTSTRINGASWSTRING Provider String Keyword	2-14
Resolving Problems	2-14
IBM Informix OLE DB Provider Not Registered	2-14
Class Not Registered.	2-14
Cannot Establish a Connection	2-15
Database Not Found.	2-15
Oledbversion Table Not Found	2-15
Nonalphabetic MBCS Characters Generate Syntax Errors	2-15
Server-Side Cursor Fails to Update Records	2-16
Attempt to Use Provider from Web Server or Other Server Fails	2-16
Cannot Connect to Transaction Manager	2-16
Driver Not Found Error	2-17

In This Chapter

This chapter describes the kind of applications you can create using IBM Informix OLE DB Provider and discusses how to connect to data sources and manipulate data within your application.

Supported Applications

With the IBM Informix OLE DB Provider, you can create the following types of applications:

- ADO applications, including:
 - Microsoft Visual Studio C++ applications
 - Microsoft Visual Basic applications
- C/C++ applications that access Informix databases directly using the OLE DB interfaces, including ATL applications whose Data Access Consumer Objects were generated by the ATL COM AppWizard

For information about ADO connection string keywords, see the section “Connecting to a Data Source,” following.

Connecting to a Data Source

IBM Informix OLE DB Provider treats the database (rather than the database server instance) as a data source.

Data source names must be in the following format:

[*database*] [*@server*]

The brackets indicate that the enclosed items are optional. If the database name is missing, the client user name is used. If the *@server* name is missing, the default database server is used (corresponding to the value specified by the client’s INFORMIXSERVER registry entry).

To specify ADO connection string keywords, specify keywords in the connection string for the Provider using the format *keyword=value*. Delimit multiple keywords with a semicolon.

The following table describes the ADO keywords supported by the IBM Informix OLE DB Provider.

Keyword	Value	Description
DSN	Name of the database alias	The Informix database alias in the database directory
UID	User ID	The user ID used to connect to the Informix server
PWD	Password	The password for the user ID
Client_locale	Locale	The client locale for the application
Db_locale	Locale	The database locale for the application
UNICODE	True or False	Indicates whether to use IBM Informix GLS Unicode See “Using the UNICODE Provider String Keyword” on page 2-13 for more information.
RSASWS or REPORTSTRINGASWSTRING	True or False	Enables you to control the data mapping for wide strings See “Using the REPORTSTRINGASWSTRING Provider String Keyword” on page 2-14 for more information.
FBS or FETCHBUFFERSIZE	Numeric	The size in bytes of the buffer size used to send data to or from the database. The range of values is 4096 (default) to 32767. If you want to set the fetch buffer size at 32K, for example, set the connection string as “FBS=32767” or “FETCHBUFFERSIZE=32767”. If the value of “FBS” or “FETCHBUFFERSIZE” is not in the range between 4096 and 32767, then by default the value will be changed to 4096 internally and no error message is returned.

Important: These settings take precedence over the settings of environment variables.

Using Cursors

IBM Informix OLE DB Provider supports the following ADO cursor types:

- Client-side scrollable cursors (**adUseClient** and **adOpenStatic**)
Client-side scrollable cursors (**adUseClient** and **adOpenStatic**) support bookmarks and have the following limitation: database updates fail when the rowset includes columns of extended data types.
- Server-side scrollable cursors (**adOpenStatic**)
Server-side scrollable cursors are faster than client-side cursors. If a server-side scrollable cursor is opened on a table (**adCmdTableDirect**) or on a simple SELECT statement (single table, no aggregates, no GROUP BY clause), the cursor can support bookmarks and, with the Version 9.2, or later Informix server, database updates.
- Server-side nonscrollable cursors (**adUseServer** and **adOpenForwardOnly**)
Server-side nonscrollable cursors (**adUseServer** and **adOpenForwardOnly**) are the fastest cursors. Like server-side scrollable cursors, nonscrollable cursors support updates when opened on a table or (with the Version 9.2, or later Informix server) when opened on a simple FOR UPDATE-compatible SELECT statement. In addition, if a server side nonscrollable cursor is opened on a table or on a simple SQL statement without an ORDER BY clause, the cursor is able to display changes made to the database by other users (unless transaction isolation precludes it).

The following caveats apply to the use of cursors:

- The only scrollable cursor supported by IBM Informix OLE DB Provider is the static cursor. The Provider accepts requests for other types of scrollable cursors (dynamic and keyset), but it supplies a static cursor regardless of which cursor type is requested.
- Since the scrollable cursor is static, it cannot detect changes made to the database by other users. The DBPROP_OWNINSERT, DBPROP_OTHERINSERT, and DBPROP_OTHERUPDATEDDELETE properties for scrollable cursors are read-only VARIANT_FALSE.
Use a nonscrollable cursor (**adOpenForwardOnly**) if you want the functionality that corresponds to setting these properties to VARIANT_TRUE.
- With pre-Version 9.2 Informix servers, the server-side nonscrollable cursor **adUseServer** can update records only when the rowset is opened with **IOpenRowset::OpenRowset()**. The ADO flag corresponding to **IOpenRowset::OpenRowset()** is **adCmdTableDirect**.
The client-side cursor (**adUseClient**) does not have this limitation.
- Server-side scrollable cursors cannot be opened if the record set includes simple large objects (BYTE and TEXT) or collections.
You can use a server-side nonscrollable cursor (**adOpenForwardOnly**) or a client-side scrollable cursor (**adUseClient**) with these types.
- The DBPROP_IRowsetScroll property is read-only VARIANT_FALSE for rowsets not opened with **IOpenRowset::OpenRowset()**. It is VARIANT_TRUE for rowsets opened with **IOpenRowset::OpenRowset()** if bookmarks are requested (corresponding ADO flags are **adOpenStatic** and **adOpenKeyset**).
- To support bookmarks and the modification or deletion of records, a data source table must include a ROWID column. (A ROWID column is not needed to insert records.)

All fragmented and nonfragmented tables created with the WITH ROWIDS clause (or altered with the WITH ROWIDS clause applied) have this column. The ROWID column itself is not visible to consumers unless it is explicitly selected.

If consumers require a persistent unique ID, create the necessary columns using the SERIAL or SERIAL8 data types.

- Use of DISTINCT, UNIQUE, ORDER BY, GROUP BY, or aggregates in SQL statements makes the cursor unable to detect changes made on the database by other users.
- Any SELECT statement that cannot be used with FOR UPDATE (for example, because it has joins or aggregates) is incompatible with bookmarks and updatability (but not incompatible with scrolling).
- When you work with ADO client-side cursors, specify the table name in the same text case that is used on the server. Otherwise, the database server will return an error. To work around this issue, use ADO server-side cursors.

Data Types

IBM Informix OLE DB Provider supports all built-in and user-defined types. However, see the caveats about using scrollable cursors on data that includes simple large objects and collections in “Using Cursors” on page 2-3.

Data Type Mappings

IBM Informix OLE DB Provider supports data type mappings between Informix data types and OLE DB data types, as shown in the following table.

The data type shown in the column headed **MSDASQL>ODBC 3.80 Type** is the type that an Informix data type maps to when you use the Microsoft OLE DB to ODBC bridge.

Informix Data Type	Pre-Version 2.8 OLE DB Provider Type	MSDASQL>ODBC 3.80 Type	Current OLE DB Provider Type
BIGINT	None	DBTYPE_I8	DBTYPE_I8
BIGSERIAL	None	DBTYPE_UI8	DBTYPE_I8
BLOB	DBTYPE_BYTES	DBTYPE_BYTES	DBTYPE_BYTES
BOOLEAN	DBTYPE_BOOL	DBTYPE_BOOL	DBTYPE_BOOL
BYTE	DBTYPE_BYTES	DBTYPE_BYTES	DBTYPE_BYTES
CHAR	DBTYPE_STR	DBTYPE_STR	DBTYPE_STR
CLOB	DBTYPE_STR	DBTYPE_STR	DBTYPE_STR
DATE	DBTYPE_DBDATE	DBTYPE_DBDATE	DBTYPE_DBDATE
DATETIME	DBTYPE_DBTIMESTAMP	DBTYPE_DBTIMESTAMP Except: DATETIME YEAR TO DAY maps to DBTYPE_DBDATE DATETIME HOUR TO SECOND maps to DBTYPE_DBTIME	DBTYPE_DBDATE or DBTYPE_DBTIME or DBTYPE_DBTIMESTAMP For detailed information, see “The DATETIME Type Mapping” on page 2-6.
DECIMAL See “The Decimal and Money Type Mapping” on page 2-6.	DBTYPE_VARNUMERIC	DBTYPE_NUMERIC	DBTYPE_NUMERIC

Informix Data Type	Pre-Version 2.8 OLE DB Provider Type	MSDASQL>ODBC 3.80 Type	Current OLE DB Provider Type
DISTINCT	Same as underlying type	Same as underlying type	Same as underlying type
FLOAT	DBTYPE_R8	DBTYPE_R8	DBTYPE_R8
INT8	DBTYPE_I8	DBTYPE_I8	DBTYPE_I8
INTEGER	DBTYPE_I4	DBTYPE_I4	DBTYPE_I4
INTERVAL	DBTYPE_NUMERIC	DBTYPE_BYTES	DBTYPE_STR See "The INTERVAL Type Mapping" on page 2-5.
LIST	DBTYPE_VARIANT	DBTYPE_STR See "The Decimal and Money Type Mapping" on page 2-6.	DBTYPE_VARIANT
LVARCHAR	DBTYPE_STR	DBTYPE_STR	DBTYPE_STR
MONEY (p<=19 s<=4)	DBTYPE_NUMERIC	DBTYPE_CY	DBTYPE_CY
MONEY (p>19 s<>4) See "The Decimal and Money Type Mapping" on page 2-6.	DBTYPE_NUMERIC	DBTYPE_NUMERIC	DBTYPE_NUMERIC
MULTISET	DBTYPE_VARIANT	DBTYPE_STR See "The Decimal and Money Type Mapping" on page 2-6.	DBTYPE_VARIANT
NCHAR	DBTYPE_STR	DBTYPE_STR	DBTYPE_STR
OPAQUE	DBTYPE_BYTES	DBTYPE_BYTES	DBTYPE_BYTES
Named ROW	DBTYPE_VARIANT	DBTYPE_STR See "The Decimal and Money Type Mapping" on page 2-6.	DBTYPE_VARIANT
Unnamed ROW	Same as underlying type	DBTYPE_STR See "The Decimal and Money Type Mapping" on page 2-6.	DBTYPE_VARIANT
SERIAL	DBTYPE_I4	DBTYPE_I4	DBTYPE_I4
SERIAL8	DBTYPE_I8	DBTYPE_UI8	DBTYPE_I8
SET	DBTYPE_VARIANT	DBTYPE_STR See "The Decimal and Money Type Mapping" on page 2-6.	DBTYPE_VARIANT
SMALLFLOAT	DBTYPE_R4	DBTYPE_R4	DBTYPE_R4
SMALLINT	DBTYPE_I2	DBTYPE_I2	DBTYPE_I2
TEXT	DBTYPE_STR	DBTYPE_STR	DBTYPE_STR
VARCHAR	DBTYPE_STR	DBTYPE_STR	DBTYPE_STR

The INTERVAL Type Mapping

For Version 2.8, by default, the INTERVAL data type is mapped to a string with the format described in *IBM Informix Guide to SQL: Reference*. However, a conversion to a numeric type is also allowed. Conversion to a string type facilitates the easy display of user-entered data. The alternate numeric conversion facilitates mathematical manipulation of data by an application.

For day-time intervals, the recommended alternate numeric conversion is to DBTYPE_I8. The number returned will have 1/100,000 seconds as the unit of measure.

For year-month intervals, the recommended alternate conversion is to DBTYPE_I8. The number returned will have months as the unit of measure.

Conversions of both day-time and year-month interval types to the types DBTYPE_I4, DBTYPE_I2, and DBTYPE_I1 are also allowed; overflow errors are possible for the smaller types.

Important: For numeric conversions, the format of the returned number is different from the format returned in prior releases of the IBM Informix OLE DB Provider (in order to avoid ambiguity).

The DATETIME Type Mapping

Version 2.8 of IBM Informix OLE DB Provider maps DATETIME types to the smallest type that can contain the start and end fields of the DATETIME value. The following table shows how Version 2.8 IBM Informix OLE DB Provider maps each DATETIME type.

Informix Data Type	Version 2.8 OLE DB Provider Type
DATETIME YEAR TO YEAR	DBTYPE_DBDATE
DATETIME YEAR TO MONTH	
DATETIME YEAR TO DAY	
DATETIME MONTH TO MONTH	
DATETIME MONTH TO DAY	
DATETIME DAY TO DAY	
DATETIME HOUR TO HOUR	DBTYPE_DBTIME
DATETIME HOUR TO MINUTE	
DATETIME HOUR TO SECOND	
DATETIME MINUTE TO MINUTE	
DATETIME MINUTE TO SECOND	
DATETIME SECOND TO SECOND	
DATETIME YEAR TO HOUR	DBTYPE_DBTIMESTAMP
DATETIME YEAR TO MINUTE	
DATETIME YEAR TO SECOND	
DATETIME YEAR TO FRACTION	
DATETIME MONTH TO HOUR	
DATETIME MONTH TO MINUTE	
DATETIME MONTH TO SECOND	
DATETIME MONTH TO FRACTION	
DATETIME DAY TO HOUR	
DATETIME DAY TO MINUTE	
DATETIME DAY TO SECOND	
DATETIME DAY TO FRACTION	
DATETIME HOUR TO FRACTION	
DATETIME MINUTE TO FRACTION	
DATETIME SECOND TO FRACTION	
DATETIME FRACTION TO FRACTION	

The Decimal and Money Type Mapping

Microsoft Visual Basic and ADO have limitations when handling floating point numbers with a scale greater than 30 and decimals with an undefined scale.

Therefore, some ADO consumers (for example, Microsoft Visual Basic 6) may encounter problems representing Informix DECIMAL or MONEY values.

ADO allows you to specify DBPROP_INIT_PROVIDERSTRING parameters as part of the connection string. Some tools (for example, Microsoft Visual Basic 6) allow you to set DBPROP_INIT_PROVIDERSTRING parameters as “Extended Properties.” The parameters are case sensitive.

To allow these consumers to correctly handle decimal values, IBM Informix OLE DB Provider sets the advanced connection option Describe Decimal as Real/Double, so that decimal values with no scale are returned as the type DBTYPE_R8.

To avoid the problem of floating point numbers with a scale greater than 30, IBM Informix OLE DB Provider supplies the provider string option **decasr8=R8**, which you specify by setting the DBPROP_INIT_PROVIDERSTRING initialization property. This parameter instructs IBM Informix OLE DB Provider to map DECIMAL and MONEY values to the standard Windows DBTYPE_R8 data type. This option also resolves the decimals-with-no-scale problem, but can lead to unnecessary truncation of digits.

Starting with version 3.00, when the connection option (**decasr8=R8**) is not used for columns with DECIMAL data type and no scale is specified, the precision and scale are evaluated by the OLE DB Provider using the following formula for the non-ANSI databases:

$$\text{DECIMAL}(p) = \text{DECIMAL}(\text{MIN}(2 * p, 32), (p < 16) ? p : 12 + ((32 - p) / 4))$$

For best results, always specify a scale for DECIMAL data types.

Large Object and User-Defined Data Type Mapping

IBM Informix OLE DB Provider supports large objects and user-defined data types as follows:

- The BYTE data type is reported by **IColumnsInfo::GetColumnInfo()** and appropriate schema rowsets as DBTYPE_BYTES; the TEXT data type is reported as DBTYPE_STR. Values of BYTE and TEXT types are cached in memory.
- Complex data types are reported by **IColumnsInfo::GetColumnInfo()** and appropriate schema rowsets as DBTYPE_VARIANT. The corresponding value is a safe array.

This mapping is known to work with ADO and Visual Basic/VBScript.

- The CLOB data type is reported by **IColumnsInfo::GetColumnInfo()** and appropriate schema rowsets as DBTYPE_STR with the IS_LONG flag set; the BLOB data type is reported as DBTYPE_BYTES with the IS_LONG flag set.

This mapping allows ADO to open storage objects on smart large object data and manipulate it with the **GetChunk()** and **AppendChunk()** methods.

- Distinct data types are generally resolved to their source type. For example, if you define an HTML type as a distinct CLOB data type, **IColumnsInfo::GetColumnInfo()** and appropriate schema rowsets report it as DBTYPE_STR with the IS_LONG flag set.
- Opaque data types are reported by **IColumnsInfo::GetColumnInfo()** and appropriate schema rowsets as DBTYPE_BYTES.

Data Conversions for Setting Data

The following tables show the supported data conversions from OLE DB types to Informix types. Note that truncation of data may occur in some cases.

OLE DB Type Indicator	Informix Data Types															
	SMALLINT	INTEGER	SERIAL	INT8	FLOAT	SMALLFLOAT	DECIMAL	MONEY	DATE	DATETIME	INTERVAL	CHAR	NCHAR	VARCHAR	NVARCHAR	NUMERIC
DBTYPE_EMPTY																
DBTYPE_NULL																
DBTYPE_RESERVED																
DBTYPE_I1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_I2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_I4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_I8											X	X	X	X	X	
DBTYPE_UI1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_UI2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_UI4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_UI8											X	X	X	X	X	
DBTYPE_R4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_R8	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_CY	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_DECIMAL	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_NUMERIC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_DATE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_BOOL	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_BYTES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_BSTR	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_STR	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_WSTR	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_VARIANT	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_IDISPATCH																
DBTYPE_IUNKNOWN																
DBTYPE_GUID												X	X	X	X	
DBTYPE_ERROR																
DBTYPE_BYREF	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*				*	*	*	*	*
See note following tables																
DBTYPE_ARRAY																
DBTYPE_VECTOR																
DBTYPE_UDT																
DBTYPE_DBDATE									X	X		X	X	X	X	

Informix Data Types

OLE DB Type Indicator	SMALLINT	INTEGER	SERIAL	INT8	FLOAT	SMALLFLOAT	DECIMAL	MONEY	DATE	DATETIME	INTERVAL	CHAR	NCHAR	VARCHAR	NVARCHAR	NUMERIC
DBTYPE_DBTIME									X	X		X	X	X	X	
DBTYPE_DBTIMESTAMP									X	X		X	X	X	X	
DBTYPE_FILETIME									X	X		X	X	X	X	
DBTYPE_PROP_VARIANT	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_HCHAPTER																
DBTYPE_VARNUMERIC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X

Informix 9.x and Later Data Types

OLE DB Type Indicator	BIGINT	BIGSERIAL	LVARCHAR	INT8	SERIAL8	CLOB	BLOB	ROW	SET	MULTISET	LIST
DBTYPE_EMPTY											
DBTYPE_NULL											
DBTYPE_RESERVED											
DBTYPE_I1				X	X	X	X	X			
DBTYPE_I2				X	X	X	X	X			
DBTYPE_I4				X	X	X	X	X			
DBTYPE_I8											
DBTYPE_UI1				X	X	X	X	X			
DBTYPE_UI2				X	X	X	X	X			
DBTYPE_UI4				X	X	X	X	X			
DBTYPE_UI8											
DBTYPE_R4				X	X	X	X	X			
DBTYPE_R8				X	X	X	X	X			
DBTYPE_CY				X	X	X	X	X			
DBTYPE_DECIMAL				X	X	X	X	X			
DBTYPE_NUMERIC				X	X	X	X	X			
DBTYPE_DATE				X	X	X	X	X			
DBTYPE_BOOL				X	X	X	X	X			
DBTYPE_BYTES				X	X	X	X	X			
DBTYPE_BSTR				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_STR				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_WSTR				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_VARIANT				X	X	X	X	X		X	X
DBTYPE_IDISPATCH											

Informix 9.x and Later Data Types											
OLE DB Type Indicator	BIGINT	BIGSERIAL	LVARCHAR	INT8	SERIAL8	CLOB	BLOB	ROW	SET	MULTISET	LIST
DBTYPE_IUNKNOWN See note following table						X	X				
DBTYPE_GUID											
DBTYPE_ERROR											
DBTYPE_BYREF See note following tables	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
DBTYPE_ARRAY											
DBTYPE_VECTOR											
DBTYPE_UDT											
DBTYPE_DBDATE			X								
DBTYPE_DBTIME			X								
DBTYPE_DBTIMESTAMP			X								
DBTYPE_FILETIME			X								
DBTYPE_PROP_VARIANT	X	X	X	X	X						
DBTYPE_HCHAPTER											
DBTYPE_VARNUMERIC	X	X	X	X	X						

Important:

- All the OLE DB types that are allowed with one or more of the Informix data types for the DBTYPE_BYREF type are also allowed when combined with DBTYPE_BYREF.
- For DBTYPE_IUNKNOWN, the supported interfaces are ISequentialStream, IStream, and ILockBytes.

Note: The 32K LVARCHAR feature extends LVARCHAR columns to hold up to 32K bytes of data. This feature requires IBM Informix Dynamic Server side support for 32K LVARCHAR, and only works with Informix Dynamic Server Version 9.4 or later.

Data Conversions for Getting Data

The following table shows the supported data conversions from Informix types to OLE DB types. Note that truncation of data may occur in some cases.

All OLE DB types that are allowed with one or more Informix data type are also allowed when combined with DBTYPE_BYREF.

Informix Data Types

OLE DB Type Indicator	SMALLINT	INTEGER	SERIAL	BIGINT	INT8	BIGSERIAL	SERIAL8	FLOAT	SMALLFLOAT	DECIMAL	MONEY	DATE	DATETIME	INTERVAL	CHAR	NCHAR	VARCHAR	NVARCHAR	NUMERIC
DBTYPE_EMPTY																			
DBTYPE_NULL																			
DBTYPE_RESERVED																			
DBTYPE_I1	X	X	X					X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_I2	X	X	X					X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_I4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_I8	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_UI1	X	X	X					X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_UI2	X	X	X					X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_UI4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_UI8	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_R4	X	X	X					X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_R8	X	X	X					X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_CY	X	X	X					X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_DECIMAL	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_NUMERIC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_DATE	X	X	X					X	X	X									
DBTYPE_BOOL															X	X	X	X	
DBTYPE_BYTES																			
DBTYPE_BSTR	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_STR	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_WSTR	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_VARIANT	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_IDISPATCH																			
DBTYPE_IUNKNOWN																			
DBTYPE_GUID																			
DBTYPE_ERROR																			
DBTYPE_BYREF																			
DBTYPE_ARRAY																			
DBTYPE_VECTOR																			
DBTYPE_UDT																			
DBTYPE_DBDATE												X	X		X	X	X	X	
DBTYPE_DBTIME												X	X		X	X	X	X	
DBTYPE_DBTIMESTAMP												X	X		X	X	X	X	
DBTYPE_FILETIME				X	X	X	X					X	X						
DBTYPE_PROP_VARIANT	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
DBTYPE_HCHAPTER																			
DBTYPE_VARNUMERIC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X

Threading Support

IBM Informix OLE DB Provider supports both free-threading and apartment-threading models. (For more information about these threading models search for "understanding threading models" at the Microsoft web site <http://www.microsoft.com>.) The free-threading model improves scalability and allows connection caching.

Transaction Support

IBM Informix OLE DB Provider supports both local and *distributed* transactions. A distributed transaction spans two or more database servers (also known as resource managers); these can be heterogeneous servers anywhere on the network.

Distributed Transactions

The *transaction coordinator* that IBM Informix OLE DB Provider supports for distributed transactions is MS DTC (Microsoft Distributed Transaction Coordinator). A transaction coordinator ensures that the distributed system maintains a consistent state.

Local Transactions

For local transactions, the default value of the Autocommit isolation level is read-committed for databases created with logging and read-uncommitted for databases created without logging. The consumer can change the default to read-uncommitted or serializable by setting the `DBPROP_SESS_AUTOCOMMITISOLEVEL` property.

Important: When the isolation level is set to read-uncommitted for a database that has logging, data can be read from but not written to the database.

Distributed Transaction Support

IBM Informix OLE DB Provider supports distributed transactions coordinated by MS DTC.

Beginning with Windows 2003, if the XA DLL registry entry is not created during installation, you must specifically create it. IBM Informix OLE DB Provider Version 3.0 uses **IfmxConn.dll** as the XA library. Enter the name of the DLL only; do not enter the entire DLL pathname in MS DTC with user-specified DLLs.

When you upgrade to Windows XP SP2 or Windows Server 2003, XA transactions are disabled, which protects MS DTC from denial-of-service attacks. To enable XA transactions, refer to the Microsoft XA Transaction Support information located at <http://support.microsoft.com>.

Note: MDAC 2.8 SP1 requires IBM Informix OLE DB Provider version 3.00 or later to function properly with MS DTC.

Using Identifiers

IBM Informix OLE DB Provider sets the **DELIMIDENT** environment variable in Setnet32 to Y, so that it encloses all identifiers in quotes in the SQL it generates (for example, when it executes an update). You can override this behavior by setting the **DELIMIDENT** environment variable to N.

For more information about the `DELIMIDENT` environment variable, see the *IBM Informix Guide to SQL: Reference*.

Tip: Identifiers are case sensitive when enclosed in quotes.

Support for DYNAMIC QUERY EXTENSION

The Dynamic Query Extension feature introduces support for describing input parameters of a prepared statement. This is an enhancement of the Dynamic SQL functionality of the server. This feature requires Informix Dynamic Server server-side support for Dynamic Query Extension, and will work only with IBM Informix Dynamic Server version 9.4 or higher.

To obtain the metadata for the parameters in a query in an OLE DB client, use the `GetParameterInfo` method of the `ICommandWithParameters` interface in the `Command` class.

Support for SQL 99 Joins

The SQL 99 Joins feature extends support for SQL joins from both within and outside of an escape sequence. This feature requires Informix Dynamic Server server-side support for SQL 99 joins, and will work only with IBM Informix Dynamic Server Version 9.4 or higher.

Working with International GLS Locales

This section offers information and tips about using IBM Informix OLE DB Provider with GLS (Global Language Support) locales other than the default locale, `en_us.1252-1`. For complete information about GLS locales, see the *IBM Informix GLS User's Guide*.

Converting Between Unicode and MBCS Character Sets

IBM Informix OLE DB Provider uses Win32 functions to convert between Unicode and MBCS (Multibyte Character Sequence). IBM Informix OLE DB Provider operates under the assumption that the client locale corresponds to one of the installed Windows code pages.

Using the UNICODE Provider String Keyword

If the `UNICODE` provider string keyword is set to `FALSE` (default), the code page corresponding to the `CLIENT_LOCALE` must be present as one of the operating system code pages. In this situation, the OLE DB Provider uses IBM Informix GLS functions to convert from `DB_LOCALE` to `CLIENT_LOCALE`, then uses operating system functions to convert from `CLIENT_LOCALE` to Unicode. This mechanism does not load the IBM Informix GLS code page, which should result in better connection performance but slower code set conversions.

If the `UNICODE` provider string keyword is set to `TRUE`, the code page corresponding to the `CLIENT_LOCALE` need not be present as one of the operating system code pages. This would be required, if you wanted to use, for example, a Hebrew code page on a US English Windows machine. In this situation, the OLE DB Provider uses IBM Informix GLS functions to convert directly from `DB_LOCALE` to Unicode. This mechanism loads the IBM Informix GLS code page, which may slow connection performance slightly but results in faster code set conversions.

Using the REPORTSTRINGASWSTRING Provider String Keyword

The provider-string keyword RSASWS or REPORTSTRINGASWSTRING in the provider string Extended Properties enables you to control the data mapping for wide strings.

When this keyword is set to TRUE, OLE DB Provider reports DBTYPE_WSTR as a best fit for all the underlying string length data types (CHAR, VARCHAR, TEXT, and so on) and not DBTYPE_STR, which is the normal mapping. The default setting for REPORTSTRINGASWSTRING is FALSE.

The syntax for setting this keyword is as follows (two forms of this keyword are provided; you may use either one):

- Short form:
RSASWS=TRUE or RSASWS=FALSE
- Long form:
REPORTSTRINGASWSTRING=TRUE or REPORTSTRINGASWSTRING=FALSE

Resolving Problems

This section describes how to resolve problems that you might encounter when installing, configuring, or using IBM Informix OLE DB Provider.

Tip: If the problem you are experiencing does not match one listed here, or the proposed resolution does not work for you, contact Technical Support.

IBM Informix OLE DB Provider Not Registered

When you attempt to connect to an Informix data source, a message says that IBM Informix OLE DB Provider is not registered. IBM Informix OLE DB Provider is not visible in the enumeration (for example, in the Initialize Data Source dialog box in the Microsoft OLE DB query demonstration).

Possible Cause

IBM Informix OLE DB Provider is not installed.

Resolution

IBM Informix OLE DB Provider is distributed with IBM Informix Connect and the IBM Informix Client SDK, Version 2.3 and later; however, it is not installed unless you choose the **Custom** installation option and explicitly select IBM Informix OLE DB Provider.

During installation, the IBM Informix OLE DB Provider DLL is copied to **INFORMIXDIR\bin**. If IBM Informix OLE DB Provider is copied to your computer but still is not visible in the enumeration, make sure the DLL is registered on the local computer.

To register the DLL:

1. Go to **INFORMIXDIR\bin**.
2. Run the **regsvr32** command on the DLL (**ifxoledbc.dll**).

Class Not Registered

When you attempt to connect to an Informix data source, the message Class not registered appears.

Possible Cause

The IBM Informix OLE DB Provider DLL might not be loaded.

Resolution

Check that the IBM Informix OLE DB Provider DLL is in the location recorded in the registry entry, which should point to **bin\ifxoledbc.dll** in your IBM Informix Connect or IBM Informix Client SDK installation. If that is not the case, reregister IBM Informix OLE DB Provider (see “IBM Informix OLE DB Provider Not Registered” on page 2-14). Refer to the registry entries section in the Microsoft OLE DB documentation for more information.

Also, make sure that **INFORMIXDIR\bin** is in the system path.

Cannot Establish a Connection

You cannot establish a connection.

Possible Cause

Basic connectivity was not set up.

Resolution

Use **Ilogin** or **DBPing** (included with your IBM Informix Client SDK) to verify that you can connect.

Database Not Found

A connection attempt fails; a message says that the database is not found.

Possible Cause

A bad database name or no database name at all was specified, and no database corresponding to your client user name exists on the server.

Resolution

Make sure that your data source name is specified correctly; see “Connecting to a Data Source” on page 2-2.

Oledbversion Table Not Found

When the application attempts to fetch schema information, a message says that the table **oledbversion** was not found.

Possible Cause

The setup script, **coledbp.sql**, has not been run against the **sysmaster** database of that server.

Resolution

The database administrator must run the setup script against the **sysmaster** database on the server to which you are trying to connect.

Nonalphabetic MBCS Characters Generate Syntax Errors

When you issue an SQL statement against an MBCS database (for example, SJIS-S), the Informix server returns a syntax error if the statement includes table or column names containing MBCS characters not classified as alphabetic in the locale.

Possible Cause

Identifiers that include nonalphabetic characters are not enclosed in quotes.

Resolution

Enclose identifiers in quotes, and make sure **DELIMIT** is set. If you have no control over the SQL produced by the application, consider using a locale that classifies the characters in question as alphabetic.

Server-Side Cursor Fails to Update Records

If you open a server-side cursor (**adUseServer**) on an SQL command (**adCmdText**), attempts to perform an update fail with an ADO provider not capable error. (This problem applies only to 7.x, 8.x, and 9.1x servers.)

Possible Cause

A server-side cursor that is opened on SQL text against pre-9.2 Informix servers is not updatable.

Resolution

Use the client-side cursor (**adUseClient**) instead, or open the server-side cursor on the table (**adCmdTableDirect**).

Attempt to Use Provider from Web Server or Other Server Fails

An attempt to use OLE DB Provider from the Web server or from a process that runs as a distinct user fails. The typical error message that appears is ADO cannot find the provider.

Possible Cause

OLE DB Provider is set up only for the current user.

Resolution

Perform the following steps in order:

1. Verify that you can connect to an Informix data source from an application such as Microsoft Visual Basic 6 or Microsoft Query Demo. (Refer to "Class Not Registered" on page 2-14, "Cannot Establish a Connection" on page 2-15, and Database Not Found in this section.)
2. Make sure that **INFORMIXDIR\bin** is in the system path (as opposed to the user path).
3. Run **INFORMIXDIR\bin\regcopy.exe** and reboot.

Also, make sure that the user has the necessary permissions to access the database, and verify that the data source has been specified correctly (see "Connecting to a Data Source" on page 2-2).

Cannot Connect to Transaction Manager

A connection attempt fails, a message says that the application cannot connect to the transaction manager.

Possible Cause

This message is generated when the MTS installation does not have the latest update of the component DLLs. The interface, **IDtcToXaHelperSinglePipe** that the IBM Informix OLE DB Provider uses to communicate with MS DTC may not be available in the installation (part of **MSDTCPRX.DLL**).

Resolution

This problem occurs due to incorrect setup. You must ensure that the **msdtcprx** DLL is version 1999 or higher. The MTS component files will be get updated by installing Windows NT Service Pack 6. Install the Windows NT Service Pack 6 or higher after the MTS installation.

Driver Not Found Error

When you attempt to run tracing, the server returns an error stating that the driver cannot be not found and may not be installed properly.

Possible Cause

A valid path has not been set in the IFXOLEDBTRACE environment variable to which the system can write a trace file.

Resolution

Set a valid path such as `c:\oledb\trace.txt` in the IFXOLEDBTRACE environment variable.

Appendix A. Supported Interfaces

The following interfaces are implemented by IBM Informix OLE DB Provider:

- IAccessor
- IColumnsInfo
- IColumnsRowset
- ICommand
- ICommandPrepare
- ICommandProperties
- ICommandText
- ICommandWithParameters
- IConvertType
- IDBAsynchStatus
- IDBCreateCommand
- IDBCreateSession
- IDBDataSourceAdmin
- IDBInfo
- IDBInitialize
- IDBProperties
- IDBSchemaRowset
- IErrorLookup
- IGetDataSource
- IIndexDefinition
- IOpenRowset
- IPersist
- IRowsetFind
- IRowsetIdentity
- IRowsetInfo
- IRowsetLocate
- IRowsetScroll
- IRowsetUpdate
- ISessionProperties
- ISupportErrorInfo
- ITableDefinition
- ITransactionJoin
- ITransactionLocal
- ITransactionOptions

Appendix B. Accessibility

IBM strives to provide products with usable access for everyone, regardless of age or ability.

Accessibility features for IBM Informix Dynamic Server

Accessibility features help a user who has a physical disability, such as restricted mobility or limited vision, to use information technology products successfully.

Accessibility Features

The following list includes the major accessibility features in IBM Informix Dynamic Server. These features support:

- Keyboard-only operation.
- Interfaces that are commonly used by screen readers.
- The attachment of alternative input and output devices.

Tip: The IBM Informix Dynamic Server Information Center and its related publications are accessibility-enabled for the IBM Home Page Reader. You can operate all features using the keyboard instead of the mouse.

Keyboard Navigation

This product uses standard Microsoft Windows navigation keys.

Related Accessibility Information

IBM is committed to making our documentation accessible to persons with disabilities. Our publications are available in HTML format so that they can be accessed with assistive technology such as screen reader software. The syntax diagrams in our manuals are available in dotted decimal format.

You can view the publications for IBM Informix Dynamic Server in Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) using the Adobe Acrobat Reader.

IBM and Accessibility

See the *IBM Accessibility Center* at <http://www.ibm.com/able> for more information about the commitment that IBM has to accessibility.

Notices

IBM may not offer the products, services, or features discussed in this document in all countries. Consult your local IBM representative for information on the products and services currently available in your area. Any reference to an IBM product, program, or service is not intended to state or imply that only that IBM product, program, or service may be used. Any functionally equivalent product, program, or service that does not infringe any IBM intellectual property right may be used instead. However, it is the user's responsibility to evaluate and verify the operation of any non-IBM product, program, or service.

IBM may have patents or pending patent applications covering subject matter described in this document. The furnishing of this document does not give you any license to these patents. You can send license inquiries, in writing, to:

IBM Director of Licensing
IBM Corporation
North Castle Drive
Armonk, NY 10504-1785
U.S.A.

For license inquiries regarding double-byte (DBCS) information, contact the IBM Intellectual Property Department in your country or send inquiries, in writing, to:

IBM World Trade Asia Corporation Licensing
2-31 Roppongi 3-chome, Minato-ku
Tokyo 106-0032, Japan

The following paragraph does not apply to the United Kingdom or any other country where such provisions are inconsistent with local law:

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION PROVIDES THIS PUBLICATION "AS IS" WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, EITHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF NON-INFRINGEMENT, MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. Some states do not allow disclaimer of express or implied warranties in certain transactions, therefore, this statement may not apply to you.

This information could include technical inaccuracies or typographical errors. Changes are periodically made to the information herein; these changes will be incorporated in new editions of the publication. IBM may make improvements and/or changes in the product(s) and/or the program(s) described in this publication at any time without notice.

Any references in this information to non-IBM Web sites are provided for convenience only and do not in any manner serve as an endorsement of those Web sites. The materials at those Web sites are not part of the materials for this IBM product and use of those Web sites is at your own risk.

IBM may use or distribute any of the information you supply in any way it believes appropriate without incurring any obligation to you.

Licensees of this program who wish to have information about it for the purpose of enabling: (i) the exchange of information between independently created

programs and other programs (including this one) and (ii) the mutual use of the information which has been exchanged, should contact:

IBM Corporation
J46A/G4
555 Bailey Avenue
San Jose, CA 95141-1003
U.S.A.

Such information may be available, subject to appropriate terms and conditions, including in some cases, payment of a fee.

The licensed program described in this information and all licensed material available for it are provided by IBM under terms of the IBM Customer Agreement, IBM International Program License Agreement, or any equivalent agreement between us.

Any performance data contained herein was determined in a controlled environment. Therefore, the results obtained in other operating environments may vary significantly. Some measurements may have been made on development-level systems and there is no guarantee that these measurements will be the same on generally available systems. Furthermore, some measurements may have been estimated through extrapolation. Actual results may vary. Users of this document should verify the applicable data for their specific environment.

Information concerning non-IBM products was obtained from the suppliers of those products, their published announcements or other publicly available sources. IBM has not tested those products and cannot confirm the accuracy of performance, compatibility or any other claims related to non-IBM products. Questions on the capabilities of non-IBM products should be addressed to the suppliers of those products.

All statements regarding IBM's future direction or intent are subject to change or withdrawal without notice, and represent goals and objectives only.

All IBM prices shown are IBM's suggested retail prices, are current and are subject to change without notice. Dealer prices may vary.

This information contains examples of data and reports used in daily business operations. To illustrate them as completely as possible, the examples include the names of individuals, companies, brands, and products. All of these names are fictitious and any similarity to the names and addresses used by an actual business enterprise is entirely coincidental.

COPYRIGHT LICENSE:

This information contains sample application programs in source language, which illustrate programming techniques on various operating platforms. You may copy, modify, and distribute these sample programs in any form without payment to IBM, for the purposes of developing, using, marketing or distributing application programs conforming to the application programming interface for the operating platform for which the sample programs are written. These examples have not been thoroughly tested under all conditions. IBM, therefore, cannot guarantee or imply reliability, serviceability, or function of these programs. You may copy, modify, and distribute these sample programs in any form without payment to IBM for the purposes of developing, using, marketing, or distributing application programs conforming to IBM's application programming interfaces.

Each copy or any portion of these sample programs or any derivative work, must include a copyright notice as follows:

© (your company name) (year). Portions of this code are derived from IBM Corp. Sample Programs. © Copyright IBM Corp. (enter the year or years). All rights reserved.

If you are viewing this information softcopy, the photographs and color illustrations may not appear.

Trademarks

IBM, the IBM logo, and [ibm.com](http://www.ibm.com) are trademarks or registered trademarks of International Business Machines Corporation in the United States, other countries, or both. These and other IBM trademarked terms are marked on their first occurrence in this information with the appropriate symbol ([®] or [™]), indicating US registered or common law trademarks owned by IBM at the time this information was published. Such trademarks may also be registered or common law trademarks in other countries. A current list of IBM trademarks is available on the Web at <http://www.ibm.com/legal/copytrade.shtml>.

Adobe, Acrobat, Portable Document Format (PDF), and PostScript are either registered trademarks or trademarks of Adobe Systems Incorporated in the United States, other countries, or both.

Intel, Intel logo, Intel Inside, Intel Inside logo, Intel Centrino, Intel Centrino logo, Celeron, Intel Xeon, Intel SpeedStep, Itanium, and Pentium are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries.

Linux is a registered trademark of Linus Torvalds in the United States, other countries, or both.

Microsoft, Windows, Windows NT, and the Windows logo are trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States, other countries, or both.

Java and all Java-based trademarks and logos are trademarks of Sun Microsystems, Inc. in the United States, other countries, or both.

UNIX is a registered trademark of The Open Group in the United States and other countries.

Other company, product, or service names may be trademarks or service marks of others.

Index

Numerics

- 32K feature
 - LVARCHAR 2-10
- 99 Joins
 - SQL support 2-13

A

- Accessibility B-1
 - keyboard B-1
 - shortcut keys B-1
- adCmdTableDirect cursors 2-3
- ADO applications 1-1, 2-1
- ADO cannot find the provider error message 2-16
- ADO connection string keywords 2-2
- ADO cursor types 2-3
- ADO cursor types and table name 2-4
- ADO cursor types and text case 2-4
- ADO flags 2-3
- ADO provider not capable error message 2-16
- adOpenForwardOnly cursors 2-3
- adOpenStatic cursors 2-3
- adUseClient cursors 2-3
- adUseServer cursors 2-3
- Apartment threading 2-12
- AppendChunk() method 2-7
- ATL applications 2-1
- Authentication
 - LDAP 1-4
- Autocommit isolation level 2-12

B

- BLOB data type, large object support 2-7
- Bookmarks 2-3, 2-4
- Built-in data types 2-4
- BYTE data type, large object support 2-7

C

- C/C++ applications 2-1
- Class not registered error message 2-14
- Client SDK 1-1
- Client_locale keyword 2-2
- Client-side scrollable cursors 2-3
- CLOB data type, large object support 2-7
- coledbp.sql script 1-2
- Command object 1-3
- Complex data types, large object support 2-7
- Connecting to data sources 2-2
- Connection string keywords 2-2
- Connections, establishing 2-15
- Consumers 1-1
- Converting data 2-8, 2-10
- Cursors 2-3

D

- Data conversions, getting data 2-10
- Data conversions, setting data 2-8
- Data sources 2-2
- Data types 2-4
 - mapping money and decimal 2-6
 - support for large objects 2-7
 - support for user-defined 2-7
- Database not found error message 2-15, 2-16
- DataSource object 1-3
- DATETIME data type 2-6
- Db_locale keyword 2-2
- DBPROP_INIT_PROVIDERSTRING initialization property 2-7
- DBPROP_IRowsetScroll property 2-3
- DBPROP_OTHERINSERT property 2-3
- DBPROP_OTHERUPDELETED property 2-3
- DBPROP_OWNINGINSERT property 2-3
- DBPROP_SESS_AUTOCOMMITISOLEVEL property 2-12
- DBTYPE_WSTR type 2-14
- decasr8 provider string option 2-7
- DECIMAL data type 2-6
- Decimals 2-6
- DELIMIDENT environment variable 2-12
- Denial-of-service attacks
 - Windows registry
 - user DLLs 2-12
- Dependencies, software 1-1
- Describe Decimal as Real/Double connection option 2-7
- Disability B-1
- DISTINCT clause 2-4
- Distributed Transaction Support 2-12
- Distributed transactions 2-12
- DLL pathname in MS DTC 2-12
- doledbp.sql script 1-2
- DSN keyword 2-2
- Dynamic Query Extension 2-13
 - GetParameterInfo method 2-13
 - ICommandWithParameters 2-13

E

- Error messages
 - ADO cannot find the provider 2-16
 - ADO provider not capable 2-16
 - class not registered 2-14
 - database not found 2-15, 2-16
 - OLE DB Provider not registered 2-14
 - oledbversion not found 2-15
- Escape sequence
 - SQL 99 Join 2-13

F

- FBS keyword 2-2
- FETCHBUFFERSIZE keyword 2-2
- Floating point numbers 2-6
- FOR UPDATE clause 2-4
- Free threading 2-12

G

- GetChunk() method 2-7
- GetParameterInfo method
 - Dynamic Query Extension 2-13
- Global Language Support (GLS) 2-13
- GLS locales 2-13
- GROUP BY clause 2-4

H

- HTML type 2-7

I

- IBM Informix Connect 1-2
- ICommandWithParameters
 - Dynamic Query Extension 2-13
- Identifiers 2-12
 - delimited 2-12
- IfmxConn.dll
 - Windows registry 2-12
- IFXOLEDBBTRACE environment variable 2-17
- ifxoledbc.dll file 1-2
- Installation overview 1-2
- Interfaces, supported A-1
- International locales 2-13
- INTERVAL data type 2-5
- IS_LONG flag 2-7

J

- Join
 - 99, SQL 2-13
 - escape sequence 2-13

L

- Large objects 2-7
- LDAP Authentication
 - like Unix/Linux Pluggable Authentication Module 1-4
- LDAP Authentication Support on Windows 1-4
- LDAP server 1-4
- Local transactions 2-12
- Locales 2-13
- LVARCHAR
 - 32K feature 2-10

M

- Mappings, data types 2-4
- MBCS character set 2-13, 2-15
- Microsoft Distributed Transaction Coordinator 2-12
- Microsoft OLE DB to ODBC bridge 2-4
- Migrating, earlier versions 1-2
- MONEY data type 2-6
- MS DTC 2-12
- MTS support 2-12
- Multibyte Character Sequence
 - converting to from Unicode 2-13

O

- OLE DB Provider
 - installing 1-2

- OLE DB Provider (*continued*)
 - upgrading previous versions of 1-2
- OLE DB Provider not registered error message 2-14
- OLE DB specification 1-3
- oledbversion not found error message 2-15
- Operating systems 1-2
- ORDER BY clause 2-4

P

- Pathname, DLL
 - MS DTC 2-12
- Pluggable Authentication Module
 - LDAP Authentication 1-4
- Provider not registered message 2-14
- PWD keyword 2-2

R

- Registry updates 1-2
- REPORTSTRINGASWSTRING flag 2-2, 2-14
- ROWID column 2-3
- RSASWS flag 2-2, 2-14

S

- Sample program 1-3
- Server-side cursors 2-16
- Server-side nonscrollable cursors 2-3
- Server-side scrollable cursors 2-3
- Servers 1-1
- Session object 1-3
- Shortcut keys
 - keyboard B-1
- Software dependencies 1-1
- SQL
 - 99 Joins 2-13
- Static cursors 2-3
- Supported applications 2-1
- Supported interfaces A-1
- sysmaster database 1-2
- System requirements 1-1

T

- TEXT data type 2-7
- Threading support 2-12
- Trace
 - driver not found error 2-17
 - IFXOLEDBBTRACE environment variable 2-17
- Transaction coordinator 2-12
- Transaction support 2-12
- Troubleshooting installation and operation problems 2-14

U

- UID keyword 2-2
- Unicode character set 2-13
- Unicode keyword 2-2
- Unicode, converting to from Multibyte Character Sequence 2-13
- UNIQUE clause 2-4
- Upgrading OLE DB Provider installations 1-2
- User-defined data types 2-4, 2-7

W

Web server 2-16

Wide strings 2-2, 2-14

Windows registry

 IfmxConn.dll library 2-12

 security risk with user DLLs 2-12

 values for each DLL in XA 2-12

WITH ROWIDS clause 2-4



Printed in USA

SC23-9424-00

