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DAL: Alliances with CA, Information Builders, and Oracle

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TOPIC -----

Apple has announced strategic alliances with Computer Associates, Information Builders, and Oracle regarding Apple's DAL strategy. What are the solutions and what environments do they work in?

We access our hosts with tn3270 over IP backbones. Do the alliance companies have direct DAL solutions for this environment, or are they limited to the typical SNA•ps type connections?

DISCUSSION -----

DAL supports MacTCP connection to IBM host running the Virtual Memory operating system. The alliances provide access to databases in addition to those supported by Apple but not yet to additional operating systems or protocols. No, these alliances do not support your environment, unless your IBM host is a Virtual Memory operating system. Here is some information regarding the alliances you mentioned.

Computer Associates

The Computer Associates Alliance allows Computer Associates to distribute and support DAL Servers for VM/CMS, MVS/TSO, and MVS/VTAM, accessing DB2, SQL/DS, and Teradata databases. Apple also licensed the DAL server technology to Computer Associates so they can develop DAL servers to access data residing in CA-IDMS, CA-Datcom, and CA-DB databases. Computer Associates will port the DAL Server for the Computer Associates databases to IBM's DOS/VSE operating system.

Information Builders

With the Information Builders relationship, IBI will develop System 7.0 Data Access Manager support for its Enterprise Data Access/SQL (EDA/SQL) client. This product will enable Macintosh users to transparently access enterprise data residing in 45 different databases and file structures on 35 hardware platforms. EDA/SQL also enables a single request to join

relational and non-relational data. EDA/SQL for Macintosh will enable Macintosh products to participate in IBM's recently announced Information Warehouse framework of database management systems, interfaces, tools and facilities that provide access to enterprise-wide data.

Oracle

Under the Apple-Oracle agreement, Oracle plans to add 16 additional products to its Macintosh-based offering over the next two years. New Macintosh products will include Oracle's complete suite of Computer-Aided Systems Engineering (CASE) and application development tools. Oracle will also develop application packages for the Macintosh such as ORACLE Financials and ORACLE Manufacturing.

In addition, Oracle agreed to add the AppleTalk Data Stream Protocol (ADSP) network protocol to the ORACLE Server for OS/2 and ORACLE Server for NetWare 386 products. This will enhance the Macintosh computer's ability to be a part of cross-platform client-server solutions.

Apple Computer has agreed to provide development support to Oracle in order to bring new products to market. Oracle's new Macintosh-based products will support both the Macintosh System 7 operating system, and the A/UX operating system, Apple's implementation of UNIX. Oracle says it will also support Apple's future product directions for the PowerOpen and PowerPC RISC-based operating systems and technologies.

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