

Arbutus Connect

Easy set up and control for IT – Easy Access for the end users

The Facts on Legacy Systems

- The challenge faced by many organizations is their legacy systems often do not support direct reporting and analysis from important business information contained in these systems.
- The barriers represented by legacy systems artificially limit the creativity and ability of end users to solve problems and perform the full scope of reporting and analysis on the data that currently exists in their organization.
- The typical solutions that are put forward - upgraded software, data marts or custom programs - all require a significant commitment of time and financial resources, making it difficult to build a strong business case for many projects that involve legacy systems.
- The fall back decision of 'do nothing' has consistently proven to have its own real costs, both hidden and visible, as organizations are unable to make decisions and see risks based on all the information that could be made available to them.

Arbutus Connect significantly lowers the cost of fully utilizing the data within your legacy systems. With a short implementation timeframe, your reporting and analysis ideas can go from the white board to the boardroom in just days or weeks.

Why Arbutus Connect?

For End Users

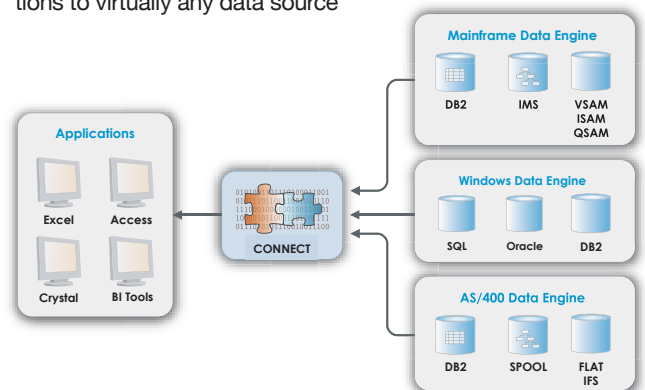
- Allow for newer and better reporting on areas that were previously not thought possible
- End users continue to use existing reporting and analysis tools but, they now have access to additional legacy data sources, no new training required
- Unique LegacyLink technology enables shortest distance between end user applications and corporate data sources

For Data Sources

- Easily integrates non-relational legacy data files with databases
- Complements existing data warehouses and data marts by providing access to data that is not available in these main repositories.
- Simple set up for direct access to legacy data sources
- Arbutus Data Engines support access to 'live' and staged data sources

For IT

- Supports centralized set up and administration of all data access
- New data sources can be set up in minutes
- All data sources can be filtered at both the record and field level
- Can potentially eliminate need and cost of new data mart
- Allows you to connect your Windows, Server and Web applications to virtually any data source



Benefits

Effortless access:

- Deliver mainframe and AS/400 data directly to Windows applications; nothing new to learn
- Customize data delivery to accommodate any user, anywhere
- Eliminate technical complexity for end users;
- Strong data management controls provide flexibility on level of independence from IT personnel

Powerful capabilities:

- Access even your most complex mainframe data directly
- Process unlimited file sizes, retrieving only the data you need
- Cleanse and dynamically transform your data, without altering original files

Immediate results:

- Eliminate delays waiting for COBOL reports or extractions
- Maximize throughput through automated query optimization
- Add and adjust data links quickly as requirements change

How It Works

Arbutus Connect utilizes the Arbutus LegacyLink™ technology to provide your Windows applications direct, read-only and flexible connectivity to all of your data.

LegacyLink™ communicates directly with the Arbutus Data Engines via TCP/IP. There are no additional hardware or software components required for connectivity. This direct connection to the server resident application offers a number of benefits:

- The low component count means low infrastructure. This translates directly into low costs, both to install and maintain.
- Since no additional software interfaces are required, you are up and running quickly, with your existing equipment.
- Having a mainframe resident server gives you the maximum access to your legacy data, including DB2, IMS, VSAM and sequential (QSAM) flat files. You don't need any additional technologies to transform the data for access.
- The interface can supply data through any ODBC, JDBC, OLE/DB or .NET connection.

The result is you can implement a data mart style solution, with full access to all your Windows applications, in a matter of days.

A Simple Solution for Complex IT Environments

For many end-users the data they need can reside in multiple environments including data warehouses, core applications or various legacy data sources and be hosted on servers from Mainframes to Windows. While an organizations core systems including ERP, CRM, and custom legacy applications do the data processing work and hold the data details, they are spread throughout the enterprise and are not an efficient source for reporting and analysis.

Arbutus offers alternatives to creating data warehouses, data marts, and other repositories that are typically used to consolidate data for end-user reporting and analysis.

Direct Access Arbutus Connect can provide a direct access to 'live' data that resides on multiple platforms allowing users to have zero data latency when querying data.

Staged Data When resource constraints or IT policy make direct access solutions impractical, or where Arbutus does not offer a native server for your source platform, Arbutus also enables you to easily stage your data on a Windows or Linux server.

- Avoids the expensive loading and set up process of additional data stores
- Provides an easy to implement solution that assures an integrated view of all your information that is adaptable to your ever changing business requirements.
- Enables fast, efficient deliver of meaningful information to end-users while providing strong IT data management controls.

Arbutus Consulting Services

Arbutus consultants have years of experience in using the Arbutus technology with all types of data, particularly mainframe based, and are available to assist at any stage of your project. When needed, our seasoned consultants typically work with your team and provide assistance in the use of 'best practices' with the Arbutus technology. When our consultants become involved, your project timelines become our project timelines in ensuring an on-time and successful implementation of Arbutus Connect.

Licensing

Arbutus has a flexible licensing model that accommodates the various needs and circumstances of our clients:

- Perpetual use licensing for those who will have an on-going need for the technology
- Rental-based licensing starting at 12 month terms. Appropriate for project based requirements or to provide an alternative to accommodate budget circumstances.

