

*Any User. Any Data. Any Deployment.*

Product  
Brochure



## Actuate Information Object Designer

Actuate Information Object Designer is a powerful development environment that enables professional developers to create controlled views of enterprise data for end-user querying. With Information Object Designer, you can create Information Objects that pull and integrate real-time data from any number of heterogeneous data sources. Featuring a visual programming environment, Actuate Information Object Designer helps you reduce the dependence on IT intermediaries for end-users seeking critical business data, while you simultaneously ensure security and control over data access.

## Overview

Actuate Information Object Designer is a powerful development environment that enables professional developers to create controlled views of enterprise data for end-user querying. With Information Object Designer, you can create Information Objects that pull and integrate real-time data from any number of heterogeneous data sources. Featuring a visual programming environment, Actuate Information Object Designer helps you reduce the dependence on IT intermediaries for end-users seeking critical business data, while you simultaneously ensure security and control over data access.

### Control Over Sensitive Enterprise Data

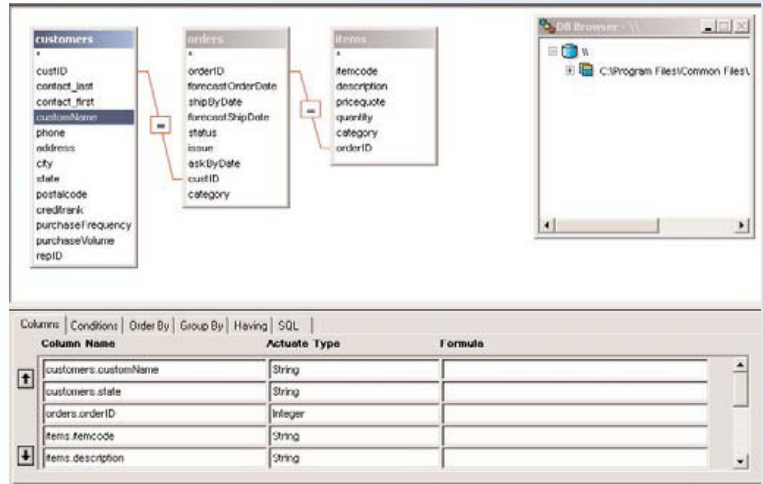
By specifying data streams that end-users can access within your parameters, Actuate Information Object Designer lets you centralize and control the query process for end users, so you can prevent runaway queries that can cripple system resources. Using this approach, you ensure security and data integrity because you control and personalize data access based on roles and privileges.

### Flexibility and Power for Meeting Business Demands

Information Object Designer lets you build Information Objects that specify data from any enterprise source, including relational tables, stored procedures, mainframe and Java objects, and enterprise application data stores. And since each Information Object can pull and transform data from multiple sources simultaneously, you can create actionable data sets that give your end-users a unified, reliable view of their corporate data.

### Meet End-User Needs While Cutting Costs

When you build Information Objects and deploy them with Actuate Server and Actuate Query, you empower your users with the information they need without incurring the high training and support costs customarily associated with query systems. And by giving users exactly what they need without involving IT as intermediaries, you can reduce support and training costs for your entire range of enterprise applications.



*Information Object Designer's visual development environment enables you to create and refine Information Objects quickly.*

## Features and Benefits

### Control Over Enterprise Data Access

- Flexible, pre-defined data sets
- Explicit query definitions
- Role-based access control

**Flexible, pre-defined data sets**—With Information Object Designer, developers can give end-users direct access to enterprise data in a controlled and secure manner. By pre-defining and pre-building Information Objects, developers can set specific boundaries on the use of enterprise data stores and resources, without having to act as intermediaries to build custom queries for each end-user request.

**Explicit query definitions**—Information Object Designer lets you pre-set specific queries and explicitly specify how queries should execute and return results. The result: fewer “runaway” queries that tie up system resources or compromise data integrity and security.

**Role-based access control**—With Information Object Designer, developers specify which information users can receive, based on each user's role and access privileges. And Information Object Designer lets you apply filters and conditions to allow personalized views of data for each user.

## Flexibility and Power for Meeting Business Demands

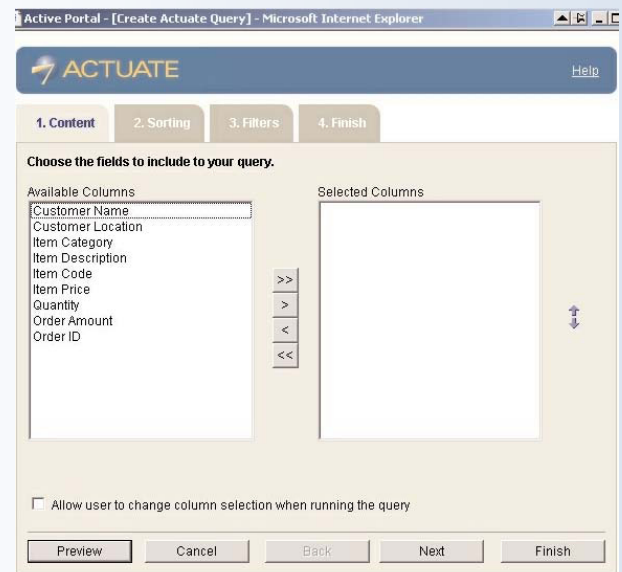
- Data access flexibility
- Support for multiple data sources
- Visual development environment
- Object-oriented architecture

**Data access flexibility**—Information Object Designer supports data access to a wide variety of sources, including relational tables, stored procedures, and non-relational sources such as mainframe files and Java objects. By building Information Objects that transparently access these sources for end-users, you can mask the complexity of underlying infrastructure to let users get the data they need, without having to understand that data's location or structure.

**Support for multiple data sources**—You can also use Information Object Designer to merge data from multiple sources to create unified, reliable end-user data views.

**Visual development environment**—Actuate Information Object Designer features a highly graphical, visual development environment for fast creation of Information Objects. So you can specify data sources, add calculated fields, and create metadata names for fields and columns using intuitive graphical tools. And to further refine queries, you can manually edit SQL queries or use Actuate Basic to define non-relational queries more precisely.

**Object-oriented architecture**—Information Object Designer features a modular, object-oriented architecture, which enables developers to store and reuse queries, as well as data source connection and data transformation specifications. As a result, Information Objects are easy to maintain and update.



*Information Objects are presented to end users through the Actuate Query web-based interface.*

## Meet End-User Needs While Cutting Costs

- Web-based interface for end-users
- Simplified field names
- Information Object catalogs
- Output format flexibility

**Web-based interface for end-users**—End-users interact with Information Objects through the Web-based Actuate Query interface, which dramatically reduces the need for end-user training and support. And you can customize the Actuate Query interface to support branding or to simplify ad hoc querying even further.

**Simplified field names**—When building Information Objects, you can simplify and customize field and column names with a layer of metadata names, so end-users don't have to navigate through arcane and cryptic "computing" names for the data they need.

**Information Object catalogs**—To end-users, the complexity and power of Information Objects is largely transparent; they see a simple catalog of information presented in business terms they understand. That's because developers can pre-build Information Object catalogs that enable users to easily navigate through subject areas to find the information they need.

**Output format flexibility**—Information Object Designer lets you create Information Objects that can output query results as Excel reports, high-resolution DHTML pages, Adobe PDF documents, or e.Analysis reports. This means that your end-users can have query answers any way they want them, and can even easily print query results. With this type of one-touch control over output, you will see calls to the help desk go down while business productivity goes up.

## Technical Requirements

Information Object Designer is embedded within e.Report Designer Professional. Available on Windows 98 Second Edition; Windows NT 4.0, Windows 2000 and XP Pro.

### Hardware Requirements

- *Processor: Pentium 300 or higher*
- *Memory: 55 MB RAM*
- *Disk Space: 175 MB*
- *Display: VGA 800x600, 256 colors*

The technical requirements listed here are for **guideline purposes only**. Please consult Actuate Support Services for the precise requirements for your specific environment.