



Advantage™ VISION:Builder® r15 for z/OS

Advantage™ VISION:Builder® is a full-function application development environment that enables the development of large-scale, high-volume applications. It supports applications that require access to single or multiple heterogeneous databases while supporting updates to a single database. The 4GL English-like language provides a simple approach to developing powerful applications that address the full scope of today's application processing demands including database loading, updating, extraction, and reporting.

Key Features at a Glance

- Easy Management of Complex Applications
- Rich Data Transformation
- Robust Update Capability
- Thorough Application Definition via Robust Metadata Repository

What's New

- Extended Data Field Ranges
- Improved PL/I Data Compatibility
- Full Updating in MOSAIC mode
- Improved Exploitation of Long Names and GUI Report Controls



Computer Associates®

Business Information Challenge

High quality of service is an overriding goal of business in meeting the needs of users and customers today. Closely aligned to this goal is rapid and accurate access of the right information critical to business success. With the constant evolution of the enterprise data in a dynamic competitive environment, business relies upon robust application solutions that are assembled and deployed rapidly through a strong versatile development environment that is easily used and maintained for today's challenges and tomorrow's needs. The Advantage VISION:Builder application development suite achieves this goal with production proven results.

Simple File and Database Support

Advantage VISION:Builder enables organizations to access and deliver intelligent information – that is accurate, well-focused and helps all users make effective decisions.

Advantage VISION:Builder does this by liberating the end-user from tedious house-keeping chores and enabling a focus on the task-at-hand. Simple programming statements can create, update or delete file and database records effortlessly. Data validation can be consistently implemented in all stages of a process enabling flexible and automatic data cleansing at the source.

Tasks such as managing files, basic I/O operations, data conversion, and error checking are handled automatically by

Advantage VISION:Builder. This frees the end-user to design and test programs with minimal programming concerns.

Comprehensive Application Development

With its powerful, easy to use program development environment, Advantage VISION:Builder is engineered to access many mainframe enterprise files and databases automatically, simultaneously and concurrently for maximum efficiency, including Advantage CA-IDMS and Advantage CA-Datacom databases. The various application file and database sources are arranged into a reusable construct called a Logical Data View. All required navigation across the data structures within the Logical Data View is handled automatically and transparently by Advantage VISION:Builder; data transformation, formatting, and output occur without end-user programming or special navigational considerations. (See Figure 1)

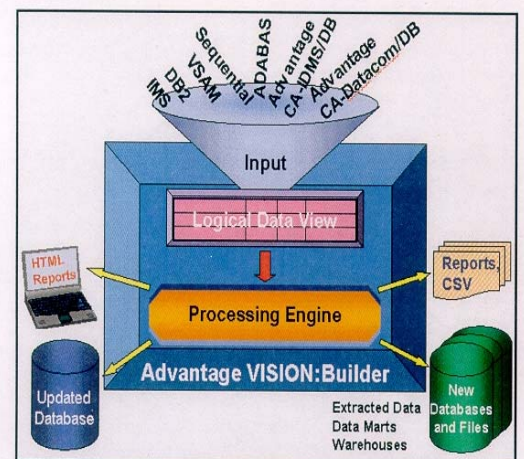


Figure 1. Output web-enabled reports



This Advantage VISION:Builder comprehensive application development environment provides a very cost effective solution for building and deploying production proven applications to address mission critical business requirements. Its unique architecture combined with an easy to use programming language enables rapid response to the development project backlog, while responding to highly dynamic business environment.

Distinctive Features and Functionalities

Data Transformation — Advantage VISION:Builder can select data from existing operational data files and data sources to transform, summarize and enhance the data for loading into a data warehouse or mart.

Powerful Data Updating — Advantage VISION:Builder offers complete transaction processing with editing and automated error-checking for file and database updates. Applications can modify transactions on the fly to meet the exact processing needs.

Meta Data Repository System — The meta data repository stores file, table and transaction definitions once for reuse in populating and updating data warehouses or marts. The meta data repository also stores Advantage VISION:Builder application code, enabling economical reuse of commonly used procedures.

Handling Complex Applications Easily —

Advantage VISION:Builder is designed for development organizations with complex enterprise server application requirements. Advantage VISION:Builder applications are built for high volume production environments, enabling both novice and experienced developers easily solve complex problems. Powerful programs that meet a wide variety of objectives can be easily and quickly generated using the abundant inventory of robust pre-defined programming functions.

What's New in r15

Extended Field Types — Extends the size range of the most frequently used data types and provides unsigned property for Packed Decimal and Integer field types.

PL/I Compatible VARCHAR Fields — Add support for PL/I compatible VARCHAR fields consistent with existing VARCHAR fields and reconciling alignment differences.

Full VARCHAR Updating — Enabled users to update VARCHAR fields when MOSAIC mode processing is active.

Long Temp/Array Field Names — Allow long names to be defined and used in ASL coding for Temporary and Array Fields.

User-Defined HTML Title Bar — Provide ability to define text appearing on the title bar of HTML reports.

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