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Raz-Lee Security DB-Gate Case Studies

Raz-Lee Security's [DB-Gate product](#) enables native IBM i access to any SQL database hosted on IBM i, Linux, Unix and Windows servers. These can be DB2 as well as non-DB2 databases such as Oracle, MSSQL, MySQL, etc. Even Excel files can be queried via DB-Gate using SQL.

DB-Gate was released approximately 2 years ago and has been sold to tens of customers worldwide.

This document discusses how DB-Gate is being implemented by some of the larger customers.

Executive Summary

This document presents 3 case studies of successful DB-Gate usage:

Case Study #1:

Who: Subsidiary of a Fortune 500 company, world leader in plumbing & heating products.

Need: Transparent warehouse management functions between Oracle & IBM i.

Solution: DB-Gate as a replacement for Oracle Access Manager.

Comments: Senior iSeries Consultant: "DB-Gate functions well on our IBM i with 64-bit JVM...The one thing that I always admire about DB-Gate is the support which customers receive and which is much better than even Oracle supplied when we worked with Oracle Access Manager..."

Case Study #2:

Who: Very large US food manufacturer with customer goods IBM i based ERP system.

Need: Easy, native SQL data interchange between the IBM i and MSSQL.

Solution: DB-Gate replaced inefficient and time consuming semi-manual processes.

Comments: IT Director: "DB-Gate is very strategic in our daily operations...our process-ordering capabilities have increased including the ability to validate order details...DB-Gate is a very solid product which we highly recommend to others."



Case Study #3:

Who: Multi-national Latin American financial institution.

Need: Import into IBM i large amounts of data from SQL server multiple times a day.

Solution: DB-Gate replaced a web services based solution which could not handle their heavy workload.

Comments: VP of Processes and Technology: "The beauty of...DB-Gate...is that we didn't have to change any of our application programs...We simply built a single interface program in RPG, and all programs requiring the remote data call this new program which uses DB-Gate to connect to our SQL Server systems."

Introduction

DB-Gate serves as a "bridge" between native IBM i programs and remote databases (DB2 and non-DB2) by enabling SQL-based access to these data sources.

Technically speaking, DB-Gate works transparently and no APIs or proprietary syntax are required. The alternative to using DB-Gate, for companies who require access to remote databases, is to program in Java, C# or a similar programming language; as is widely known, such programmers are usually expensive to hire. So for IBM i shops with green-screen SQL-based applications, DB-Gate achieves the same goals without having to invest in programmers and in programming.

DB-Gate operates using the system's native Java Virtual Machine (JVM) and can even work with multiple JVMs for purposes of load balancing. Because it is Java-based, DB-Gate can also run on a PC; the benefit is that a JVM is not required on the IBM i. An additional, very important benefit, relates to sites which have issues with execution overhead; in these cases processing resources can easily be off-loaded to a PC where the heavy execution will take place.



Case Study #1

This DB-Gate implementation example is a Fortune 500 company which is a world leader for plumbing and heating products; they have many tens of thousands of suppliers and more than one million customers worldwide! The company's Canadian subsidiary uses DB-Gate heavily to perform their warehouse management functions between Oracle and IBM i ensuring transparent transaction flow between the two systems.

At this very technically capable company, DB-Gate replaced Oracle Access Manager (OAM) beginning with OS/400 release 7.1 as OAM support ceased after OS/400 release 6.1.

DB-Gate was purchased as a cost-effective solution and has now been operative for more than two years, synchronizing data between the IBM i and their remote Oracle business-critical databases. The company has an "unlimited RDB license" of DB-Gate, meaning they can connect to multiple servers & multiple database instances.

The company's Senior iSeries Consultant for Corporate IT stated: "DB-Gate functions well on our IBM i with 64-bit JVM; our life has become much better, controlled and efficient. The one thing that I always admire about DB-Gate is the support which customers receive and which is much better than even Oracle supplied when we worked with Oracle Access Manager. I wish Raz-Lee the very best in their future product development."

Case Study #2

Another implementation example is a very large US food manufacturer whose main application software is a customer goods ERP system based on the IBM i and DB2/400. Essentially this software package is a set of tools that integrate every facet of the order-to-cash process.

At this company, DB-GATE enables connecting to their MSSQL servers, updating the SQL data base and fetching data to local IBM i files. RPG programs contain the native SQL statements.



During 2016 this company will convert to a new MS SQL based system, and in the meanwhile are using DB-Gate to test and verify alternate data interfaces.

The company's IT Director stated: "DB-Gate is very strategic in our daily operations...prior to using DB-Gate we operated in a non-efficient manner...our process-ordering capabilities have increased, including the ability to validate order details...DB-Gate is a very solid product which we highly recommend..."

The company is currently planning additional implementations of the ERP solution as part of their planned expansion to add new subsidiary companies into their corporate structure; indeed five more locations will be using DB-Gate already this year!

Case Study #3

The last implementation example is at a very large South American pension fund and severance payment company with offices throughout Latin America.

This financial institution needs to import into their IBM i large amounts of SQL server data tens of times per day. Their Vice President of Processes and Technology said: "The alternative to using DB-Gate was to use web services, however with the amount of information we're talking about, web services is simply not appropriate! Which is why we turned to DB-Gate."

He then added: "The beauty of DB-Gate is that we didn't have to change any of our application programs to utilize DB-Gate! We simply built a single interface program in RPG, and all programs requiring the remote data call this new program which uses DB-Gate to connect to our SQL Server systems."

This company will be expanding its DB-Gate implementation later this year with multiple remote Oracle databases.

Conclusion

DB-Gate offers a very unique solution for companies which wish to make the IBM i an SQL client for almost any external data base, utilizing native IBM i languages and standard SQL syntax. The above three user cases highlight some of these possibilities.

For more information contact marketing@razlee.com .