

What Business Do You Have on the Internet?

“Unleashing the Power of the Net”

Mike O’Meara

Director of Technical Marketing

J.D. Edwards

The evolution of the Internet has not only made it possible for businesses to work faster and more efficiently, but also to increase revenue and lower transaction costs. As a result of this evolution, and for compelling business reasons, J.D. Edwards has identified a strategy for OneWorld™ and enterprise Internet enablement. The J.D. Edwards strategy has led to a unique blend of enterprise requirements planning (ERP) and Internet capabilities expressed in the OneWorld application and development environment.

Internet capabilities aren’t the only things that make OneWorld a valuable, beneficial product, however. J.D. Edwards’ partnership with complementary product vendor Hewlett-Packard (HP) also offers value to organizations considering the use of Internet technologies within their mission-critical enterprise systems.

The Internet: Then and Now

In its infancy, the Internet was relatively low in bandwidth, but its time compression and quick development of processes, tasks, and projects was unparalleled. It was and still is a tremendous tool for the rapid enablement of ideas. Today, however, the Internet has lost its mysterious nature, and access and navigation have improved with each technological advancement. Now, more users see the potential of the Internet as a vehicle for quick, inexpensive distribution of information — information that largely exists in other forms. In fact, by the end of the decade, the number of Internet servers will have jumped to an estimated 17 million from about 250 in 1993.

Today, business is the driving force behind the Internet. As more companies look for new, transaction-oriented services, the rapid communication and delivery of information, goods, and services via the Internet become more valuable. Rapid deployment, increased customer responsiveness, and the ability to focus efforts across a broad spectrum of customers via the Internet increase revenue streams and lower transaction costs.

Using Internet Technologies

As businesses grapple with how and where to integrate and deploy Internet technologies, J.D. Edwards has identified three strategic advantages of using an Internet-enabled solution:

- **Anytime, Anywhere Transactions** – Enterprises should be able to provide their supply chains with access to important data anytime and anywhere within the enterprise. As such, J.D. Edwards offers client choice (thick/thin) and numerous deployment options without compromising ERP integrity or performance.

- **Enterprise-wide Supply Chain Integration** – Whether in the planning, execution, or monitoring of the entire supply chain, information is key.
- **Control of Technology Costs** – As technology costs continue to spiral upwards, it is rare to find a technology that allows leverage across multiple environments, both at deployment and during production. OneWorld’s Internet-enablement capabilities offer that benefit — both in application and development environments.

How does J.D. Edwards OneWorld accommodate these strategic points of focus? OneWorld delivers “anytime, anywhere transactions” through its Internet-enabled applications and Configurable Network Computing™ architecture, integrates the enterprise-wide supply chain, and offers the ability for enterprises to control technology costs.

Anytime, Anywhere Transactions

Not only is OneWorld fully Internet enabled, it incorporates all the architectural foundations of Configurable Network Computing. And its toolset allows users to work with one set of business rules to create, deploy, and manage applications in many environments.

ERP transactions can occur in many ways. In a common enterprise scenario, the traditional client/server (fat client) applications run harmoniously alongside the thin-client browser users. In both deployments, users utilize the same databases and business functions. Using an Internet-enabled system allows Internet users — i.e., your customers, suppliers, or outside employees — to gain access to your ERP information to conduct business. Because the OneWorld security functions are not compromised, these users see only the information and business functions that you give them access to. This opens up ubiquitous access to your systems — anytime, anywhere — both internal and external to the enterprise.

With its built-in Internet capabilities, OneWorld provides a back-end ERP solution to online, real-time, Web-based transactions. This makes it possible for OneWorld to work hand-in-glove with an electronic storefront interface, giving your customers the ability to:

- Place orders
- Review order status
- Check inventory levels

And the OneWorld environment is not compromised. This type of functionality offers you choices in how to conduct business with your customers and truly delivers anytime, anywhere transactions.

Enterprise-wide Supply Chain Integration

One of the foundations of OneWorld is the ability to separate technology from business rules. Given the OneWorld application and development tools, organizations can define the business rules (or specifications), which can then be deployed in a traditional client/server environment or an Internet deployment environment. In the traditional client/server environment, OneWorld can be deployed in one, two, three . . . up to “n” tiers. Users can select from Hewlett-Packard, IBM, Intel, or Digital server platforms and Windows™ 95 or NT™ clients.

In the OneWorld Internet deployment option, the same business rules, functions, and capabilities are made available to thin-client, browser-based workstations or NCs. In both environments, all users work from the same functions and data in a real-time manner. This offers the flexibility and options needed to integrate an enterprise across the environment as mandated by *business needs* — not technology.

Integrating the supply chain is a strategic vision for many organizations. However, organizations are concerned with the uncertainty of timing, level of functionality, and management of the environment. OneWorld allows enterprises to integrate the supply chain as business rules dictate; the pace, modules, and functionality are deployed in concert with the business need. In addition, OneWorld does not require an all-or-nothing approach. Enterprises that choose OneWorld to integrate their supply chain can rely upon the built-in security, middleware, and overall architecture to maintain full integrity of the enterprise data, without compromises. This is possible because Internet technologies are inherent to OneWorld — they're not a third-party add-on or afterthought. And the full ERP benefits of OneWorld are extendible to your customers and suppliers.

Control of Technology Costs

Every enterprise wants to control costs. However, delivering the functionality and performance that organizations demand often leads to complexity — and complexity often leads to higher costs. However, utilizing one environment for development, deployment, and applications management, including the use of Internet technologies, can help control costs. And because OneWorld has a fully extensible architecture, it can easily adapt to business changes and growth — your technology isn't locked in. Platforms can be added or interchanged, and client-side devices can be added or changed as the business dictates. All of this can be done seamlessly, with a minimum of disruption.

Common data structures mean full coexistence with J.D. Edwards' current product line. OneWorld shares a common data model with J.D. Edwards WorldSoftware, providing a smooth migration path for existing customers and allowing enterprises to leverage existing technology investments. And the consistent functionality means lower training costs. Whether working with the development tool or the application modules, they all look and feel the same. Users can effortlessly move between applications without retraining. And because of the OneWorld architecture, users can also move easily between the traditional client/server "client" and the Internet-based "client" without retraining. Again, the user interfaces are the same.

In controlling technology costs, OneWorld's business rules become the drivers behind the ERP system — not the technology. With the business rules, a single development environment allows for the development of data tables, the business views and functions, including all event rules. This leads to one code set to manage, irrespective of deployment options. These business specifications become the applications, both batch and interactive, that are used within the enterprise.

J.D. Edwards Benefits

J.D. Edwards has defined three driving considerations behind everything we do. These considerations are part of the foundation upon which OneWorld was built.

- **Stabilize and Future-Proof Your Business** – A stable, future-proof solution is possible through the adoption of a universal architecture, built on open systems, that offers great flexibility in deployment and runtime options.
- **Mask Technical Complexity** – By masking complexity through consistency of application, a fully integrated development toolset, and via J.D. Edwards' Configurable Network Computing architecture, developers and users find OneWorld easy to deploy, modify, manage, and use.

- **Leverage Technology** – J.D. Edwards ensures that enterprises are able to leverage existing and new technologies. OneWorld does not operate in an application “vacuum.” Interoperation with other applications, the ability to integrate legacy ERP applications, and 100% regenerable objects allow the OneWorld environment to grow and flex with changes in the enterprise.

With OneWorld and Configurable Network Computing, the business rules are truly independent of the underlying technology. As business needs change, OneWorld can easily adapt to those changes. This advantage spans beyond the traditional client/server deployment to also include the Internet-based deployment option. This means that as changes occur in the business rules, they can easily be deployed and managed throughout the supply chain. Again, a single set of business specifications, via a single development tool, and the option of multiple configurations, both at deployment and during runtime, give your business unparalleled flexibility in meeting the changing needs of your customers and enterprise.

The J.D. Edwards/HP Partnership

When you consider an Internet-based solution as a puzzle, it is clear that many pieces are necessary to complete the solution. Together, J.D. Edwards and complementary product vendor HP have the products to put the puzzle together within your enterprise:

- **Platform Options** – The hardware, operating system, and network components, including availability, performance, and integration options. HP can deliver high-availability servers that run OneWorld across multiple operating systems in either client/server or Internet configurations.
- **Security Options** – Platform, network, and application security. OneWorld’s built-in security options work in concert with HP’s Presidium Security system.
- **Development Tools** – The tools used to create, deploy, modify, manage, and upgrade any of the OneWorld applications. OneWorld’s full suite of application program interfaces ensure cross-application interoperation, even to legacy ERP applications.
- **Management Options** – The tools used to help manage the deployment and runtime environments. The J.D. Edwards/HP solution can be managed via OneWorld’s Object Configuration Manager and HP’s OpenView systems and networking.
- **ERP Options** – The location where enterprise data is stored and the applications to use that data exist. OneWorld’s robust and flexible suite of ERP applications work within HP’s hardware, operating system, and network environments.

J.D. and HP have complementary technologies that are backed by a similar focus on delivering high-performance, robust solutions with a commitment to customers. Both companies share a history of stability and customer satisfaction, with a solid commitment to open systems and full Internet enablement. J.D. Edwards and HP are ready to help you meet your enterprise needs.

What Business Do You Have on the Internet?

“Unleashing the Power of the Net”

3105-4