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Server consolidation drives enterprise integration

Melbourne, Australia – December 10, 2003 – Customers looking to cut costs by consolidating servers are well positioned for further cost savings and productivity gains offered by enterprise integration. Australian based developer, **looksoftware** is finding increased interest in its integration tools, as iSeries customers search for easy ways to make their consolidated applications work better together.

Customers like Museum of Modern Art New York, selected **looksoftware's newlook** to help solve the cost and complexity issues of managing a growing server farm. Once business users realized they could have windows ease-of-use with iSeries back-end applications, MoMA were able to shift the application load back towards the iSeries. As MoMA's IT Manager Bob Rocco said 2 years ago, "What we are doing is bringing things back onto the AS/400 platform".

Since then the iSeries has released strong logical partitioning features and you can even run Microsoft Server 2003 that supports .net. **looksoftware's** Marcus Dee – a 20 year veteran in the IBM midrange space - said, "Today the iSeries is regarded as the leader in server consolidation, supporting a diverse range of operating environments including OS/400, Linux, Windows, Java, Domino/Notes, Oracle, SQL Server, soon AIX and the list goes on. As customers run more and more applications and platforms on the iSeries, the need to easily integrate these applications is becoming top priority. Business managers are beginning to say, "Now that my CRM, ERP and document management systems are all on the one box, why can't I integrate them? "

Easy enterprise integration is what **looksoftware's centric** is about. From a single environment, you can integrate the ERP order entry program with the Oracle based CRM application and even access a DB2 Linux database or consume a web service – these are the sorts of things iSeries customers want to do but, until **centric** came along, didn't know it was possible and that it is relatively easy to do.

"When we say enterprise integration, we don't mean copying data from one database to another – we mean connecting applications together the way you want to – like the presentation layer of one application directly with another data source. As one of my customers said recently – when my business users are looking at the customer status/inquiry from my existing iSeries ERP, that's when they want to also see all the related documents, emails etc. for that customer, on the same integrated UI".

"Server consolidation has a major role to play in ensuring the future of the iSeries – it also makes the iSeries the obvious choice for enterprise integration, which is currently understood to be the No1 requirement in information technology," Dee said.

For more information on **centric's** application consolidation capabilities, visit http://www.looksoftware.com/prod_centric.htm





looksoftware headquartered in Melbourne, Australia is an IBM business partner providing easy-to-use, powerful tools to web-enable, extend and integrate legacy applications. With over 1000 customers in 35 countries, our distribution network includes 100 resellers and ISV Partners.

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