

Products for Natural

APPLICATION MIGRATION (SMARTNAT®)

Product Description

With SmartNAT, extensive and complex Natural applications are securely and quickly migrated to the desired target language with a rule-based converter. For the target runtime environment, we prefer either Java/J2EE or classic Cobol so that all platforms from mainframes to distributed systems can be served. Further development of the application is done after migration with SmartNAT, either in native Java or in the business language EGL.

EGL is a fourth generation programming language (4GL) that exhibits a high degree of similarity to Natural. It is geared to developers of business processes and unshackles application developers from today's ever-increasing technical complexity. The EGL code itself does not indicate whether the application is run as a Cobol app on the mainframe or in a J2EE environment. With just one language and one piece of source code, a wide range of platforms, databases and target environments are covered—without any need for developers to delve deeper into these systems. The paradigm break from object-oriented development and procedural development can be totally avoided through the use of EGL.

In contrast, migration to native Java means that further development is also done in Java. But what's really noteworthy is that we can tailor the Java flavor to meet customers' needs depending on e.g. developers' specialized areas of knowledge.

The SmartNAT concept guarantees a high degree of productivity and maintainability of the migrated Natural code. This allows us to not only migrate technologies, but to also migrate users and accompany them step-by-step into the new world.

Features and Benefits

- Natural applications are fully and automatically migrated
- Encapsulation of access layer, business process logic and user interface is possible
- High degree of code maintainability
- When migrating to EGL:
 - Java code is very similar to Natural code
 - Natural-like access statements (READ, FIND, STORE, etc.) and corresponding SQL in service libraries
 - Technical complexity of the target systems completely masked out from developer
 - No paradigm break from procedural to object-oriented development thanks to 4GL concepts
 - Fast, simplified SOA support without any knowledge of WSDL or SOAP etc.
- Full support for a wide variety of services, databases, user interfaces, transaction servers and operating systems
- The freedom to decide which environments the applications and services of (former) legacy apps should be made available in—without having to change the app's source code
- Accelerated modernization and further development of legacy applications
- Sophisticated, stable development environment based on Eclipse
- Framework integration possible
- Different "flavors" can be set in the target code