



End of service: IBM VisualAge Smalltalk Enterprise V6

Overview

Effective April 30, 2006, IBM will withdraw service for IBM VisualAge® Smalltalk Enterprise V6 (5724-B83).

IBM is providing a VisualAge Smalltalk Transition Strategy and Roadmap.

- VisualAge Smalltalk transition strategy and modernization roadmap defined to facilitate transition
- Support extensions available through IBM Global Services ITS to buffer transition impact
- Bridge to follow-on and replacement technologies, and products to become On Demand business
- Leverage IBM-enabled business partner community for transition offerings and solutions

Effective end of service date: April 30, 2006

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Description

Emerging technologies, architecture trends, and standards in the IT marketplace are driving the evolution of the IBM Software Group application development tool and runtime product portfolio. The VisualAge Smalltalk Transition Strategy and Roadmap helps customers preserve and build on their VisualAge Smalltalk assets by establishing bridges to the world of On Demand operating environments. The strategy and roadmap outline options, alternative approaches, and services offer:

- An evolutionary path from VisualAge Smalltalk to robust service-oriented architectures
- Benefits of model-driven design
- More effective business performance management

VisualAge Smalltalk customers can discover and leverage the value of industry standards, such as the Java™ programming language, the J2EE application model, the Eclipse-based open-source application development tool framework and also the full suite of capabilities in the IBM Rational®, WebSphere®, and Lotus® tool and runtime portfolios in a form and at a rate and pace that suits their organization's technical and business requirements.

The VisualAge Smalltalk Transition Strategy and Roadmap helps customers:

- Plan and navigate successful transition projects by analyzing, modernizing, and evolving VisualAge Smalltalk assets as part of customers overall business transformation strategy
- Reduce labor time, costs, and risk in modernizing Smalltalk applications by systematically applying transition automation and management tools, technologies, and methodologies
- Leverage the features of on demand operating environments (service-oriented architecture, model-driven design, business performance management) to accelerate business transformation, as VisualAge Smalltalk applications are evolved
- Explore trade-offs and benefits of various transition target environments and architectures
- Explore on demand operating environment-enabling tools and capabilities in the Rational, WebSphere, and Lotus product portfolios

The strategy provides for two options for customers:

- Accelerated Transformation
- Staged Transformation

The Accelerated Transformation option is centered on a robust and comprehensive set of solution offerings composed of roadmaps, migration automation tools, methodologies, and expertise for migrating from VisualAge Smalltalk to follow-on and replacement products and technologies.

The Staged Transformation option offers customers access to technical support for an extended period and also bridging technologies for VisualAge Smalltalk to facilitate a smooth transition, through a longer trajectory, to customers' strategic application development tool and runtime platforms.

VisualAge Smalltalk applications may continue to be developed and operated by some customers for an extended period during transition, however, and IBM recognizes the need for continuing product support. The VisualAge Smalltalk Support Extension (SE) offering and the bridging or "migration readiness" technologies are key components of the Staged Transformation option of IBM's transformation strategy for VisualAge Smalltalk.

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