ABL JDBC

The standard interface that glues Progress Business Logic and Java.

ABL JDBC driver brings the power of Progress ABL to the Java world in a standardized way. By leveraging your existing business logic the ABL JDBC driver can expose it to powerful reporting engines or data integration tools. This can help you to integrate versatile reporting solutions inside your Progress ABL application or easily respond to application and data integration requests without the pain of going to complex application changes to support them.

Features	Benefits
Standard JDBC interface	The driver implements the latest version of standardized java database connectivity interface - JDBC version 4.0
Multi-tier layered architecture	Built on top of Progress Application Server the driver benefit from the proven scalability as well as other security and connectivity features like: SSL encryption and HTTP tunneling
Business logic catalog	All business logic are exposed in a meta-data catalog which offers detailed information about each registered business logic
Meta-data support	Detailed meta-data support is available not only for the business logic but also for all connected databases: tables, columns, indexes
Multiple database support	Unlike other JDBC drivers this supports multiple connected databases, all databases connected for the Application Server shows as separate catalog – support queries against tables from multiple databases
Single entry point	The single entry point for back-end business logic facilitate security services like authentication, authorization, audit.

While the ABL JDBC is not a end-user tool that can be used on it's own, it does provide a standard data access mechanism to your existing Progress business logic for any Java based tool that supports JDBC.

Reporting engine

While being a very powerful and productive language the Progress ABL fall short of providing a valid reporting engine that can be integrated in Progress applications. For Java there are already a great number of enterprise grade reporting engines all of which supports the JDBC database access and are able to produce pixel-perfect documents that can be viewed, printed or exported in a variety of formats; the graphical report designer available in most cases really speed-up the report design process. Among some of the most used open-source reporting engines that can be used we can name: Pentaho, Jasper Soft, Birt (Eclipse's own reporting engine).

Data integration

In today's global market place the need for application and data integration is more present than ever and continues to increase everyday. Given the embedded nature of ABL, traditionally Progress based applications offers very little integration options. This is why very often when there is a need to access data from another application (different RDBMS) or send data to it this involves implementing specific data access interfaces on one or both of the two ends. This is not only ineffective but also very difficult to maintain and expand over time to keep up with new data integration requirements. Using dedicated tools for data integration instead of application customization can offer a very scalable and easy to maintain solution while dramatically reducing the time and effort required for the data integration projects. Some of the most widely used open-source data integration tools on the Java market are: Pentaho, Talend, Apatar.

Java graphical user interface

Use ABL JDBC driver to build application graphical user interface in Java (desktop, web or smart phones), this will give you access to the Progress business logic through the common JDBC interface which will dramatically reduce the deployment effort - only one-time deployment of the JDBC driver is required, subsequent changes on the business logic does not need to be deployed as opposed to regular Open Client application deployment.

Business logic

With ABL JDBC driver you can implement full featured reporting solution in your application, quickly respond to data integration requirements or add a new Java graphical user interface to your application to power up mobile workforce while still being able to leverage the existing application business logic.

Let the data owner prepare the data as required by the business rules while using the powerful Progress ABL - most of the data structures filling logic is already in place and can be reused, no need to duplicate the same business logic in complex SQL queries.

Eliminate the complex code required to produce graphical business reports for specific document output format (PDF, Excel), focus on the business logic and let the reporting engine be in charge of providing pixel-perfect documents that you can export in most common document output formats used in the industry – make electronic invoices available online for your customers, publish reports on intranet/internet using centralized reporting or even schedule burst report output to be delivered by email.

Scalable architecture

The driver has a layered architecture having at it's core the Progress Application Server which provides the best performance and scalability available for getting to the Progress databases – load balancing, tunneling over HTTP, SSL encryption support are only some of the most important features that this driver is taking advantage of. A state-free Application Server gives the best performance ever by dramatically reducing the number of connections to the database, each Application Server agent being able to serve a large number of JDBC connections.

Training and support

For each implementation we can offer tailored support and training to make sure you get everything up and running on your site and your IT staff reach a level of self-sufficiency that makes them comfortable with it. We can also offer consulting services for business intelligence, data integration, enterprise data warehouse projects.