MICRO FOCUS VISIBROKER

Business Challenge

Distributed systems, by their nature, span diverse environments. Building around distributed environments forces systems architects to address this diversity and heterogeneity in general. There are classes of distributed systems that do not fit well with simplistic, lowest-common-denominator solutions. Where organizations have to compete on how well-engineered their systems are they need middleware that is tailored to their particular qualitative requirements. The problems are all the more demanding because they are simultaneously challenging on several fronts: performance, scalability, reliability, availability, security and deterministic behaviour.

Infrastructure problems like these cannot usually be met in-house, their solutions depend on specialized expertise that is difficult to maintain in an organization that competes on its domain knowledge. The answer is to out-source expertise in distributed systems by buying in the infrastructure components.

Product Overview

Micro Focus® VisiBroker® is a comprehensive CORBA® environment for developing, deploying and managing distributed applications. Built on proven and open industry standards and upon a high-performance architecture, Micro Focus VisiBroker is ideally suited for low latency, complex, data-oriented, transaction-intensive, mission-critical environments. With its sophisticated thread and connection management and efficient implementation of the IIOP® protocol, VisiBroker easily scales to large numbers of clients and servers. It supports the CORBA Real-Time specifications for deployment within embedded systems. Micro Focus VisiBroker provides all the functionality needed for seamless interoperability of CORBA applications with other leading technology stacks including Web Services, .NET, and J2EE™ enabling them to conform to a modern Services-Oriented Architecture (SOA).

Key Benefits

Lowest total cost of ownership (TCO) value

Micro Focus VisiBroker offers the best price-performance ratio of any commercial CORBA ORB on the market, as well as better development productivity and rapid integration. It provides very high reliability and built-in management capabilities to reduce system downtime while ensuring efficient, active resource utilization. Coupled with outstanding technical support, VisiBroker is a cost-effective, low risk solution for CORBA applications.

Impressively engineered to give power-users the edge

Micro Focus VisiBroker is engineered internally to the highest standards to enable users to build sophisticated distributed systems that meet the most demanding requirements thrown at Systems Architects. This attention to detail allows high performance, highly scalable and highly reliable challenges to be met without compromise. Additional components solve Security, Transactional and Asynchronous Notification needs.

Services-oriented multi-technology interoperability

Micro Focus VisiBroker allows CORBA applications to be SOA-enabled by providing out-of-the-box functionality to interoperate with applications based on Web Services and J2EE standards. Additionally, VisiBroker enables developers to write .NET applications, in any .NET language (such as Microsoft® C++, C# and Visual Basic®), that can talk to existing, unmodified CORBA and J2EE applications.

Backward compatibility and interoperability

Micro Focus VisiBroker releases provide built-in features for CORBA application compatibility, interoperability and efficient migration. This feature provides investment protection and a migration path for applications written in prior versions of VisiBroker.

Widest range of support for hardware, operating system and compiler

Micro Focus VisiBroker recognizes that Systems Architects will already be placed under platform constraints so Visibroker is available for a wide range of platform options. Available platforms are characterized by operating system, processor architecture, C++ compiler and JDK to offer architects unconstrained flexibility for distributed systems.

Detailed Feature Overview

SOA-ready - Micro Focus VisiBroker enables CORBA applications to be exposed as services and easily integrated with applications based on other leading technology stacks including Web Services, .NET, and J2EE.

Micro Focus VisiBroker for .NET - Integrate existing CORBA applications with .NET applications without requiring modifications to the CORBA applications. VisiBroker enables developers to transparently write CORBA applications using a .NET language which can interoperate seamlessly with other CORBA applications written in a different language.
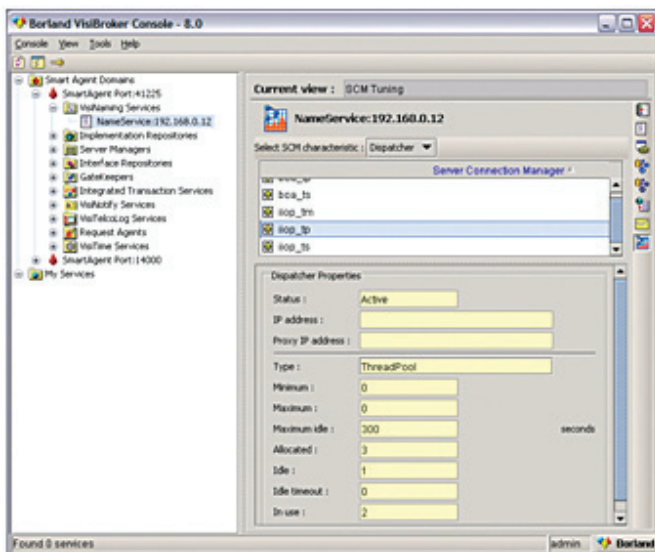
Automatic discovery, load balancing, and failover of CORBA objects - Easy configuration for automated discovery of objects, load balancing, and failover. Micro Focus VisiBroker supports standard CORBA naming service APIs, scalable to large networks of objects. It enables high availability of application objects/servers through object clustering and high availability of the Naming Service itself through replicated naming servers and mirrored database back-ends.

Micro Focus VisiBroker for Java™ and VisiBroker for C++ - Leverage the full Java implementation of the CORBA ORB to make CORBA IIOP available wherever Java is available and the readily portable, full C++ implementation with ANSI-compliant C++ interfaces.

CORBA® 3.0 support - CORBA 3.0 specification-compliant product features include Portable Interceptors (PI), Portable Object Adapters (POA), Objects-by-Value (OBV), Dynamic Invocation Interface (DII), Dynamic Skeleton (DSI), Repository (IR), Messaging QoS and Internet Inter-ORB Protocol (IIOP).

RMI-over-IIOP and Java-to-IDL - Write CORBA applications in Java without having to learn IDL™ and other CORBA features; migrate existing RMI applications to the high-performance Micro Focus VisiBroker runtime environment.

Firewall Support – Micro Focus VisiBroker supports bi-directional GIOP for managing a return path through a firewall as well as a flexible proxy-server for managing HTTP web connections and configuring connections for Firewalls and NATs.

Easy visibility into CORBA back-end systems is achieved through a GUI-based console

Multiplatform availability - VisiBroker is formally supported on an extensive range of platforms including Windows®, Solaris™, HP-UX®, AIX® and multiple distributions of Linux®. For each operating system, VisiBroker supports several processor architectures and is compatible with multiple JDK™ versions. Where applicable, Micro Focus VisiBroker for C++ is also certified with alternative system libraries.

Real-time requirements - Micro Focus VisiBroker for C++ provides a compliant implementation of the CORBA Real-Time specifications for applications with real-world timing requirements. Real-Time CORBA extensions provide granular control of resource utilization and of multi-threading behavior.

Operational visualization - Micro Focus VisiBroker Console aids in development and debugging by providing a runtime view of distributed objects.

Product Specifications and System Requirements

Micro Focus VisiBroker supports a wide range of platforms and that range is continually being extended. Please check the Micro Focus VisiBroker Product web page or check with Techncial Support for the latest, complete platform coverage. Development installations require between 200 Mbytes and 400 Mbytes of disk space, depending on configuration and platform. Micro Focus VisiBroker is inherently distributed and multi-faceted. It is unlikely that a production deployment will make use of all the component pieces of Micro Focus VisiBroker. Furthermore, the core of Micro Focus VisiBroker is a runtime library to be used in conjunction with application code. Consequently, runtime memory requirements are vary considerably, any single figure could easily be misleading.

Microsoft® Windows® Vista® - for x86 and x86_64 processors

Microsoft® Windows® XP® SP2 - for x86 and x86_64 processors

Microsoft® Windows® Server® 2003 SP2, R2 - for x86 and x86_64 processors

HP-UX® 11i v2 and v3 - for 32 and 64 bit PA-RISC and Itanium processors

Red Hat® Enterprise Linux® 5.0 - for x86 and x86_64 processors

SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 10.0 - for x86, x86_64 processors

Sun Solaris 10 - for 32 and 64 bit SPARC and for x86_64 processors

IBM AIX 6.1 - for 32 and 64 bit Power processors