Ivation Datasystems Inc.

What's New in Beyond 20/20[®] Version 5.1

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New Features of Beyond 20/20 Version 5.1

With Beyond 20/20 version 5.1, Ivation Datasystems continues its tradition of lowering your data preparation and dissemination costs while improving the productivity of your staff and end users. Highlights of the new features are listed below.

Web Data Server. Beyond 20/20's new Web Data Server enables you to publish socioeconomic data on both intranet and Internet sites. It is ideal for communities of occasional users and the publishing of time-sensitive data. The Web Data Server uses the same table documents as Beyond 20/20 Windows-based products, making data preparation costs negligible. Software deployment and management costs are lowered because users need only a standard Web browser to access the data. (See next page for more information about the Web Data Server.)

Enhanced Printing. Version 5.1 adds printing features that give you far greater control over titling and layout in your printed output. Another enhancement allows you to print the entire document, a single page, or a specified range of pages. Beyond 20/20 now offers much of the functionality previously found only in far costlier printing systems. (See page 3 for more information about Beyond 20/20's new printing features.)

Import of MapInfo[™] files. The Beyond 20/20 Builder can now import MapInfo files thus allowing you to embed maps directly into Beyond 20/20 tables. (See page 3 for more information about the new map import feature.)

Cell Information. The cell information feature gives users in-depth information about the currently-selected data cell. You can also extend the cell information feature to integrate Beyond 20/20 with other systems and to provide additional functionality. For example, a local extension to Cell Info might integrate Beyond 20/20 with a Microsoft Access database to allow users to retrieve database records associated with a Beyond 20/20 table cell.

Save as HTML. Users can now save Beyond 20/20 tables as highly presentable HTML files.

Improved Interoperability. The Builder and Browser products now allow you to copy text from the Summary Views and other linked HTML pages to the Windows Clipboard. Copied information can then be pasted into other applications.

Improved Performance and Presentation. Numerous improvements in version 5.1 make many operations faster and enhance the presentation quality of maps and charts displayed by the Beyond 20/20 Browser.

Beyond 20/20 Web Data Server

The Beyond 20/20 Web Data Server enables organizations to publish socioeconomic data on both intranet and Internet sites. It is ideal for communities of occasional users and the publishing of time-sensitive data—for example, monthly economic and trade statistics.

A key feature of the Web Data Server is that it uses the same table files (IVTs) as the Windowsbased Beyond 20/20 Builder and Browsers. You can now publish your data on CD-ROM and magnetic media, over a local area network, in print, and on an intranet/Internet Web site with virtually no incremental data preparation costs.

The Web Data Server is highly customizable. As part of your software licence, Ivation provides you with an application programming interface (API) to the Web Data Server and the source code of the client-side JavaScripts that control the user interface. You can modify the user interface to meet your site design standards, tailor default functions and sequencing to your needs, and even develop new data retrieval applications. You could, for example, incorporate your own graphic images and logos in the user interface, develop standardized queries to facilitate data retrieval, or integrate the Web Data Server with e-commerce applications.

High performance: In a performance test conducted by an independent third-party, the Web Data Server processed 18,000 requests in five minutes, or 60 requests per second. The test was run on a dual-processor Pentium system running Windows NT Server.

Widespread use of the Web Data Server can lower software deployment and support costs. Users require only a standard Web browser (Netscape 4.51 or later; Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.01 or later) to access data through the Web Data Server. There is no need to distribute, install, and maintain the Beyond 20/20 Browser for users whose requirements are fully served by data available through the Web Data Server.

The Web Data Server package includes:

- A Common Gateway Interface (CGI) program
- The client-side JavaScripts
- The Code Book Generator
- A JavaScript optimization utility

The CGI program is a server-based implementation of the high-performance and proven Beyond 20/20 data access engine. The JavaScripts control the user interface and end-user functionality. The Code Book Generator creates special HTML files that:

- Make the metadata about a particular table available to search engines, which can then be used to index the Beyond 20/20 table data; and
- Provide a browser-accessible link between the user, the Web Data Server, and the required Beyond 20/20 table document.

Enhanced Printing Options

The Beyond 20/20 Builder and Browser products offer substantially improved printing features, such as better default formatting—for example, long labels will now automatically wrap to multiple rows—and many new formatting controls. When printing tables, you can now:

- Control the height and width of title, heading, and data areas
- Specify fonts and justification for titles, headings, and data
- Activate or deactivate pagination
- Specify whether page numbers appear at the top or bottom of pages
- Customize the content of selected titles
- Print selected pages or a range of pages from a report

These new printing options could enable many users to reduce, or even eliminate, their reliance on expensive, customized printing systems.

Map Import Feature

The Map Import feature permits the Beyond 20/20 Builder to import native MapInfo[™] files (MIFs) into any Beyond 20/20 table, dimension definition file, or extract file in one simple step—a vast improvement over the multi-step process in earlier versions of Beyond 20/20. This allows you to create your own maps from a MIF file and to combine data and maps in a single Beyond 20/20 table document (IVT file). Consolidating data and maps into a single file will reduce the expense and complexity of distributing the file as well as simplifying end-user access.