Becoming a Viable Alternative
iNfinite Answers
By: 3B Dataservices Ltd.

We have shifted our focus in the software industry from that of being a competitor to one of being an alternative supplier. Our focus is also shifting from existing IBM i on Power customers to non-customers due the nature of our offering.

Tens of thousands of contractors, mining and service companies are looking for an alternative to traditional packaged off-the-shelf accounting systems, but they are not ready to accept the challenges associated with the complexity and expense of traditional ERP accounting systems. For these companies, the unERP presents an ideal alternate solution. There are nine primary problems associated with traditional ERP systems. We have eliminated eight of those with our four actions framework.

1. **The factors that the ERP and Information systems industry takes for granted, which iNfinite Answers and IBM i on Power has eliminated, are:**

   a. **Integration services**
   b. **Annual and or bi-annual modular updates**
   c. **Long and or otherwise excessive installation times**
   d. **Source files for internally created data transactions**
   e. **History files for internally created data transactions**
   f. **Successive/multiple screens for data entry of a single record**
   g. **Annual, general systematic data removal**

2. **The factors iNfinite Answers and IBM i on Power has reduced well below the industry's standard are:**

   a. **Implementation and Operational Complexity**
   b. **The Numbers of detail files required for semi-static summary files may be as low as zero. This applies to things like general ledger, any kind of costing analysis, payroll etc., even though all may be in play and possibly in numerous versions**

c. Update programs typically used to move corporate transaction data from source to active files as we have come to know them have all but disappeared

d. The number of update programs to move data details from active to history files has been highly reduced because the concept of having traditional history files is eliminated

e. The numbers of programs required to update summary database files such as general ledger, inventory and employee payroll is reduced to just one, not one for each module type and one for each end point as is traditionally implemented

3. The factors iNfinite Answers and IBM i on Power has raised well above the industry's standard are:

   a. Data quality
   b. Simplicity
   c. Ease of use
   d. Use of multi-use and multi-function procedures and processes
   e. Consistency in corporate database structure
   f. Consistency in data maintenance methodologies
   g. Universal consistency in screen design and drop down boxes
   h. Utilization of disk space
   i. User training
   j. Flexibility of vertical applications allowable in a single database

4. The factors iNfinite Answers and IBM i on Power has created that the industry has never offered are:

   a. Single point corporate consolidation
   b. Emanation
   c. Soft Step Corporate Diversification
   d. Unlimited accounting ledgers – Virtual Modularization
   e. Natural structured workflow
   f. Natural workflow plug in points
   g. Ram Centric data access
   h. Ram Centric user tools

i. **Ageless forget-me-not data storage**
j. **Dynamic user mapping**
k. **User independent, bi-directional horizontal, and vertical tracking audit trails**
l. **User defined help text**

iNfinite Answers is an alternative product and service, an alternative to typical off-the-shelf accounting modules and an alternative to typical ERP systems. iNfinite answers is not for everybody, no product or service is. But, for those companies to which it is a good fit, every item mentioned in the above list, will also serve to save those who use it countless thousands of dollars as well as help them develop their companies to the wherever they want to go.