

Lotus Approach 96 Release Notes

Lotus Approach 96 release notes are divided into the following sections:

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1. USER ASSISTANCE UPDATES

Demos

Demos in Approach Help should be run on computers with an 80486 or later processor.

Lotus recommends that you let a demo play until it ends because pressing ESC while a demo is running can have unexpected results. If you must stop the demo, press ESC until the demo ends. When you close the demo sample file, Approach asks if you want to save the file. Click No.

Some demos show text being entered in a field. In some cases, the text that appears may be incomplete or misspelled. This may affect the running of the demo. Let the demo end. If you run the demo again, it will run correctly.

Help for ODBC SQL Server driver

Help for the SQL Server driver gives the name of the driver incorrectly. The correct names are

- o For Windows 95: LCSS*nn*.DLL
- o For Windows NT: LNSS*nn*.DLL

Help for ODBC Oracle 7 driver

Help for the Oracle 7 driver gives the name of the driver incorrectly. The correct names are

- o For Windows 95: LCOR7*nn*.DLL
- o For Windows NT: LNOR7*nn*.DLL

General information about ODBC drivers

The Help file IVDRV08.HLP contains general information about using ODBC drivers with Approach. During install, Approach loads this Help file in your main Approach application directory.

To see the information in this Help file, do the following:

1. Click the Start button in the taskbar.
2. Choose Run.
3. Enter the path and name of the Help file; for example, c:\lotus\approach\ivdrv08.hlp
4. Click OK.

2. LOTUS 1-2-3 AND LOTUS NOTES

Installing Lotus Notes after installing Lotus Approach 96

If you install Lotus Notes after Lotus Approach 96, do the following to allow the opening of Lotus

Notes files:

1. Delete the file POWERKEY.DAT in your Approach directory.
2. Add the path to the file NOTES.EXE to your PATH environmental variable.
 - o In Windows 95, this variable is located in the c:\autoexec.bat file.
 - o In Windows NT, it is in the Control Panel. Click the System icon.

Lotus Notes and TCP/IP

If you use TCP/IP as the network transport for accessing your Lotus Notes server with a Lotus Notes 3.x client, you cannot use Approach 96 to open Lotus Notes Server databases or to send e-mail messages.

A fix for this problem will be available in an upcoming release of Lotus Notes. In the meantime, use the Netware SPX transport.

FX Update Macro

The macro you create to use Notes/FX (Field Exchange) and edit an Approach 96 FX object in Lotus Notes must have the name FXUpdate.

3. LOTUS APPROACH AND IBM DB2

Connecting to IBM DB2

You can access DB2 from Approach 96 using the IBM 32-bit Client Application Enabler (CAE) and the IBM 32-bit DB2 ODBC driver. Both the IBM CAE and the DB2 ODBC driver are shipped on the CD-ROM version of Approach 96.

To install the IBM CAE and the DB2 ODBC driver, do the following:

1. Click the Start button in the Windows taskbar.
2. Choose Run.
3. Type e:\win32\en\disk1\setup.exe
 - o Substitute the letter of your CD-ROM drive if it's something other than e:.
4. Click OK.
5. Follow the instructions.

For more information on installing the IBM CAE and DB2 ODBC driver, please see below.

After you install the IBM Software, Approach 96 can access DB2. If you want to access DB2 on MVS, you must also have the IBM DDCS gateway.

All Approach users trying to connect to DB2 must use the same version of the CAE to avoid connection problems.

IBM Database 2 Client Pack Version 2.1

Welcome to the IBM DATABASE 2 (DB2) Client Pack Version 2.1! The Client Pack contains the DB2 Client Application Enablers that allow you to access remote database servers from client workstations. The Client Application Enablers offer support for a wide range of operating systems, hardware platforms, and communications products.

This CD-ROM contains the Version 2.1 Client Application Enablers for Windows 95 and NT.

Getting Started

The DB2 Client products are stored on this CD-ROM in a directory named WIN32\EN for

Windows 95 and NT.

Installation Instructions

When you are ready to install any of the Client Application Enablers, you must first read the README file on this CD-ROM in the WIN32\EN directory.

The README file contains information on:

- o How to start the installation.
- o The languages in which the manuals are available.
- o The location and file names of each of these manuals.
- o How to view the manuals online.
- o How to print the manuals on a PostScript printer.

The README file is in ASCII format, which can be displayed or printed from your workstation.

Viewing the README File

To view the README file:

1. Insert the CD-ROM into the CD-ROM drive.
2. Switch to the drive letter of the CD-ROM drive.
 - o For example, if your CD-ROM drive is "d", change to the "d" drive.
3. Change the directory to \WIN32\EN\
4. View or print the README file and follow the installation instructions.

Product Documentation

This CD-ROM contains the following manuals in one or more languages:

- o IBM DATABASE 2 Installing and Using DB2 Clients for Windows 95 and NT
- o IBM DATABASE 2 Messages Reference
- o IBM DATABASE 2 Client/Server Messages Reference

The above manuals are available in INF and PostScript format

4. OTHER CLIENT SERVER ISSUES

Oracle7 Server Access

Even though you may be running Approach 3.x and opening your Oracle tables under Windows 95, Approach 96 cannot open these tables or connect to the Oracle7 server unless you have the Oracle7 Client Software for Windows NT. This client software can only access Oracle7 databases and Approach 96 cannot use the 16-bit drivers you're using with Approach 3.x.

SQL Server and Oracle Read Only

Lotus Approach 96 for Windows creates, deletes, and opens SQL Server, Oracle SQL tables as well as many types of files using ODBC. There is a setting in Lotus Approach 96 to open these files as read-only. The read-only option also prevents the creation of SQL Server, Oracle, and ODBC connected files.

To switch between the read-only and read/write options, and also allow the creation of new SQL Server, Oracle, and ODBC connected files, do the following:

1. In Approach, open a SQL Server or Oracle file you want to work on.
2. Choose File - User Setup - Approach Preferences.
3. Click the Database tab.

4. Change the read-only setting.
5. Click Save Default.
6. Click OK.

Any change you make while one file is open affects all future SQL and ODBC files you use.

You can make the same change by modifying the Windows Registry. Do the following:

1. Click the Start button in the Windows taskbar.
2. Choose Run.
3. In Windows 95, type **regedit**
 - o In Windows NT, type **regedt32**
4. Double-click HKEY_CURRENT_USER, and then Software\Lotus\Approach\4.0\SQL.
5. In the pane on the right, double-click iReadOnly.
6. In the Edit String dialog box, type **1** in the Value data box.

5. INSTALLATION AND NETWORKS

Installing to directories other than the default

If you install Lotus Approach 96 to a directory name that contains a '-' (hyphen), then you cannot use the Uninstall program to remove this installation of Approach.

Installing Approach 96 When Running Windows from a Server

If you install Lotus Approach 96 while logged into the server with read/write privileges to a server-based Windows directory, the Install program copies the .DLL files to that Windows directory on the server.

To prevent this from happening, log into the server with read-only privileges to the Windows directory on the server. Then

- o If you are installing Approach as a server application, the Install program copies the .DLL files to the Approach directory.

- o If you are installing Approach as a standalone application, the Install program copies the .DLL files to your personal Windows directory.

Running Lotus Approach from a Read-Only File Server Directory

If you install Lotus Approach 96 to a file server and then make this directory read-only for users of Approach, problems may occur when users run the Tour and Help demos. If you have to make the server directory read-only for the users, the following directories must be read/write to prevent problems:

```
<drive-path>:\Lotus\Approach\Tour  
<drive-path>:\Lotus\Samples\Approach
```

6. OPTIMIZATION TIPS

Smart Indexing

Lotus Approach 96 automatically creates indexes when you do a find or sort. You do not have to create indexes for individual fields manually. Indexes significantly speed up finds and sorts.

Macro Finds and Sorts

To increase the speed of finds and sorts done by a macro, don't separate the Find and Sort commands. Write the macro so that one command immediately follows the other on the next line.

7. MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

Lotus Approach and IBM OS/2

Lotus Approach 96 does not run on any version of the IBM OS/2 operating system. The current 16 bit version of Approach 3.02 does, however, run in a WIN-OS/2 session.

Lotus Approach and Lotus ScreenCam 2.1

When you embed a ScreenCam object in an Approach PicturePlus field and select the option to display as icon, a message appears saying that ScreenCam can't update the client. To embed the object, do not select to display it as an icon.

Dialer Settings in the Approach.ini File

There are two new settings in the [AutoDialer] section of the APPROACH.INI file.

o LDThresh=8

This sets the threshold for the number of digits that are needed to use the 'Do Not Dial' option and the 'Access Code' option.

o LongDist=1

This is the actual number that is dialed when a long distance 'Access Code' is needed.

dBASE III, dBASE IV, and FoxPro Index Support

Lotus Approach 96 maintains indexes for dBASE III+ and IV and FoxPro 2.0. To include an index from these applications, do the following:

1. Choose File - User Setup - Approach Preferences.
2. Click the Index tab.
3. Click Add Index.
4. In the Add Index dialog box, select the indexes to be maintained.

This is supported in the English language version only.

dBASE Network File-Sharing Method

Make sure all the users are set to the same dBASE file-sharing method. Lotus Approach 96 defaults to dBASE IV. This is the recommended method.

To change the dBASE networking protocol to the dBASE IV or dBASE 3+ method, do the following:

1. Click the Start button in the Windows taskbar.
2. Choose Run.
3. In Windows 95, type **regedit**
 - o In Windows NT, type **regedt32**
4. Double-click HKEY_CURRENT_USER, and then Software\Lotus\Approach\4.0\General.
5. In the pane on the right, double-click sdBaseFileSharingMethod.
6. In the Edit String dialog box, type **DBASE3** or **DBASE4** in the Value data box.

Paradox Sort Order

sParadoxSort, the parameter for the sort order of Paradox files, is in the Windows Registry under HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Lotus\Approach\4.0\General. When using Lotus Approach 96 with Paradox files, set this parameter to the same sort order as Paradox.

If you do not use Paradox files, the defaults are:

- o US English release: sParadoxSort=ASCII
- o Swedish or Finnish: sParadoxSort=SWEDFIN
- o Norwegian or Danish: sParadoxSort=NORDAN
- o All others (including UK English): sParadoxSort=INTL

Another setting changes the case sensitivity of the index. To see this setting, do the following:

1. Open a Paradox file in Lotus Approach 96.
2. Choose File - User Setup - Approach Preferences.
3. Click the Index tab.

Open DataBase Connectivity (ODBC)

Lotus Approach 96 supports drivers that meet the Microsoft Open Database Connectivity (ODBC) specification. ODBC drivers must be installed using the ODBC Driver Manager. The ODBC Driver Manager can be obtained from Microsoft or ODBC driver vendors. The ODBC drivers can be obtained from various sources including database vendors and ODBC driver vendors.

Note: Many ODBC drivers have not been certified with Lotus Approach 96. Lotus does not provide technical support for these drivers. Lotus Approach 96 cannot use ODBC drivers that Approach 3.x used. You need new 32-bit versions of any drivers you wish to use with Approach 96.

Although ODBC allows connectivity to many different kinds of data, performance improves when you use the direct Lotus Approach PowerKeys included with Lotus Approach 96. Lotus Approach 96 provides PowerKeys for dBASE III+ and IV, Paradox, FoxPro, SQL Server, Oracle, Lotus 1-2-3.

International Characters

There are two supported types of characters, ANSI (Windows) and OEM (DOS). National characters (like the German ü, or the French accented characters like é) are stored differently in these two character types. A German ü stored in an OEM file does not appear as an ü when the same file is opened as an ANSI file.

Most DOS applications (like dBASE and Paradox) store files in OEM. Most Windows applications store files in ANSI.

sDefaultDataType is an Approach parameter in the Windows Registry under HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Lotus\Approach\4.0\General.

Set sDefaultDataType=OEM

- o To create Paradox and dBASE databases in the OEM character set (during Export, Save As, and New).
- o To use Lotus Approach 96 files with a DOS application like dBASE or Paradox.

Set sDefaultDataType=ANSI

- o When you are using only Lotus Approach 96, and not dBASE or Paradox.
- o To create Paradox and dBASE databases in ANSI.

If unusual characters appear in Lotus Approach after opening a database created by dBASE or Paradox, change the ANSI/OEM setting in the Database tab of the Approach Preferences dialog box.

If unusual characters appear when using dBASE or Paradox to open a database created by Lotus Approach, do the following:

1. Set sDefaultDataType=OEM.
2. Open the file in Lotus Approach.
3. Choose File - Export Data and export it.

Note: Do not use the sDefaultDataType parameter when creating Oracle, SQL Server, or Lotus 1-2-3 files.

When using Lotus Approach 96 with a country setting other than United States, note the character in the List Separator box in the International section of the Windows Control Panel. This character, usually a ',' (comma) or a ';' (semicolon), should be used in place of the United States List Separator, the comma. Use the list separator in formulas, dates, and anywhere else they are required.

Previous versions of Approach

Approach 2.x .VEW files and Approach 3.x .APR files opened and saved with Lotus Approach 96 are converted to Lotus Approach 96 format. Once converted, you cannot open the .APR in Approach 2.x or 3.x

The data files, however, are not converted. You can open them in the 3.x version without any problems. To open the data files in the 2.x version, delete the .ADX files associated with the data files.