



# Step 1

## Welcome to WebSphere Application Server - Express

In the pages that follow, you're going to learn about one of the newest leading-edge technologies in application development. You will learn how to install, configure, and create a real business application using this technology.

This book assumes nothing. It walks you through the system requirements and prerequisites, installation, and configuration of IBM WebSphere Application Server - Express for iSeries, application development, and debugging problems.

### How this book works

The Step by Step books are very simple in format. The entire book is broken down into sequential steps. They are meant to be followed in order. Each step will have a checklist. The checklist will look something like this:

✓ **Here is your step checklist:**

- 1.1(a) First item in the checklist ..... 1
- 1.1(b) Next item in the checklist ..... 2
- (...)

The number on the left will refer to the step (1.1, 1.2, 2.1, and so on) and the task within that step (a, b, c, . . .). The page number on the right refers to the page number where that particular task can be found.

Each step will start on a new page and will have a heading and a goal statement. There may be a paragraph or two of additional information as well. Each task will have detailed instructions and one or more associated illustrations (occasionally several tasks will refer to the same image, as for filling out the fields of a dialog box).

Some of the steps may seem very simple, especially if you already have some experience in a given area, but we wanted to be sure not to leave anything out. If you follow all the steps to the letter, by the time you finish the book you will have completed the goal of creating a business application using WebSphere Application Server - Express.

You'll notice that if there are a variety of ways to do something, we may do it differently at different places in the book. This is to give you some exposure to the different ways to do things. Eventually, you'll develop your own preferences as to how to do these things.

## **What's covered**

The main topic of this book is WebSphere Application Server - Express for iSeries. That is probably the reason you bought the book. You want to learn more about this topic and how to utilize this technology. WebSphere Application Server - Express for iSeries is a huge application. It's constantly evolving and growing.

WebSphere Application Server - Express for iSeries is a new WebSphere offering for entry level Web application development. It is a strategic application server being provided as a follow-on offering for WebSphere Application Server Standard Edition (SE) 3.5 and for Apache Tomcat, which is currently integrated and offered on iSeries. WebSphere Application Server - Express for iSeries is a low-cost, easy-to-use, out-of-the-box solution that supports simple, dynamic Web sites based on the Java servlet, JavaServer Pages (JSPs), and Web Services technologies.

WebSphere Express consists of the following:

1. An application server run-time environment with JavaServer Pages and Java servlets. The WebSphere Express application server is a subset of the

application server shipped with the WebSphere Application Server 5.0 iSeries product and includes a subset of the application server administrative console.

2. An administration interface that is integrated with the current OS/400 Web-based administration console for the IBM HTTP Server product (5722-DG1), used for administering application servers and their applications.
3. IBM Telephone Directory, a business application for a company's directory of white pages.
4. Web Services Object Runtime Framework (WORF), a Web service for accessing UDB DB2.
5. WebSphere Development Studio Client (WDSC) for iSeries development tools, the latest in tool integration for iSeries application development.

WebSphere Application Server - Express for iSeries is IBM's Java-based Web application server. You may think of an application server as "Web middleware" or a middle tier in a three-tier e-business environment. The first tier is the HTTP server, which handles requests from the browser client. The third tier is the business database (for example, DB2 UDB for iSeries) and the business logic (for example, traditional business applications such as order processing). The middle tier is WebSphere Application Server - Express for iSeries, which provides a framework for consistent, architected linkage between the HTTP requests and the business data and logic. WebSphere Application Server - Express for iSeries is intended for organizations that want to take advantage of the productivity, performance advantages, and portability that Java provides for dynamic Web sites.

WebSphere Application Server - Express for iSeries provides the environment to run your Web-enabled e-business applications. WebSphere Development Studio Client for iSeries, on the other hand, provides a set of state-of-the-art Web development tools to build dynamic Web applications.

As you read this, people are working all over the world adding other features to WebSphere Application Server - Express for iSeries.

So, if you are ready, it's time to get started. Enjoy!

## Supported versions of WebSphere Application Server - Express for iSeries

WebSphere Application Server - Express for iSeries is supported on both Version 5 Release 1 (V5R1) and Version 5 Release 2 (V5R2) of the OS/400 operating system. Each of these releases of the OS/400 operating system supports Version 5.0, Version 5.0.1, and Version 5.0.2 of WebSphere Application Server - Express for iSeries. When ordering WebSphere Application Server - Express for iSeries, you will get the latest available level, which should be Version 5.0.2. WebSphere Application Server - Express is provided as the Licensed Program Product 5722IWE. The only difference between the two versions of OS/400 operating system is the PTF group you will install. On V5R1, the PTF group number is SF99270. On V5R2, the PTF group number is SF99271. This information is key and leads us into the next chapter, which steps us through the prerequisites, installation, configuration, and deployment of a WebSphere application solution.

This chapter has given you insight into what will be covered in the remaining pages of this book. In the next chapter, you will learn how to install and configure WebSphere Application Server - Express.