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Warehouse Manager 4.2 speeds data warehousing

REVIEW Tool boosts productivity by automatically generating COBOL, JCL code, but at a high price

BY LOUI MITCHELL

Corporate developers looking for a solution to speed data extraction from legacy systems to data warehouses should consider Prime Solutions Inc.'s Warehouse Manager 4.2. This product automates the painstaking task of creating and maintaining COBOL and JCL code and increases development productivity.

The recently released Warehouse Manager 4.2 offers new time-saving features, such as the ability to create code generated by Warehouse Manager, directly read DDL data, create User Exits subroutines, and reuse table fields.

However, the savings in time and increase in productivity don't come cheaply. Warehouse Manager ranges in price from \$150,000 to \$250,000, which includes one copy-site-target and one-site-module, and a 30-day training course.

In contrast, Ca Passport, a competitor at \$135,000 two-source and releases, the workload for days of training. Users can access Manager's meta data through third-party SQL reporting tools. However, those who want to display object from CASE tools will use Prime Solutions' product. Several Meta displays both text and business view of Warehouse Manager's meta data, thus leading developers

customer data for their users.

Warehouse Manager increases development productivity by automatically generating COBOL and JCL code after all the necessary information is entered into Warehouse Manager. (Typically, this would be done by a team of programmers.) Developers can use the generated COBOL code in extracting data from source legacy databases and create a data warehouse on target databases.

ADMINISTRATION

Warehouse Manager's administration tools were easy to use, leading us through each step of the warehouse-creation process. Even a non-programmer should be able to enter database criteria and quickly generate COBOL extract files.

In PC Week Labs tests, we set up a working de-

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Warehouse Manager 4.2
NEW VERSION 4.2

Features an easy-to-use interface

PROS

- Increased productivity, schema and table definition Capture features decrease COBOL and JCL code creation time and eliminate errors.

CONS

- Expensive, manual difficult to read.

RECOMMENDATION

Corporate developers who want to decrease the time required to extract data from legacy systems to data warehouses should consider Warehouse Manager 4.2. However, those on a budget may want to consider other solutions, such as Carotene Corp.'s Passport, which provides more for the money.

velopment on the object in the map.

We were able to decrease development time by using Warehouse Manager's drop-down lists for most field data entry, such as accuracy.

When adding fields to our tar-



WAREHOUSE MANAGER 4.2 features an easy-to-use interface. The map of icons leads users through each step of the warehouse-creation process.