

## INFOLAB RXM WEB PORTAL - OVERVIEW

### Purpose of this Manual

The purpose of this User Manual is to –

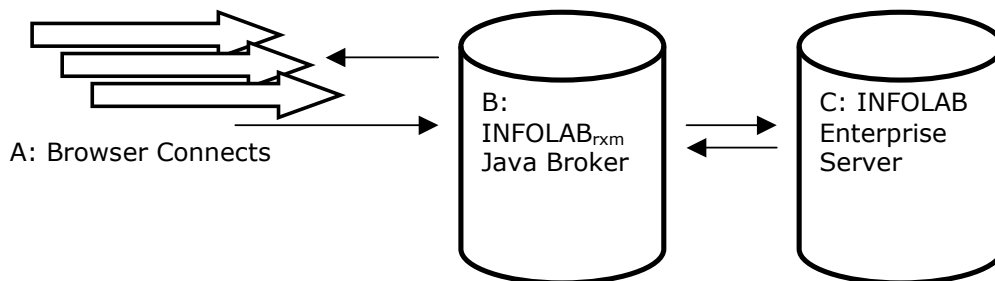
- a) Introduce the INFOLAB<sub>rxm</sub> Portal
- b) Introduce the different User Manuals relating to the Portal

### What is it?

INFOLAB<sub>rxm</sub> is a non-persistent Web Portal and is a subset of the INFOLAB Enterprise Server Software, the latter being required for the Portal to function.

Typical Application processing, as is used with INFOLAB, is based on dedicated connections, i.e. a User performs a Logon (in the case of INFOLAB, this would be done with the NAVIGATOR Client), executes some work and remains connected until a Log Off is performed. A non-persistent Web connection (done with any Browser, e.g. Internet Explorer, Netscape, Mozilla or other) is different. In this case, either a Logon is performed when a User Page sends a request, the request is attended to, and a Log Off performed, OR multiple Page requests are attended to by shared though dedicated Connections, of which there may be 1 or more.

Below, we illustrate in simple terms how a typical INFOLAB<sub>rxm</sub> Portal operates –



'A' represents Browser Clients connected to the Internet, based anywhere. 'B' represents a Server with an IP Address that equates to a Website, and where the INFOLAB<sub>rxm</sub> Java Broker software is installed as well. 'C' represents the Server where the INFOLAB Enterprise Server is installed, and which is 'visible' to 'B', but not necessarily visible to the Browser Connects (usually not, for purposes of maintaining a secure firewall). 'B' and 'C' may of course be on the same Server, if you wish.

'B' (the Broker), may be parameterized as to how many dedicated Connections it should maintain with 'C', the Server. The minimum is 1, and there is no maximum. In fact, the Broker will sit idle and NOT open any dedicated Connection unless a Request is received from a Browser ('A'). When a Request is received by the Broker, if there is no Connection established with the Server ('C') yet, then it will be dynamically established.

If another Request is received by the Broker before the 1<sup>st</sup> Request has been serviced, then the Broker will establish another Connection, if it has not yet reached the maximum number of allowed Connections. If more Requests arrive than available or allowed Connections, then they wait in a Queue until one of the Connections become free to service the next Request in the queue. If the load drops substantially, i.e. there are 5 Connections open, but current demand is only for 2 Connections, then 3 Connections will be closed. Even when there is only 1 Connection remaining open, it will be closed after a set interval, if there is no activity justifying the connection remaining open.

In this manner, the Broker will allow any number of Users (Browser Requests) to share 1 or more Connections with the Server. The volume of Requests (irrespective of the number of Users, so to speak) versus the number of allowed Connections will certainly influence the Response Times experienced by Users, and this is simply a 'load-balancing' consideration.

Summary:

- a) INFOLAB<sub>rxm</sub> Portal will service Internet Clients (Browser Connections), and is able to look after a number of Users connected at the same time, on a single Connection.
- b) INFOLAB<sub>rxm</sub> Portal is a method whereby you can offer Application Portal Services to anybody who connects to the Internet from anywhere geographically, and who does not require specific installation of your Application Software other than simply using a standard Browser, e.g. Internet Explorer or other.
- c) A Unique SID (Session Identification) is maintained by INFOLAB<sub>rxm</sub> for each Browser Session, and therefore it is easy to identify a new Request, and 'connect' it to the previous Request by the same User. In fact, you may also force Users to 'Log On' with a User Code and Password for functions where this may be required. Therefore, even though the architecture of the Portal is non-persistent, the Application maintains persistency by means of the unique SID identified with any Browser connection.

### **Documents relating to the Portal**

The INFOLAB<sub>rxm</sub> Portal User Manual Set includes the following Documents :-

- Overview
  - This Document
- Installation
  - Prerequisites and how to Install the Portal
- Operation
  - How to Manage the Portal
- Application Development
  - How to develop and provide Application Services

© Infolab, 2006

This Documentation is copyrighted by Infolab (Pty) Ltd. [ [www.infolab.cc](http://www.infolab.cc) ] All rights are reserved. Licensed INFOLAB Users are granted permission, for internal use ONLY, to reproduce the Documentation, and to include amendments dealing with specific instructions local to your installation.