

Quick Start: DataDirect Connect[®] for ODBC Informix Driver on UNIX

The following basic information enables you to connect with and test your driver immediately after installation. For installation instructions for DataDirect Connect for ODBC, please see the [DataDirect Connect and Connect XE for ODBC Installation Guide](#). The following command samples assume that the user is executing from within the Korn (ksh) shell.

Environment Setup

IMPORTANT: You must have all components of the Informix client software installed and connecting properly; otherwise, the driver will not operate correctly.

- 1 Check your permissions:** Log in as a user with full r/w/x permissions recursively on the entire DataDirect Connect for ODBC installation directory.
- 2 Determine which shell you are running:** From the login shell, execute the echo \$SHELL command.
- 3 Run the DataDirect Technologies setup script to set variables:** Two scripts, `odbc.csh` and `odbc.sh`, are installed in the installation directory. For Korn, Bourne, and equivalent shells, execute `odbc.sh`. For a C shell, execute `odbc.csh`. After running the setup script, execute the `env` command to verify that the `installation_directory/lib` directory has been added to your shared library path.
- 4 Set ODBCINI variable:** DataDirect Connect for ODBC installs a default `odbc.ini` file, where your data sources reside, in the installation directory. You must set the ODBCINI environment variable to point to the path of the `odbc.ini` file. For example:

```
$ ODBCINI= /opt/odbc/odbc.ini; export ODBCINI
```

- 5 Set database-specific variables:**
 - `INFORMIXDIR`—Set to the main directory where Informix resides
 - `INFORMIXSERVER`—Set to the Informix server name to which you wish to connect
 - `Shared Library Path`—You must add `(INFORMIXDIR)/lib` and `usr/lib`
- 6 Test your native connection:** The driver uses native libraries (database client to database) to connect to the database. You should test this native connection before attempting to connect with the driver. Errors encountered when testing the native connection are not ODBC driver-related.

Test Loading the Driver

The `ivtestlib` tool is a utility to verify that the driver can be loaded into memory; it is located in the `installation_directory/bin` directory. For example, to load the driver (where `xx` represents the driver level number and `nn` the extension), you would enter:

```
$ ivtestlib /opt/odbc/lib/ivinfxx.nn
```

If the load is successful, `ivtestlib` returns a success message along with the version string of the driver. If the driver cannot be loaded, `ivtestlib` returns an error message explaining why.

Connecting to a Database

After test loading the driver, you can connect from your application to your database.

Defining a Data Source in the `odbc.ini`

The default `odbc.ini` installed in the installation directory is a template into which you enter your site-specific database connection information using a text editor. The following sample shows the minimum connection string attributes you must enter for a test connection (where *xx* represents the driver level number and *nn* the extension). For example, you might enter:

```
[Informix]
Driver=/opt/odbc/lib/ivinfxx.nn
Description=connection to my accounting database
Database=Informix3
HostName=InformixHost
ServerName=InformixServer
Service=online
```

Testing the Connection

The DataDirect Connect *for* ODBC installation includes a program named `example` that can be used to connect to a data source and execute SQL. The application is located in the `installation_directory/example` directory. To run the program, type `example` and follow the prompts to enter your data source name, user name, and password. If successful, a `SQL>` prompt appears and you can type in SQL Statements such as `Select * from <table_name>`. If `example` is unable to connect, the appropriate error message appears.

Setting `odbc.ini` for Optimal Performance

Use the following entries in the Informix section of the `odbc.ini` file for optimal performance:

If your application does not use threads	<code>ApplicationUsingThreads=0</code>
If your application does not issue <code>SQLCancel</code>	<code>CancelDetectInterval=0</code>

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