Superior Productivity

PowerBuilder continues to extend its legacy of rapid application development and unsurpassed productivity with a range of features and benefits that dramatically accelerate the development cycle.

Workspaces and Targets — New Workspaces mean you can build, preview, and deploy multiple applications simultaneously – and productively. In your workspace, you build "targets" – the end product you deploy. Currently, PowerBuilder has three types of targets – traditional Windows®-based applications, PowerBuilder components deployed into EAServer, and Web targets.

Source Editor — A new integrated source editor lets you edit PowerScript® objects and components right from within PowerBuilder. No more exporting and importing to edit source code.

Clip Window and Output Box — A new Clip Window lets you store and reuse favorite PowerScript or HTML code segments. A new Output Window displays the results from a variety of operations (migration, builds, deployment, project execution, object saves, and searches) and lets you directly open an object in a painter or the Source Editor.

System Tree — This active, tabbed, navigable resource visually displays contents of Workspaces in a hierarchical format, HTML pages, language elements available to Web applications, and components residing in EAServer. It also lets you drag and drop components and objects for programming with minimal coding.

Autoscripting — Several new enhancements help your coding by completing or auto-suggesting statements or language elements you are typing.

Exception Handling — PowerBuilder 8.0 now includes exception handling classes and syntax for embedding context-sensitive error handling within applications. You can gracefully process exceptions from EAServer components and define and throw your own exception types.

Built-In Internationalization — PowerBuilder now supports double-byte character sets.

Dozens of Usability Enhancements — Sybase has added more than 50 usability enhancements to the development environment and runtime.

Source Control — A complete redesign has been done to support Workspaces, Web Targets, multiple file operations, sub-projects, offline development, and improved status reporting.
Tight Integration with Sybase EAServer
PowerBuilder applications are even more powerful when running in EAServer, Sybase’s unique application server that combines the capabilities of a component transaction server and a dynamic page server. That’s because PowerBuilder provides seamless integration with the J2EE™-branded application server, EAServer, for full development, testing, debugging, and deployment processes. Using EAServer, you can support heterogeneous component models, including CORBA®, JavaBeans™ and Enterprise JavaBeans™, and COM and C/C++ components, as well as native PowerBuilder components. EAServer also provides load balancing, high availability, security, and scalability features you need for worldwide deployment.

Implement Existing Component Interfaces in EAServer — Use the EAServer Component Wizard to create custom class user objects that contain the methods and properties in an existing EAServer component’s interface.

Process Errors Thrown by EAServer Components — With its new exception handling, PowerBuilder 8.0 applications can catch and process errors from EAServer components, giving your applications greater reliability.

Call EJBs within EAServer — PowerBuilder client applications and components can act as clients to Enterprise JavaBeans (EJB™) components on EAServer.

SSL Connections — A new SSL callback object enables your PowerBuilder application or component to make a secure Internet connection or inter-component call between different EAServer sites. This is critical in B2B applications that require inter-company communication.

Robust Web Applications Development
PowerBuilder 8.0 is now a comprehensive Web IDE, giving you a powerful and rapid GUI-based environment for creating sophisticated Web applications and Web sites. Take advantage of a new range of Web development capabilities from the familiar PowerBuilder environment and bring your applications, your users, and your skills to the world of Web and distributed computing.

Generic Web Target — Build your code for a generic Web Target object model for faster development and deploy to either Microsoft® Internet Information Server or PowerDynamo™

Auto-Generation of Template Code — With 4GL Web pages – enhanced Web pages that incorporate extensions to the Web Target object model – template code is generated for you.