



## GUPTA Statement of Direction

### *Productivity, Safety and Reliability*

In today's economy IT managers must not only be technically savvy, but must also demonstrate the ability to make intelligent business decisions that avoid risk and reduce costs. There are many development options available to those managing business critical applications of a company and at times it becomes difficult to sift through all the marketing hype. Team Developer is a safe choice as it remains one of the easiest to use, most productive Windows development suites in the market today. GUPTA customers have long relied upon GUPTA to provide a forward path to emerging technologies and, GUPTA continues to fulfill this expectation with the future release of Team Developer.NET.

It is important to remember that GUPTA has over 15 years experience providing proven, secure and reliable software that speeds application development and insulates applications from underlying platform changes allowing seamless movement into the future. And, today GUPTA products power applications that affect millions of people everyday where reliability and security are absolutely critical such as when they fill a prescription, send a package, or use on-line banking services.

Our customers will benefit from the Team Developer.NET product because it will provide a safe, reliable and direct path to .NET which will ultimately reduce your development costs and improve your development team's productivity in creating applications of the future on the .NET platform.

### *Team Developer.NET Overview*

GUPTA is committed to keeping Team Developer and SQLBase products competitive. The future roadmap for Team Developer is based upon input from our customer advisory boards and numerous product surveys. The many features under development will continue to ensure that Team Developer remains the premier development suite for creating enterprise business applications.

The biggest and certainly the boldest part of the Team Developer roadmap is its support for Microsoft .Net platform. Team Developer SAL programs can be compiled to generate MSIL (Microsoft Intermediate Language) instead of proprietary byte code. There will be a thin run-time layer that will interface with CLR (Common Language Runtime) to help SAL programs run natively in the .Net environment. The generated MSIL code will run on any Windows operating system that has CLR.

GUPTA endeavors to maintain backward compatibility with previous versions of Team Developer and the single biggest challenge in the Team Developer.NET project will be in determining what level of backward compatibility is possible. All efforts will be taken to ensure that minimal changes (if any) need to be done to existing SAL programs. We are currently in the initial design stages for this project. We have looked at the language features (including multiple inheritance) and feel confident about supporting it in the .Net edition of Team Developer. Changes to SAL will be kept to a minimum.

The integration with the complete .Net framework itself will be done in stages. The first release of Team Developer.Net product will mainly focus on supporting existing feature set. Subsequent releases will look at integrating the product closely with the .Net framework and allowing usage of WinForm and other exciting .Net features inside SAL.

GUPTA remains fully committed to Team Developer customers. GUPTA will ensure that Team Developer will be a commercially viable, technically solid, stable product, retaining its ease-of-use and other innate strengths (outline, table windows, integrated database access, SAL, etc).

Since we are still in the preliminary design stages for the Team Developer.Net product, there are obviously some unknowns in the path to .Net integration.

GUPTA will continue to keep our customers updated on our findings via regular postings on the web site, news letters, Customer Advisory Board briefings and of course, the upcoming Developer's Conference which will feature a full session on our plans and progress.

Please feel free to send me any concerns or questions you have regarding Team Developer.Net product.

