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# Foreword

Businesses are challenging IT professionals to help them achieve a greater degree of productivity—organizational productivity. Technology can no longer be just a series of stand-alone applications. Solutions need to integrate people, information, and business processes in order to satisfy the need for on demand business that is more efficient, flexible, and responsive to changing market conditions.

Organizations want to increase their productivity with dynamic work environments where role-based workplaces can be created with ease. And they want open standards-based solutions that integrate across their entire product portfolio.

IBM's technology portfolio provides end-to-end solutions for our customers. When real-time collaborative solutions from Lotus are coupled with a leading web services platform such as WebSphere, the combination extends collaboration to a broader range of users, business partners, and customers. The rich capabilities utilizing components can be embedded in any client, allowing for the creation of dynamic, role-based workplaces. Together, Lotus and WebSphere are fundamentally changing the way people and organizations work.

*IBM WebSphere and Lotus: Implementing Collaborative Solutions* provides a concise step-by-step guide on the best methods of implementing a merged Lotus and WebSphere strategy. It is a technical guide that will be of great use to developers and administrators, particularly those looking to design or implement large, enterprise-wide deployments of WebSphere and Lotus solutions.

As corporations evolve in the on demand world, IT professionals must deliver practical and cost-effective solutions that address the ever-changing business environment. Future success requires focusing on growth, dedication to core competencies, accelerating the time to market, reducing costs, and earning a prominent position in the global marketplace. IBM Lotus and WebSphere are responding by providing IT professionals with innovative solutions that harness the power of open standards while helping businesses reach their maximum potential through organizational productivity.

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