



# Retail Application Interface Suite (RAIS)

*Smarter merchandising and better inventory management*

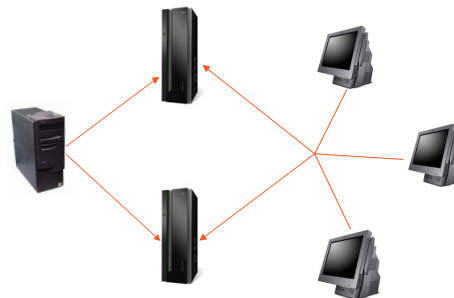
## Highlights

- Provides base retail communications to support data collection and transfer, whether a single store front or part of a chain
- Facilitates Point of Sale (POS) communications and commands
- Enables relational database collection and support for general sales and other applications

## Simplify your retail environment

Shoe stores, grocery stores, “used a bit” shops, drugstores – virtually any retailer can benefit from our easily installed and utilized retail solution for IBM i, the Retail Application Interface Suite (RAIS).

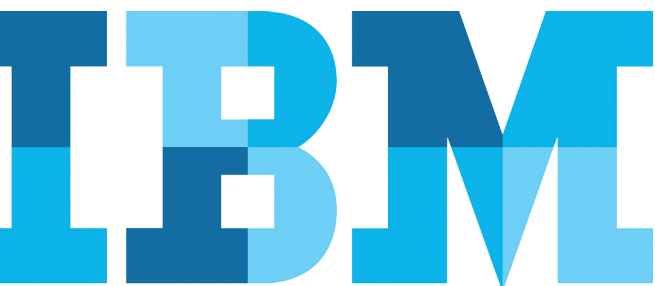
RAIS is a suite of applications that simplifies data transfer and data conversions between the operating system and Retail Store Controller applications. This powerful software solution can increase efficiency for retailers at the point of sale, improve decision-making across the enterprise and help staff deliver outstanding customer service. RAIS connects a variety of Point of Sale (POS) devices (see Figure 1).



*Figure 1: IBM i connected to 4690 master controller and backup serving POS terminals*

## Advantages and key benefits of RAIS

The ability to capture sales data improves the inventory process by facilitating and simplifying reorders, eliminating manual shelf counts and reducing human error. Data stored in a relational database assists with product placement and influence; artificial intelligence programs can determine and track “partner” products, those items purchased together the greatest percentage of time. Other key benefits and features include the ability to instantly update pricing changes at the POS device, add new items to your inventory and communicate with remote locations.



## Technical requirements

### For the IBM i system

- IBM i Operating System for V5R2 or a later release 5799-SS1
- RAIS
- IBM DB2® - UDB IBM i Group PTF for the OS release

### For the IBM 4690 Retail Controller

- DB2-UDB IBM i group PTF for the current release
- IBM 4690 RAIS Connect IBM i - 5799RNT
- Or RAIS Java Agent (shipped with offering)

## Features and functions

### Real time transaction log processing

- Relational database collection with template driven conversion
- Real-time polling for data and file transfers
- Notification when special strings are processed
- Use RAIS as a host connection to multiple store controllers

### Flexible Template Conversion

- Configure user defined strings for your retail application
- Use field level checking to eliminate or subset strings
- Store converted retail data in a relational database or IBM i physical file

### Store System Enablers

- API and Command interfaces create end-of-day and other batch processing runs
- Download pricing changes
- Upload sales and inventory information
- Define and perform remote commands

### Logical Interface to Warehoused Data

- SQL interactive queries can obtain flash sales data
- Create reports on sales and inventory
- Manage inventory with stored data

## For more information

Utilities described are provided by IBM Systems Lab Services and Training and packaged either as a standalone offering or part of a consulting services engagement. Learn more about these and related services on IBM i.

Contact [stgls@us.ibm.com](mailto:stgls@us.ibm.com) or visit:

[ibm.com/systems/services/labservices](http://ibm.com/systems/services/labservices)



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