

Database Management:

The ISS REDIPlus API vs. Goldman Sachs' REDIPlus® API

Originally developed as a .NET wrapper for the Goldman Sachs' REDIPlus® Application Programmer Interface (API), the IsoSoft product is built to save dozens of hours of technical labor.

Goldman Sachs' API is offered for free. It is a deep, robust product that provides an opportunity for developers to customize REDIPlus in many ways. For organizations planning to make a long term investment in REDIPlus, having the technical staff master this tool can be a great investment. Like all APIs, it has its idiosyncrasies, quirks and limitations. It often takes several months to work through the examples and gain a full understanding of the platform. The IsoSoft product addresses many of REDIPlus' quirks cuts down on ramp up. One example of how this is accomplished involves the database.

REDIPlus uses ISAM; an older technology that can be interacted with via Visual Basic or C++. The IsoSoft API includes its own instance of SQL Server Express which is included in the download, along with background services that actively monitor the Goldman Sachs ISAM database, updating only the information that has changed. This database is deployed on the local machine; it is not hosted at the IsoSoft datacenter. The advantage of using a relational database like SQL Server is that queries can retrieve information without requiring knowledge of the data's exact location.

This is not the case in ISAM, which requires that the user know exactly where the information they are looking for and must identify this location in their code. If Goldman Sachs changes the location of the data, the user must identify where it is and re-code accordingly.

The Goldman Sachs API does offer alerts when data has changed. However, these alerts do not tell you *what* data has changed. The IsoSoft API includes background services that do the hard work of continually monitoring and updating data on a local machine and alerts users to these changes.

For other examples of how the IsoSoft Solutions REDIPlus API can help you, contact us today.