

## How to Choose Your Database Software

Choosing the right database software package can be a daunting challenge. You want to be certain that the product you select meets all your current needs, and you also want to be sure it can accommodate your future requirements as your company grows. Once you select a product, chances are you'll be using it for quite some time, so you know you need to ask all the right questions the first time around.

To help you find your way, we provide below a checklist that you can use to help you ask the right questions of database software vendors and ensure that the package you purchase will do everything you need it to do. We've set this up as a comparison chart to enable you to evaluate other products on the market and compare them to gINT.

Feature	gINT	Other:	Other:
Data, once input, can be manipulated and reported in unlimited number of formats (logs, 2D and 3D fences, histograms, tables, data summaries, etc.).	✓ Yes		
A choice of data entry modes: e.g., a simple spreadsheet-like environment or graphical interface, whichever is desired.	✓ Yes		
All data for a project in one file with management tools to maintain your projects.	✓ Yes		
User-definable database structures.	✓ Yes		
User-definable reports.	✓ Yes		
Database in a format that can be accessed by other standard tools (gINT uses Microsoft ACCESS® files but ACCESS is not required to run the program).	✓ Yes		
Ability to output data from SQL Server, Oracle, and other enterprise databases.	✓ Yes		
Ability to automatically generate PDFs without using Adobe® Acrobat.	✓ Yes		
Ability to view and manipulate boreholes in a mini-GIS window with a project site map in the background for reference.	✓ Yes		
Ability to specify required fields, default values, lookup lists and descriptions for data entry in each field.	✓ Yes		
Ability to write user-definable database rules and calculations within data entry.	✓ Yes		
“Smart forms” that automatically reconfigure themselves based on the presence or absence of particular data or based on some set of criteria.	✓ Yes		
Ability to build user-defined descriptions from components to ensure consistency.	✓ Yes		
Extensive import/export capabilities for all major data formats and key applications.	✓ Yes		
Extensive symbol library (gINT has a library of approximately 1,000 symbols) with ability to easily create your own.	✓ Yes		
Program contains a rich set of functions to perform user-definable mathematical calculations, soil classifications, and data formatting.	✓ Yes		
Ability to run user-defined scripts to automate input, output, and utility tasks.	✓ Yes		
Support of standard image formats.	✓ Yes		
Interfaces to GIS programs.	✓ Yes		
Contains an internal CAD-based drawing application (Logs Plus & Professional only).	✓ Yes		
Comprehensive editing features including spell check, font formats (bold, italic, superscript, etc.), find & replace functions.	✓ Yes		
Extensive library of free report forms available via Web.	✓ Yes		