General PostgreSQL Features

uses UNIX "cooked" space

pagesize = 8192 (8k) bytes

cannot specify extent sizes for tables

max length of database name, table name, function name = 64 chars

embedded SQL query language for C called ecpg included

- developers have tried to make ecpg as close to the [ANSI] standard as possible

user interface for ad hoc queries called psql available (similar to dbaccess)

JDBC interface available

triggers, functions (stored procedures), foreign keys, transactions, views, User Defined Types, arrays available

replication available as third party software

supports data types POINT, BOX, POLYGON, CIRCLE, LSEG (line segment) and operators for rotation, scaling and translating these data types

offers B-tree and R-tree indexes (Infx offers R-tree index with version 9.x only)

as of April 1, 2005, licensed under GNU General Public License (GPL)

Version 7.4.7 indexes can suffer from "index bloat"

- fixed by dropping and recreating all indexes
- "vacuum full" does NOT fix
- not a problem in Version 8.0

Arrays available but not recommended if bigger than a few hundred elements.