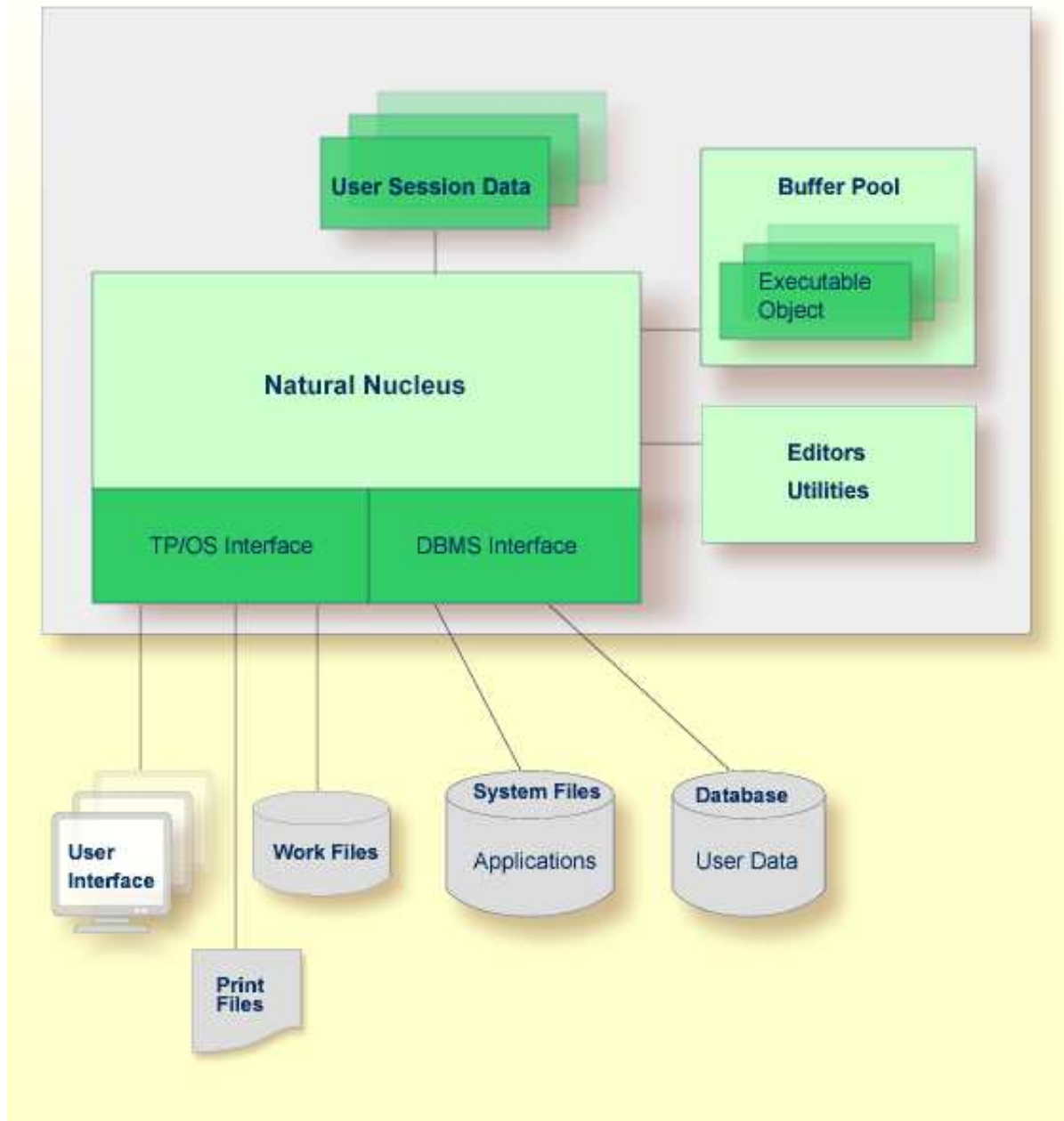# Natural Basic Architecture Overview

The architectural concept of Natural for Mainframes is primarily based on the principle of open architecture and is realized via the definition of interfaces. Information is exchanged between these interface and external components during both application development and program execution.

The functions of the Natural system are available on all platforms on which Natural runs and where they are applicable. Natural hides the complexity of the system environment (operating system, TP system, database system, user environment) from the application development environment.

Special system-dependent tables and routines embed the Natural components into the system environment and provide the internal functions with the required resources.

This section describes the major components of Natural and how they interact to provide Natural's functionality as a development tool.

For information on each component, click on an item in the diagram below or choose an item from the menu below.

User Session Data

Buffer Pool

Executable Object

Natural Nucleus

Editors

Utilities

TP/OS Interface

DBMS Interface

User Interface

Work Files

System Files

Applications

Database

User Data

Print Files

- Natural Nucleus                 Major components of the Natural nucleus: compiler, runtime system, command interpreter and configuration settings (Natural parameters).

- User Session Data               Temporary data storage in user-specific work areas.

- Natural Buffer Pool             Principles of Natural buffer pool operation and object loading.

- Natural Editors and Utilities   Natural editors and utilities used for building and maintaining an application.

- TP/OS Interface                 TP monitor and OS (operating system) interfaces provided by Natural.

- User Interface                  User interfaces supported by Natural.

- Print Files
  Work Files                      Use of print files and work files.

- Natural System Files            Storage of object modules in Natural system files.

- DBMS Interface
  Database Access                 Database management system (DBMS) interfaces provided by Natural. Natural access to data stored in databases.