BEA AquaLogic BPM Suite™

Realizing the Business Value of SOA.

Service-Oriented Architecture has transformed how we integrate and connect to information systems. It's now time to unleash the full potential of SOA by uniting business and IT in one integrated environment used to weave people and services together, and support the complete business process lifecycle.

Executive overview

BEA AquaLogic BPM Suite is a complete product suite for creating, executing and optimizing business processes. The suite enables unparalleled collaboration between business and IT to automate and optimize business processes, driving up efficiency and agility while lowering costs and improving compliance and quality of service. BEA AquaLogic BPM Suite (BPMS) provides business service interaction on top of a service infrastructure backbone as well as a free-standing, complete BPMS based on SOA.
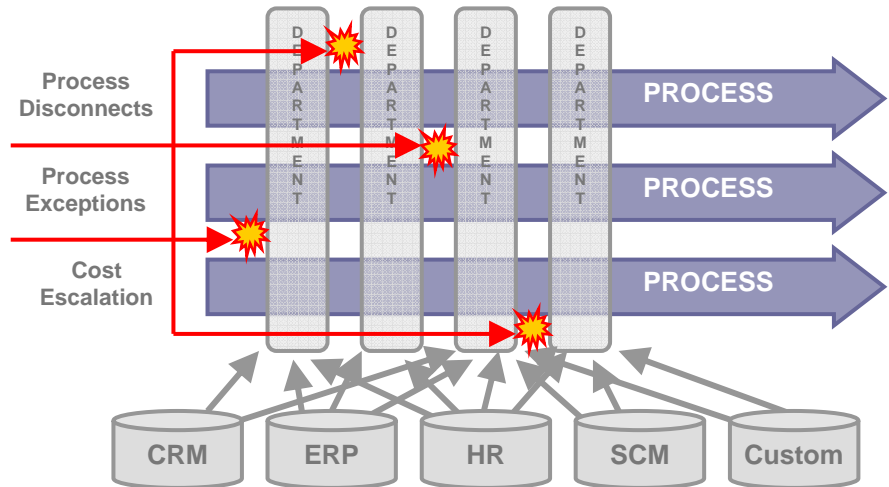
The BPM Challenge

Every business is driven according to a set of business processes that explicitly or implicitly define how transactions are executed, records are kept, how customers are serviced and how to interact with suppliers. Parts of business processes take place inside IT systems while other parts are handled by humans. Whenever a process can be migrated from an informal and ad-hoc execution to a formalized sequence of steps that are executed as a program, the business can achieve great improvements in productivity, compliance and quality of service.

Therefore, enterprises are constantly seeking to formalize and automate business processes. However, the effort to automate processes can be very challenging as processes often span divisional domains and involve many different IT systems, based on different technologies and governed by different people. More importantly, the people who understand the business process are not the same people who understand the IT systems. Finally, when business processes are implemented as programs, it can be hard for the owners of the process to rapidly adapt and evolve

Many business processes span divisional boundaries, technology domains and other barriers that prevent automation and cause disconnects and slow-downs in execution.

the process since this involves complex interactions with the IT department and long development and test cycles.

Service-Oriented Architecture has come a long way in providing a unified way for applications to interact with each other and to expose functionality as services using industry standards. Today many enterprises are rolling out SOA and achieving reduced costs of integration and more rapid development cycles. But these initiatives are mostly focused on efficiency and adaptability in IT. It requires a different approach to truly realize the business value of SOA by empowering the line of business to create and easily modify business processes that are seamlessly deployed by IT.

BEA AquaLogic BPM Suite Overview

BEA AquaLogic BPM Suite is a complete product suite for creating, executing and optimizing business processes. The suite enables unparalleled collaboration between business and IT with specialized design environments that enable efficient iterations by all the people involved in the process lifecycle. Business analysts can design and run simulations of a complete process without involving IT and only when the process fulfills the business specifications is it handed over to IT who implements the necessary connectivity to existing
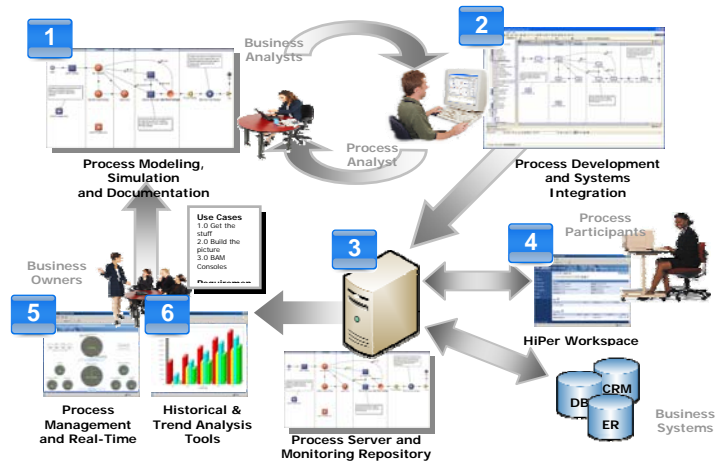
IT systems and deploys the process. User interfaces for human interaction with the process are generated automatically and provided as standards-based portlets by the execution environment. Real-time as well as historical data for processes are collected by the server and made available in dashboards so that processes can be continuously optimized and activity data can be tracked by the business.

BEA AquaLogic BPM Suite is a critical component to enterprises that are deploying SOA. Other products in the AquaLogic family, such as BEA AquaLogic Service Bus, BEA AquaLogic Data Services Platform, BEA AquaLogic Service Registry and BEA AquaLogic Enterprise Security, help deliver the infrastructure for SOA. BEA AquaLogic BPM Suite can directly leverage this infrastructure by enabling orchestration of services deployed in the service network and people who need to interact with those services. BEA AquaLogic BPM Suite also integrates directly with BEA AquaLogic User Interaction to provide a seamless, unified user experience for process users and a unique symbiosis of BPM and collaboration. BEA AquaLogic BPM Suite is thus delivering very visible benefits of SOA to the line of business by enabling creation, execution and optimization of business processes with business user participation.

BEA AquaLogic BPM Suite
Components

The components in BEA AquaLogic BPM Suite
enable a complete, end-to-end process lifecycle

1. BEA AquaLogic BPM Designer
2. BEA AquaLogic BPM Studio
3. BEA AquaLogic BPM Enterprise Server
4. BEA AquaLogic HiPer Workspace for BPM
5. BEA AquaLogic BPM Manager
6. BEA AquaLogic BPM Dashboard

BEA AquaLogic BPM Suite is also well-suited for deployments that do not yet involve a service infrastructure. The unparalleled support for process optimization across the full business process lifecycle delivers dramatic benefits to businesses independently of SOA. For smaller businesses and for individual projects within larger enterprises, BEA AquaLogic BPM Suite can be deployed with all the same benefits as usual. To support these non-SOA environments, BEA AquaLogic BPM Suite includes a unique technology that makes it extremely simple to connect processes to a wide variety of proprietary IT systems using a simple wizard interface.
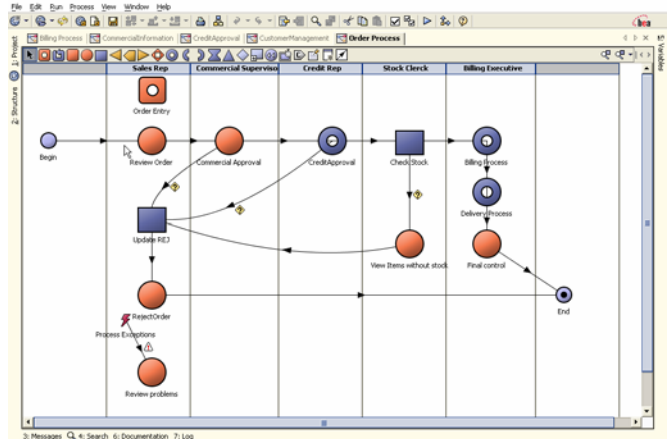
Process Development
BEA AquaLogic BPM Designer is a design environment for the business analyst. It enables the creation of any type of process by dragging and dropping process elements onto swim-lanes. BEA AquaLogic BPM Designer has full support for BPMN and UML modeling standards using skins that enable seamless switching between different views. Business analysts can design and simulate a process inside BEA AquaLogic BPM Designer without writing any code or having to work with IT. This includes browsing the organizational structure in external enterprise directories and assigning enterprise roles to process roles. Only when the process is considered complete from a business perspective is it handed over to IT for completion and deployment. The project model in BEA AquaLogic BPM Designer and BEA AquaLogic BPM Studio is optimized to support a seamless iterative collaboration between business and IT.

BEA AquaLogic BPM Studio is the process developer's workbench. It includes everything from BEA AquaLogic BPM Designer and adds numerous additional tools that enable the developer to write business logic, connect to existing applications and assemble user interfaces for human interaction. BEA AquaLogic BPM Studio supports multiple programming languages using a "skin" approach. The developer can seamlessly switch between .NET and Java at any time for both existing and new code. BEA AquaLogic BPM Studio provides a unique wizard-driven tool to connect to external systems. The tool supports numerous interface standards such as Java, .NET, EJB, JNDI, Web Service, XML, CORBA, COM, SQL and more. Finally, developers can easily assemble the user interfaces required to let people participate in processes. No web design or coding is necessary. BEA AquaLogic BPM Studio automatically generates the necessary web components based on the interaction and message formats specified in the process.

Process Execution
BEA AquaLogic BPM Enterprise Server orchestrates all processes and their resources – people, organizations, applications and systems – managing proper sequence, enforcing business rules, and auditing each step to ensure flawless process execution, escalation and exception management. The server executes processes designed in BEA AquaLogic BPM Designer and BEA AquaLogic BPM Studio as well as any process written in BPEL, the industry standard business process execution language.

BEA AquaLogic BPM Designer

BEA AquaLogic BPM Enterprise Server can be deployed in a variety of application containers to support both low-cost and high scalability and reliability requirements. Options include deployment in a pure JVM as well as deployment on major application servers and open source containers such as WebLogic Server and Tomcat.

BEA AquaLogic HiPer Workspace for BPM is part of BEA AquaLogic BPM Enterprise Server and provides a high performance workspace for business process participants. Process activities that require human interaction are automatically surfaced into a web interface without any need for manual web page design or coding. Participants can access and manipulate tasks according to their assigned roles and responsibilities. The user interface components of BEA AquaLogic HiPer Workspace for BPM can be exposed as standards-based JSR 168 portlets that can be consumed by any portal platform supporting this standard.

Process Optimization
While both SOA and BPM provide direct benefits once they are deployed, the true value, and often the real reason to deploy in the first place, comes from the visibility that they provide into business operations. BEA AquaLogic BPM Suite enables both IT administrators and business users to obtain this visibility by recording both real-time and historical process activity data that can be used to monitor the health and performance in real time and to track key performance indicators and SLA compliance over time.

BEA AquaLogic BPM Manager is a console that provides real-time information about all processes running in BEA AquaLogic BPM Enterprise Server. The console also allows manipulation of processes such as suspension and termination.

BEA AquaLogic BPM Dashboard provides IT administrators and business users with historical activity data for business processes running in BEA AquaLogic BPM Enterprise Server. It enables business users to track real performance against key performance indicators and it provides an audit trail for tracking and documenting compliance with service-level agreements and regulations.

About BEA
BEA Systems, Inc. (NASDAQ: BEAS) is a world leader in enterprise infrastructure software, providing standards-based platforms to accelerate the secure flow of information and services. BEA product lines— WebLogic®, Tuxedo®, JRockit® and the new AquaLogic™ family of Service Infrastructure—help customers reduce IT complexity and successfully deploy Service-Oriented Architectures to improve business agility and efficiency. For more information please visit *bea.com.*

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