Improve the Efficiency, Integration, and Flexibility of Business Processes

Quick Facts

Summary

SAP NetWeaver® Process Orchestration software enables your IT and line-of-business professionals to quickly and flexibly model, implement, integrate, and monitor custom process applications and securely exchange information across distributed applications and with customers and partners. By using the software to create more streamlined, adaptable processes, you can innovate faster and be more responsive to changing business demands.

Business Challenges

- Time-consuming, error-prone processes
- Inability to quickly create and adapt processes
- Difficulty enforcing policies
- Costly, point-to-point integration
- Fragmented visibility into processes

Key Features

- **Model-based development** – Model processes and integration flows using the business process model and notation (BPMN) standard
- **Implementation of process models** – Complement process models with technical details to transform them into executable applications
- **Application-to-application and business-to-business integration** – Integrate applications across heterogeneous environments and securely over the Web
- **Enterprise service bus** – Provide and consume services and applications based on standards
- **Centralized business rules management** – Compose, execute, and maintain business rules
- **Process monitoring and optimization** – Analyze process performance and identify improvement opportunities

Business Benefits

- **Improve process speed and flexibility** by creating custom process applications
- **Reduce development and integration costs** using a model-based development approach
- **Enforce compliance with corporate policies** via automated rules
- **Lower costs** by leveraging processes, rules, and integration management from one unified offering

Learn More

Contact your SAP representative or visit us online at www.sap.com/platform/netweaver/components/process-orchestration.

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The Best-Run Businesses Run SAP™

Even the best-managed organizations have processes that are inefficient and cost the business unnecessary time, money, and productivity. And while investments in enterprise software, such as SAP® Business Suite applications, support standard business processes in ways that enable exceptional efficiency, they can't meet every company's unique needs. The challenge, then, is finding a way to efficiently automate and flexibly optimize company-specific processes.

For example, what if you want to compose an innovative new process that differentiates your business from the competition? Or orchestrate a process that touches multiple enterprise applications for breakthrough levels of efficiency? Perhaps you need to exchange information – such as orders, shipments, or invoices – across distributed, heterogeneous applications and with business partners? And what if you want to automate a process that's currently manual, cumbersome, and costly? Unless you can respond to these types of needs and opportunities quickly and affordably, your business will live with inefficient processes that waste unnecessary time, money, and productivity every day.

This is where SAP NetWeaver® Process Orchestration software comes in. The solution allows you to model, execute, and monitor custom process applications quickly and cost effectively. You can develop innovative process applications – from simple workflows to complex processes – that can span solutions from SAP and other vendors.

SUPPORTING THE IMPROVEMENT LIFECYCLE OF BUSINESS PROCESSES

SAP NetWeaver Process Orchestration software reduces the time and cost associated with modeling, implementing, integrating, and monitoring new processes and incorporating business rules into automated processes. Combining the power of the SAP NetWeaver Business Process Management component, SAP NetWeaver Process Integration technology, and SAP NetWeaver Business Rules Management component into one integrated solution, it supports every stage of the improvement lifecycle for business processes. For example, you can:
- Model and execute processes and rules collaboratively and without coding
- Integrate processes so people can reliably exchange information across distributed SAP and non-SAP applications – and within and beyond your organization
- Centrally manage business rules that automate decisions and enforce policies
- Gain full visibility into processes and message flows via real-time monitoring and analytics

Model Processes, Integration Scenarios, and Business Rules
SAP NetWeaver Process Orchestration supports closer, more effective teamwork between business and IT specialists by enabling them to create and adapt processes jointly using the graphical business process model and notation (BPMN) standard. As part of the process modeled in BPMN, business users can describe the flow of activities, events, and decision gateways that form an overall process. IT professionals can then use the same environment to add the necessary technical detail behind the model. This "what you model is what you execute" approach helps ensure nothing gets lost in translation.

Alternatively, the process can also be modeled outside of SAP NetWeaver Process Orchestration. In fact, you can use any tool that supports BPMN 2.0. SAP offers the following tools that support BPMN 2.0:
- **The SAP Solution Manager application management solution** – which includes process blueprinting functionality for viewing standard business processes in SAP Business Suite. SAP Solution Manager lets you use those processes as starting points for modeling process extensions with a flow-charting tool. You can then access the modeled process extensions via SAP NetWeaver Process Orchestration for implementation.
- **The SAP StreamWork® application** – which enables geographically distributed business users to collaborate simultaneously on a process model and then upload it to SAP NetWeaver Process Orchestration for implementation.

You can also use the BPMN 2.0 standard to model integration scenarios, or integration flows. SAP NetWeaver Process Orchestration comes with predefined integration patterns that simplify the definition of mappings, channels, and interfaces needed to determine an integration flow. What's more, SAP NetWeaver Process Orchestration allows you to create and modify business rules through rule representation formats such as decision tables, flow rules, and if/then rules in your preferred natural language.

Implement Processes and Generate User-Friendly Interfaces
Regardless of the software used to model new processes or integration scenarios, you can implement them using SAP

NetWeaver Process Orchestration. You'll save time and money by using just one application and skill set to add the technical details required to get process models and integration scenario up and running. SAP NetWeaver Process Orchestration enables you to add the technical details to the following process elements:

- **Human activities** – Use autogenerated, dedicated, end-user interfaces tailored for viewing details and performing associated activities. In addition, the solution provides open application programming interfaces that give you the flexibility to provide business users with tailored, intuitive access to applications and information through their preferred channels, including mobile phones and tablets. SAP NetWeaver Process Orchestration also supports the SAP Interactive Forms software by Adobe so you can incorporate forms into new processes.
- **Automated activities** – You can access, update, and reuse business functionality of your heterogeneous application landscape via, for example, Web services and adapters.
- **Application-to-application (A2A) and business-to-business (B2B) integration** – Use one piece of middleware to exchange information reliably across distributed business applications and with business partners. The software provides a standards-based, high-performance enterprise service bus

and comes with prebuilt A2A and B2B adapters that accelerate integration projects.
- **Decision gateways** – Use business rules to automate decisions related to a process or integration scenario (for example, to trigger rules-based alerts for critical business events). Once these rules are set up by IT, business users closest to processes can change the rules in response to new demands without IT assistance (for instance, by using an intuitive, Web-based graphical interface or importing updated decision tables maintained in Microsoft Excel).

Run Process Applications Across Different Devices

Once you deploy a custom process application across one or more devices, people can leverage the universal work list of the SAP NetWeaver Portal component as the starting point for interacting with the process. At any time, process participants can use a task viewer to see where they are in the overall process.

They can also collaborate for joint task resolution. For example, with the click of a button, people can jump out of a task and into SAP StreamWork to invite others to provide input in an unstructured manner. Once a joint decision is reached, they can go back to the structured world defined by your process and take action.

Monitor and Optimize Process Performance

With SAP NetWeaver Process Orchestration, process owners can get a complete view of the status of all processes in real time and analyze process performance. For example, they can measure how long processes take to complete, identify bottlenecks and performance trends, track compliance with service-level agreements, and report on metrics. They can also extract process-related data and analyze it using SAP BusinessObjects™ business intelligence solutions – for example, to answer ad hoc questions and generate custom reports. Armed with the right insights, you can work with process owners to address issues and boost process performance.

KEY BENEFITS

With SAP NetWeaver Process Orchestration, you can model, implement, integrate, and monitor custom process applications and integration scenarios. Everything you need to improve the speed, quality, and transparency of human- and system-based activities is available in one environment so you can:
- Reduce the time and cost needed to model and implement business process applications and generate intuitive user interfaces

SAP NetWeaver Process Orchestration allows you to model, implement, integrate, and monitor custom process applications quickly and cost effectively.

- Lower integration costs and meet the need for connecting heterogeneous systems within and beyond your organization
- Improve data quality and reduce data entry efforts through process automation and integration
- Reduce the time to create and adapt business rules and use them to enforce compliance with legal regulations and corporate policies
- Increase the speed and accuracy of business decisions by embedding business-user-maintained rules into automated processes

LEARN MORE

Now you can efficiently manage process models – from initial, high-level definition to specification of technical implementation details to process deployment and execution – using one solution. Learn more about SAP NetWeaver Process Orchestration at www.sap.com /platform/netweaver/components /process-orchestration. And if you've already invested in SAP NetWeaver Business Process Management, SAP NetWeaver Process Integration, or SAP NetWeaver Business Rules Management, talk with your SAP representative about a conversion path to SAP NetWeaver Process Orchestration.

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