This demonstration illustrates the value of a Rapid Application Infrastructure Solution. A requisition request scenario serves as an example of how such a solution can improve operational efficiency and improve access to information through Service Orientation.

This example illustrates how you can avoid the pains associated with running your business on a collection of disparate applications. The example is based on Service Oriented Architecture (SOA), and is at the Ad-Hoc level of the SOA Maturity Model since it exposes and consumes web services.

Behind the corporate firewall, there is a development and staging server, a catalog application server, and a requisition application server. These application servers provide an ad-hoc way to connect services via web services.

The process begins with the creation of a requisition. During this operation, part numbers are retrieved from the parts catalog.

In the next view, the user is at the Create Requisition screen, and fills in Purchasing Organization (Engineering), Order Type (Supplies), and clicks the Add Line Item button to add a second line number to the requisition. When the user clicks on the Lookup Button in Line Item 1, the requisition application makes a web service call to the parts catalog to retrieve the parts list. A category dialog appears, and the user chooses Computer Peripherals and Supplies. A list of items appears, and the user chooses part number 17, a color laser printer.

The user returns to the requisition form, selects the second line item, looks up Computer Peripherals and Supplies, and choose item 10, a box of 10 reams of multi-purpose paper.

Back on the requisition form, the user inputs a quantity of 1 for the laser printer and a quantity of 2 for the box of paper, and then presses the Refresh Screen button. At this point, the requisition application makes a web service call to the parts catalog to fill in the rest of the values on the form, including the name of the items order, a short description of the items, etc…. Satisfied that the requisition is correct, the user presses the Submit Requisition button.

An application infrastructure solution can help you:

- Leverage a service-oriented architecture (SOA) approach to solution development; this, leading to the flexibility needed to realize better business results.
- Make existing business functions available to new users or channels
- Be flexible without application rewrites
- Extend value of existing assets through reuse
- Integrate existing applications with new ones.