IBM Software Demos
IBM SOA WebSphere Integration Developer

IBM_SOA_WebSphere_Integration_Developer_D_Oct08

Have you ever wished you could complete a complex project with just one tool that's easy to use, does everything you need, and does it well? If you're project is business integration, then IBM WebSphere Integration Developer is the right tool for you.

For this demonstration I'll play the role of IT director at **JK Enterprises**. Before we get started, let me give you a little background.

Okay, bigger than that . . .

That's Nicki, with the scowl.
She's our **Vice President of New Accounts** at JK**, and she's rightfully concerned.**

That's because our new **account applications** are being **processed inconsistently** – and without the discipline needed for **audit and regulatory compliance.**

Nicki's team works with a **variety of home-grown applications and back-end systems**, including **C-I-C-S, I-M-S, DB2** and our new **S-A-P** system. So speed and accuracy vary, according to the experience and knowledge of the team members.

A series of mergers have almost **doubled account application volume**... and **from all over the world**. Nicki wonders how she will **handle** the **workload with her existing headcount.**

Now, my job in IT is to turn Nicki's scowl into a happy face; for example, by automating workflows and by minimizing staff interactions with back-end systems.

And that creates challenges for my IT team:

Like**, capturing** Nicki's **expert knowledge within streamlined processes** that support her business goals...

...And **integrating** all of the **people, systems and information**, regardless of where they are.

We need to "**abstract**" both **technology and human assets - as reusable service interfaces**, based on industry standards.

We have to **mesh** many **data formats across many platforms**, vendors **and** operating **systems**...

We must **provide continuity of service** -- leaving existing processes intact as new processes are created and as new systems are introduced.

And we want to **leverage** our mainframe **System Z's scalable architecture** to absorb increased workload.

Oh, of course the executives want everything done "yesterday".
Welcome to the world of IT!

I need tooling that can support business **integration end-to-end**, so I can **respond faster**, **demonstrate added value** to the business -- and **show** the **versatility of** our **enterprise systems** and applications.

With a limited budget and fixed head count, I thought it would be impossible to find a solution that handles everything from **process choreography** to **application data mediation** - without requiring a lot of different **programming skills**.

And you know what? We found an amazing tool that supports all of our integration efforts. Sounds too good to be true? Well just follow me, and you'll see!

My team uses **IBM WebSphere Integration Developer**, or W.I.D, for almost all of our integration tasks. Around here, we just call it **WID (*rhymes with kid*).** Here's a quick glimpse of what WID can do.

We use it to create business process flows that interact with our people, our home grown applications, and our C.I.C.S., I.M.S., D.B.2, and S.A.P. Regardless of where they are in the infrastructure – and with a variety of information stores.

We can develop business process flows by simply dragging and dropping resources and activities onto the palette and wiring them together. It's really that easy.

In fact, we can test and deploy new processes using the exact same tooling.

Beyond the obvious benefits to IT, WID provides the flexibility for users to:

- **render existing assets as reusable services** ; for example - code components, applications, information, even people, and catalogue them for future use in a repository;
- **handle unplanned, ad hoc tasks,** by letting users insert additional tasks into task-lists, and schedule follow-up tasks for themselves or team members;"
- "**plug in" client-specific workforce management policies**, identifying preferred active users, and substituting for absentees;
- **redistribute tasks in response to organizational changes** and set the time when new schemes become effective; and
- **create customized e-mail messages for human task escalations;** for example, to aleart management when a task remains open too long.

In fact, WID helps the business handle all process events -- whether planned or unplanned.

Here, we've incorporated Nicki's team of account managers. We've defined business rules to help manage workload across the group. And Nicki can modify those rules after the process is deployed.

And watch this. With just one click... I generate the user interface as a part of the process.

Ok, so that's the process and people side of things. How about integrating applications and resources, across disparate platforms, into the process?

You know, the information stored in our C.I.C.S, I.M.S and S.A.P systems is usually not in the precise format that a process requires.

And how about leveraging Web services, for things like credit checks within Nicki's account approval process?

With WID we can reduce the complexity of different formats by mediating between them. For example, we can map and transform the data - from our S.A.P. system into the format required by the process - and route the result to the correct destination.

So we can:

- **Integrate application assets** into a process without having to alter them;
- **Reduce dependencies** between services and the processes;
- **Route, transform and augment information** between services; and
- **Use Web services and SOA industry standards** to ensure future interoperability

WID enables us to introduce new services or change services without disrupting our existing IT environment. And because everything is standards-based…

We can simplify connections to S.A.P and other packaged systems further, by using WID to configure one of the vast range of pre-built adapters that come with the tooling.

Adapters discover data and processes locked away in our applications and technology assets and expose them as reusable "services". In this case, once the S.A.P system is plugged into the process, we can automate updates it or check to see if an applicant is an existing client or a new one, or access other S.A.P functionality as services.

Using a built-in "discovery" feature of the adapter, we can use WID to:

- log on to the S.A.P application and see what's inside;
- isolate the type of information and procedures we need;
- and generate the interface.

Then, during runtime, the adapter automates the flow of information in and out of the S.A.P. system.

And we do all of this with no coding on our part.

With WID we can:

- **Enable Services,** using a standard interface to proprietary implementations
- **Discover Services** by browsing, selecting, and generating service descriptions from the application repository
- **Detect, Capture and Publish Events** and control in-bound / out-bound information flows

And chose between **Pre-built or Custom Built,** leveraging 'ready-to-go' adapters and a toolkit for generating our own.

Ok, so WID has helped us:

1) create the process,

2) link people and technology assets into the process,
3) integrate my applications and enterprise systems,
4) and mediate the required information.

We're now ready to test and deploy the process to our trusty System z

And what could be easier than deploying process flows to the mainframe with WID? I simply highlight the application, select the target system, and voila!

Although we can deploy to a variety of distributed platforms, deploying to our System z provides special benefits, including:

- Extraordinary levels of Application and Data availability for **Business Resiliency**
- Rock Solid **Security and Privacy**
- Massive horizontal and vertical **Scalability** for non-disruptive growth
- An **Optimized Operating Environment** with higher utilization and balanced system design
- Advanced, multi-dimensional **Virtualization** Capabilities
- Highly Responsive, Autonomic and Intelligent **Workload Management**
- Incorporation of **Open and Industry Standards** and
- World-class **Integrated Support**

All of that adds up to the greatest benefit, and that's '**Peace of Mind'**, for both Nicki and me.

And if she's happy, then I'm happy.

So there you have it. **IBM WebSphere Integration Developer** can give you **out-of-the-box end to end business integration,** and a **single, unified process engine interface** that works on both **distributed and System Z** platforms.

One tool. **One set of skills.**

For more information, simply click on the link.