IBM Business Process Manager V8.6 delivers product simplifications to utilize its full power more easily and provide greater flexibility and new capabilities

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At a glance

IBM (R) Business Process Manager (IBM BPM) V8.6 includes:

- Product simplification
- Web Process Designer
- Representational state transfer (REST) integrations
- IBM BPM UI toolkit
- Process Portal and Process Federation Server (PFS) enhancements
- IBM BPM on Cloud
- Housekeeping
- Cloud product insights
- New supported environments that include Java™ 8
- Various usability and performance improvements

Overview

IBM BPM V8.6 is a full-featured, consumable business process management platform. It includes tooling and run time for process design and execution, along with capabilities for monitoring and optimizing work that is executed within the platform. IBM BPM is designed for multi-project improvement programs that focus on workflow and productivity. It is specifically designed to help enable process owners and business users to engage directly on the improvement of their business processes.

IBM BPM is available as an on-premise and cloud configuration and is a highly-integrated environment that scales smoothly and easily from and initial project to an enterprise-wide program.

Better processes produce lower costs, higher revenues, motivated employees, and satisfied clients. IBM BPM is an approach to produce better processes through the combination of technology and expertise. IBM BPM is a collaborative effort between business units and the IT world and this collaboration fosters a new paradigm of efficient and logical business processes.
In the current dynamic business environment, organizations need to be agile and flexible so they can react to whatever challenges they may face. IBM BPM helps provide that agility and flexibility by giving clients more direct control over their operational processes. They can make better use of technology and their entire enterprise can become far more responsive. This can help clients meet their goals.

IBM BPM helps create value for the enterprise through growth, improved performance, better productivity, higher staff effectiveness, and better customer service. All these improvements result directly from improved processes. This unified platform supports process improvement across a spectrum of work patterns that include human centric and straight-through processes and cases. Enhanced web-based developer tools enable process developers to create compelling business user interface without web-based technical skills. Process Portal and responsive UI, which adapts to the user's chosen device, enables business users to perform tasks on their smartphone, tablet, or desktop computer. This enables them to work away from the office by using mobile devices. The BPM Service Oriented Architecture (SOA) and advanced integration capabilities enable clients to utilize their existing investments by incorporating their legacy systems within their improved business processes.

Version 8.6 is the latest release of this mature, business process management platform that can deliver product simplifications to help enable clients to use the full power of IBM BPM more easily by giving clients greater flexibility. It also includes many new capabilities, quality and performance improvements, and platform specification updates.

IBM BPM V8.6 adopts the IBM Continuous Delivery support model, with updates every quarter, and is available for a minimum of three years from the general availability.

**Key prerequisites**

IBM BPM V8.6 requires a:

- Workstation with a supported operating system
- Supported database server
- Supported web browser

For details, refer to the [Technical Information](#) section.

**Planned availability date**

September 22, 2017: Electronic delivery

Availability of programs with encryption algorithm in France is subject to French government approval.

Refer to the [Availability of national languages](#) section for national language availability.

**Description**

IBM BPM V8.6 delivers product simplification to utilize its full power more easily and provide greater flexibility.

- Standard and Advanced editions are now combined into a single offering, where Process Center, Process Server, and PFS are included under a single license.
- Web Process Designer in IBM BPM V8.6 no longer requires a separate charge.
- Desktop Process Designer V8.5.7 supports IBM BPM V8.6 and is licensed separately with an additional charge.
• IBM BPM Express® is also available if clients need a low cost, entry point on-premise offering.
• Clients can also subscribe to IBM BPM on Cloud, if they prefer IBM to host and manage the IBM BPM infrastructure on their behalf.

**Web Process Designer**

IBM BPM V8.6 provides complete, end-to-end authoring of process applications that use the web Process Designer, and is accessible with a browser. Web Process Designer can be used to create all aspects of a process application, which includes:

• Process flows
• Service flows
• Heritage human services
• Client-side human services
• Custom user interfaces
• Business logic, events, and integrations

Web Process Designer includes many new capabilities, such as:

• Subscribe to Blueworks Live™ processes to create process flows.
• Editor changes are automatically saved when using the auto-save feature to help avoid loss of work.
• Invoke external applications by creating external implementations.
• Create integrations by using REST, Web Services, and Java.
• Use the References feature to find where an artifact is used so that clients can see the impact of potential changes that they want to make. They can also identify the model artifacts that a specific library item uses.
• Use the coach performance analysis tool to tune clients' IBM BPM UI for better performance.
• Various usability and performance improvements are made to provide a better authoring experience.

**REST integrations**

Create custom integrations using low-code, web-based service editors to discover REST services and call them by using service flows. Integrate IBM Watson™ Developer Cloud cognitive services and IBM Blockchain into clients' business process management solutions by using the latest REST integration capabilities that can consume and produce files.

**IBM BPM UI toolkit**

The IBM BPM UI system toolkit that is based on the Salient Process SPARK UI toolkit provides the default UI controls in IBM BPM V8.6. This toolkit includes:

• A UI event framework that:
  – Simplifies UI development.
  – Can increase developer productivity.
  – Can improve UI performance.
  – Can enable clients to create highly interactive modern user experience for their business users.
  – Is now much easier to add cross-field interactions, validations, help prompts, and formula-based computations.
• Equivalent controls to the heritage UI toolkits and inclusion of many new, mobile-ready controls that includes maps, video, and QR code, and RAVE 2 charts with drill-down and bi-directional support.
• Ability to explore and learn how to use the new IBM BPM UI controls by using the Discover BPM UI sample. All controls are fully responsive, so that the UI is accessible from either a desktop, tablet or smart phone.
• Full integration with the web Process Designer so clients can benefit from various functions, such as the ability to style controls by using the graphical theme editor and preview their UI within the WYSIWYG coach editor.

• Inclusion of a conversion utility with the web Process Designer to help clients update their existing coach-based user interfaces to use the IBM BPM UI toolkit.

**Operational Intelligence**

Clients can now capture IBM BPM events for external use. This allows them to configure the Dynamic Event Framework (DEF) to subscribe to IBM BPM events that are emitted from BPMN applications, capture these in Elasticsearch, and create custom real-time business reports using Kibana. Clients can archive-restore IBM BPM event data between Elasticsearch and Object Store. Clients can also stream IBM BPM events to popular big-data analytics tools, like Apache Spark by using Kafka.

This capability is delivered as a technology preview and should not be used in production at this time and is not supported by IBM. It can be used for evaluation purposes only with IBM BPM V8.6 and IBM BPM Express V8.6.

**Process Portal**

With IBM BPM V8.6, clients can collaborate on tasks directly from the IBM Process Portal by using Sametime® Connect and IBM Connections™. Various performance improvements are made to provide a better business user experience.

**Process Federation Server (PFS)**

PFS in IBM BPM V8.6 provides:

• Simplified administration
• A quick start mode to make indexed tasks available faster
• A PFS Saved Search Transfer REST API to export saved searches from federated IBM BPM systems and import them into PFS

**IBM BPM on Cloud**

Clients can streamline their business operations with the leading business process management platform at a low-cost entry point with the new IBM BPM on Cloud Express offering, and trade up to the full version of IBM BPM on Cloud within the same instance when they need to grow.

**IBM BPM on Cloud:**

• Is HIPAA-ready and:
  - Allows clients to utilize the speed and flexibility of IBM BPM on Cloud to securely handle solutions that involve Protected Health Information (PHI).
  - Has implemented security controls, procedures, and best practices that are designed to safeguard PHI.

  IBM will sign a Business Associate Agreement (BAA) with clients that must operate under HIPAA rules.

• Uses the IBM Client Success Portal, a new ticketing system, for interacting with the IBM BPM on Cloud operations team to manage operational and technical support issues.

• Uses self-service capabilities that give clients more control over their IBM BPM on Cloud environment. This enables them to deploy IBM BPM Advanced assets, manage the health of their processes, and react quicker to resolve operational issues without having to contact the IBM BPM on Cloud operations team.

• Uses Service ID support for more efficient and secure access to IBM BPM on Cloud through REST APIs. This expands the User Management to provide separate Service ID management with system-generated, 40-character passwords that eliminates the requirement to change passwords every 90 days.
for regular user IDs. Clients can easily access IBM BPM on Cloud from a mobile device by using the new responsive login page.

IBM provides no-charge trials to experience the cloud services of IBM BPM on Cloud. See the IBM BPM on Cloud website and click on the "Start your free trial" for the IBM BPM on Cloud trial.

**Housekeeping**

To help clients better maintain their BPM environments, IBM BPM V8.6 provides new housekeeping features and diagnostic capabilities. It provides improved visibility and tuning of system caches. Clients can now:

- Use lightweight trace specifications to help them diagnose problems that might occur while executing their processes and service flows.
- Deactivate users who are no longer in the user registry and clean up their group memberships.
- Automate and troubleshoot by using new parameters and commands.
- Delete snapshots of process applications or toolkits including orphaned snapshots.

**Cloud Product Insights**

Get usage metrics for clients' IBM BPM instances with IBM Cloud Product Insights.

**New supported environments**

Includes updated operating systems, browsers and databases, and Java 8 support.

**Accessibility by people with disabilities**

A US Section 508 Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) containing details on accessibility compliance can be found on the IBM Accessibility website.

**Reference information**

For additional information on IBM BPM V8.5.7, see Software Announcement ZP16-0015, dated February 16, 2016.

For additional information on IBM Process Transformation Manager V8.10, see Software Announcement ZP17-0490, dated August 22, 2017.

**Availability of national languages**

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Refer to IBM Knowledge Center on September 22, 2017, for a complete set of languages for IBM BPM V8.6.

Translation information, if available, can be found at the Translation Reports website.

**Program number**
**Education support**

Education is a key component to ensuring software success. IBM creates a comprehensive portfolio of education material to help clients successfully deploy IBM software products to their maximum potential. The IBM education team is committed to providing the highest quality education content available to help your organization prosper in today’s competitive marketplace.

The IBM education team works closely with IBM product developers and IBM services organizations to ensure that the courses we offer provide the most current technical and product information. Our courses place an emphasis on the advanced knowledge and insight that only these sources can provide. We draw from a deep pool of IBM technical experience in the development of our courses, and pass that knowledge on to our students. Our courses emphasize hands on labs to develop comprehensive skills in using the product to solve business problems. The education offerings from IBM Training span the spectrum of skill needs, from introductory product overviews to advanced programming and product administration courses.

The delivery of IBM education is provided by IBM Global Training Partners.

For more information about available education offerings, refer to the [IBM Training website](https://www.ibm.com/training).

**Offering Information**

Product information is available on the [IBM Offering Information website](https://www.ibm.com). More information is also available on the Passport Advantage® and Passport Advantage Express website.

**Publications**

Documentation will be available on September 22, 2017, on [IBM Knowledge Center](https://www.ibm.com). Portions of the documentation for IBM BPM may be translated and available within 30 days of product availability.

**Services**

**Global Technology Services**

Contact your IBM representative for the list of selected services available in your country, either as standard or customized offerings for the efficient installation, implementation, or integration of this product.

**Technical information**

**Specified operating environment**

**Hardware requirements**
Software requirements

IBM Business Process Manager Server V8.6

Listed below are the operating systems, databases, and browsers supported by IBM BPM. See the IBM Support Portal for the currently supported product levels, more details, and fix packs for IBM BPM.

- Operating systems for Business Process Manager Server
  - AIX®
  - SUSE Linux™ Enterprise Server (SLES)
  - RedHat Enterprise Linux (RHEL)
  - Ubuntu server
  - Microsoft™ Windows™

- Database servers
  - IBM Db2
  - Oracle
  - Microsoft SQL Server

- Browsers (server and desktop)
  - Microsoft Internet Explorer
  - Mozilla Firefox
  - Google Chrome
  - Apple Safari
  - Microsoft Edge

- Browsers (mobile)
  - Apple Safari
  - Google Chrome
  - Good Access Secure Mobile

IBM Business Process Manager Server Express V8.6

Listed below are the operating systems, databases, and browsers supported by IBM BPM Express. See the IBM Support Portal for the currently supported product levels, more details, and fix packs for IBM BPM Express.

- Operating systems for Business Process Manager Server
  - SLES
  - RHEL
  - Ubuntu server
  - Windows

- Database servers
  - Db2
  - Oracle
  - Microsoft SQL Server

- Browsers (server and desktop)
  - Internet Explorer
  - Mozilla Firefox
  - Google Chrome
  - Apple Safari
  - Microsoft Edge
• Browsers (mobile)
  – Apple Safari
  – Google Chrome
  – Good Access Secure Mobile

IBM Process Designer V8.5.7 CF2017.09

Listed below are the operating systems, databases, and browsers supported by IBM Process Designer. See the IBM Support Portal for the currently supported product levels, more details, and fix packs for IBM Process Designer.

• Operating system
  – Windows

• Browsers
  – Internet Explorer
  – Mozilla Firefox
  – Google Chrome

Note: The IBM desktop Process Designer is deprecated and has been superseded by the web Process Designer. For clients that wish to maintain legacy process applications, the desktop Process Designer V8.5.7 is still available for download from Business Process Manager Server V8.6. However, clients should be advised to upgrade their process applications to web Process Designer at their earliest convenience.

IBM Integration Designer V8.5.7

Listed below are the operating systems, databases, and browsers supported by IBM Integration Designer. See the IBM Support Portal for the currently supported product levels, more details, and fix packs for IBM Integration Designer.

• Operating systems
  – SLES
  – RHEL
  – Windows

• Database servers
  – Db2

• Browsers
  – Internet Explorer
  – Mozilla Firefox
  – Google Chrome

Note: Clients may continue to use IID V8.5.7 with Business Process Manager Server V8.6, by applying an appropriate iFix.

Planning information

Packaging

IBM BPM is available as an electronic download.

This offering is available from IBM Marketplace. On IBM Marketplace, clients can discover, try, and buy software, hardware, and services from IBM and third-party providers.

Direct customer support
Software Subscription and Support (also referred to as Software Maintenance) is included with licenses purchased through Passport Advantage and Passport Advantage Express. Product upgrades and technical support are provided by the Software Subscription and Support (Software Maintenance) offering as described in the Agreements. Product upgrades provide the latest versions and releases to entitled software, and technical support provides voice and electronic access to IBM support organizations, worldwide.

IBM includes one year of Software Subscription and Support (also referred to as Software Maintenance) with each program license acquired. The initial period of Software Subscription and Support (Software Maintenance) can be extended by the purchase of a renewal option, if available.

**Security, auditability, and control**

IBM BPM uses the security and auditability features of the host hardware or software.

The customer is responsible for evaluation, selection, and implementation of security features, administrative procedures, and appropriate controls in application systems and communication facilities.

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**Ordering information**

For ordering information, consult your IBM representative or authorized IBM Business Partner, or go to the Passport Advantage website.

This product is only available through Passport Advantage. It is not available as shrinkwrap.

These products may only be sold directly by IBM or by authorized IBM Business Partners for Channel Value Rewards.

More information can be found on the IBM Channel Value Rewards website.

To locate IBM Business Partners for Channel Value Rewards in your geography for a specific Channel Value Rewards portfolio, go to the Find a Business Partner page.

Product group: IBM Systems, Middleware

Product: IBM BPM (5737-A57); IBM BPM Express (5725-C96)

Product category: Hybrid Cloud Transformation

### Passport Advantage

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Clients should consult their IBM representative if they have any questions.

**Cross-platform product for use on IBM Z Integrated Facility for Linux (IFL) engines or zEnterprise® BladeCenter Extension**

Order the part numbers that follow when the product is intended to run on zEnterprise BladeCenter Extension or the Linux operating system on IBM Z IFL engines. If the product is not intended to run in these environments, order from the other set of part numbers in this announcement. This set of part numbers provides the identical supply and authorization as the other set in this announcement.

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**Processor Value Unit**

Processor Value Unit (PVU) is a unit of measure by which the Program can be licensed. The number of PVU entitlements required is based on the processor technology (defined within the Processor Value Unit (PVU) licensing for Distributed Software website) and the number of processors made available to the Program. IBM continues to define a processor, for the purpose of PVU-based licensing, to be each processor core on a chip. A dual-core processor chip, for example, has two processor cores.

Licensee can deploy the Program using either full capacity licensing or virtualization capacity (sub-capacity) licensing according to the Passport Advantage Sub-Capacity Licensing Terms (see web page below). If using full capacity licensing, Licensee must obtain PVU entitlements sufficient to cover all activated processor cores* in the physical hardware environment made available to or managed by the Program, except for those servers from which the Program has been permanently removed. If using virtualization capacity licensing, Licensee must obtain entitlements sufficient to cover all activated processor cores made available to or managed by the Program, as defined according to the Virtualization Capacity License Counting Rules website.

* An Activated processor core is a processor core that is available for use in a physical or virtual server, regardless of whether the capacity of the processor core can be or is limited through virtualization technologies, operating system commands, BIOS settings, or similar restrictions.

**Notes**

- Some programs may require licenses for the Program and what is being managed. In that case, the following applies. In addition to the entitlements
required for the Program directly, Licensee must obtain PVU entitlements for this Program sufficient to cover the processor cores for the systems on which the resources managed or processed by the Program reside.

- Some programs may be licensed on a managed basis only. In that case, the following applies. Instead of the entitlements required for the Program directly, Licensee must obtain PVU entitlements for this Program sufficient to cover the processor cores for the systems on which the resources managed or processed by the Program reside.

- A few programs on an exception basis may be licensed on a referenced basis. In that case, the following applies. Rather than obtaining entitlements for the activated processor cores available to the Program, Licensee must obtain PVU entitlements for this Program sufficient to cover the environment made available to the Referenced Program as if the Program itself were executing everywhere the Referenced Program was executing, independent of the basis on which the Referenced Program is licensed.

Terms and conditions

The information provided in this announcement letter is for reference and convenience purposes only. The terms and conditions that govern any transaction with IBM are contained in the applicable contract documents such as the IBM International Program License Agreement, IBM International Passport Advantage Agreement, and the IBM Agreement for Acquisition of Software Maintenance.

This product is only available through Passport Advantage.

Licensing

IBM International Program License Agreement including the License Information document and Proof of Entitlement (PoE) govern your use of the program. PoEs are required for all authorized use. Part number products only, offered outside of Passport Advantage, where applicable, are license only and do not include Software Maintenance.

This software license includes Software Subscription and Support (also referred to as Software Maintenance).

Agreement for Acquisition of Software Maintenance

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License Information number

IBM BPM V8.6

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**Limited warranty applies**

Yes

**Limited warranty**

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Other support

Passport Advantage

Variable charges apply

No

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**Corrections**

*(Corrected on December 21, 2017)*

The Software requirements section is revised.

*(Corrected on September 29, 2017)*

The Software requirements section is revised.

*(Corrected on September 19, 2017)*

The Description section is revised.

*(Corrected on September 11, 2017)*
The Software requirements section is revised.