At a glance

IBM Portal Pack for SOA Configurations 6.1 bundles essential WebSphere Portal family components to accelerate time to value for "people" interactions and collaboration in a service-oriented architecture (SOA) environment. IBM Portal Pack for SOA Configurations includes products identified in a high number of SOA implementations, mapping to critical business functions:

- **Portal services:** WebSphere Portal Server
  - Role-based personalized deployment of composite applications
  - Efficient integration with back-end systems, data, and services, providing a secure front end for composite applications in an SOA-based environment

- **Dashboarding and scorecarding:** IBM Lotus ActiveInsight
  - Access varied data sources and present a composite view
  - Rapidly create and reuse dashboard components

- **Intuitive human-centric forms interface:** IBM Lotus Forms Server
  - A natural front-end for business processes, enabling data collection and use
  - Efficiency of data capture and management

- **SOA-based portal development capabilities:** IBM WebSphere Portlet Factory
  - Quickly and easily leverage the company's core assets by creating Web services "wrappers" for existing applications and utilizing them in composite applications.
  - Utilize a Web services producer/consumer model to separate data access and the presentation layer to facilitate component reuse in an SOA framework.
  - Utilize integration tools for portal, dashboards, forms, Web 2.0, and composite application composition.

Overview

IBM Portal Pack for SOA Configurations comprises the following products: WebSphere® Portal Server, which includes WebSphere Portlet Factory, Lotus® ActiveInsight, and Lotus Forms Server. Together, they provide the following:

- **Portal services:** WebSphere Portal Server
  - Role-based personalized deployment of composite applications
  - Core portal services that provide employees and customers with timely information and access to applications, people, and
processes via a single, consistent user interface

- Web 2.0 user interface enhancements for a more intuitive, responsive, and richer user experience
- New Theme Customizer that requires less skill and reduces effort to customize look and feel of site and composite applications
- Efficient integration with back-end systems, data, and services, providing a secure front end for composite applications in an SOA-based environment
- Features to speed development of new composite applications: Pre-built portlets, Portlet Palette, Single Sign On (SSO), Composite Templates, Web 2.0 features, and browser-based wiring tool

- Dashboarding and scorecarding: IBM Lotus ActiveInsight
  - Gauge the health and performance of the business.
  - Access varied data sources and present a composite view.
  - Rapidly create and reuse dashboard components without needing deep Java™ skills.
  - Easily define and align objectives between multiple users with intuitive usability features.
  - Utilize Click2Action support between scorecard and portlets.
  - Reuse Lotus ActiveInsight components, which are supported by WebSphere Portlet Factory and that can be quickly modified and assembled into composite applications within the portal.

- Intuitive human-centric forms interface: IBM Lotus Forms Server
  - A natural front end for business processes enabling data collection and use
  - Efficiency of data capture and management
  - User-friendly, security-rich forms
  - Browser-based G2C and B2C applications that are enabled through scalable, security-rich, zero-footprint forms, without requiring download of additional software
  - Integration with portal through a forms portlet, which can be modified and configured using WebSphere Portlet Factory

- SOA-based portal development capabilities: IBM WebSphere Portlet Factory
  - Quickly and easily leverage the company’s core assets by creating Web services “wrappers” for existing applications and utilizing them in composite applications.
  - Assemble assets into custom, high-value SOA-based portlets.
  - Utilize a Web services producer/consumer model to separate data access and the presentation layer to facilitate component reuse in an SOA framework.
  - Utilize integration tools for portal, dashboards, forms, Web 2.0, and composite application composition.
  - Rapidly create, customize, maintain, and deploy portlets. WebSphere Portlet Factory’s ease of use and advanced development features dramatically streamline the entire portlet development process. This acts to speed WebSphere Portal, Lotus ActiveInsight, and Lotus Forms composite application deployments and increase ROI.

**Benefits**

These products, combined in a convenient bundle, give you the essential components you need to accelerate time to value for “people” interactions and collaboration, while also deriving additional value from existing systems and applications, taking advantage of SOA.

- Improve operational efficiency and productivity by linking people to the right information so they can execute tasks quickly and accurately.
- Accelerate application and content deployment through new tools and the innovative use of SOA.
- Quickly create composite, high-value portlets that leverage existing investment in legacy applications (SAP, PeopleSoft, Siebel, Domino®) and databases.
• With cooperative portlets, easily incorporate portlet-to-portlet communication techniques such as click to action and portlet wiring.

• With templates, enable business users to create and reuse composite applications by arranging portlets into templates that can be deployed to different communities (for example, departments, teams, and other groups of users).

• Get real-time, customized views of performance data and metrics through active dashboards.

• Utilize intuitive, actionable scorecards showing the status of objectives and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

• View organizational dependencies and key trends.

• Provide security-rich, intelligent, easy-to-use, integrated eForms front end for business process automation.

• Leverage rich Internet application technology and digital signatures to move forms-based business processes off the desktop and onto the Web.

• Take advantage of tight integration of Lotus Forms and ActiveInsight into the portal with automation provided in WebSphere Portlet Factory.

Key prerequisites

Refer to the Hardware requirements and Software requirements sections for details.

Planned availability date

• July 25, 2008, electronic software delivery

• August 11, 2008, media and documentation

Description

IBM WebSphere Portal software, the world’s leading enterprise portal technology and the foundation product for the IBM Portal Pack for SOA Configurations, enables employees to access business applications via the Web through a secure, user-friendly interface. To speed development, IBM WebSphere Portlet Factory software automates the generation of both the user interface (UI) and underlying application and process layers. Plus, it allows you to develop all the necessary components to make it easier to develop and manage composite applications within an SOA environment.

Traditionally, developing portlets, Web services, and composite applications required specialized expertise in both application development and portal technology. However, over the last couple of years, the portal development community has spearheaded a new development approach that separates the UI from the underlying applications and business processes. This approach, known as a service-oriented architecture, enables businesses to become more agile by breaking up business processes into reusable application components or services that are independent of the applications and computing platforms on which they run. That is, it provides a means to get incremental value from existing systems by extending access to those assets in new applications — and to more users — without changing those existing systems. WebSphere Portlet Factory is included with WebSphere Portal and provides Web application developers the necessary tools to quickly create component-based SOA composite applications.

The combination of WebSphere Portal, which includes WebSphere Portlet Factory, with Lotus ActiveInsight and Lotus Forms provides a unique capability to quickly provide new business value through the creation of efficient composite applications that are intuitive and incisive.

Accessibility by people with disabilities

You can request a U.S. Section 508 Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) containing details on accessibility compliance at


IPLA and Subscription and Support considerations

IPLA licenses can be transferred from one machine to another within, but not limited to an
enterprise. You may aggregate the capacity for all the processors the product is operated on to achieve a more economic price. This will result in a single proof of entitlement (PoE). It is your responsibility to manage the distribution of Value Units within the limits of the entitlement of the product license.

Subscription and Support must cover the same capacity as the product license entitlement. Subscription and Support will be available in the country in which the agreement is made.

Statement of direction

IBM continues to demonstrate their commitment to the growth of the WebSphere Portal product portfolio and to offerings targeted to the needs of customers interested in SOA implementations. IBM currently intends to provide additional enhancements over time, to match customer needs.

All statements regarding IBM's plans, directions, and intent are subject to change or withdrawal without notice.

Availability of national languages

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