

JBoss® ENTERPRISE BRMS OVERVIEW

BUSINESS RULES THE RED HAT OPEN SOURCE WAY

INTRODUCTION

JBoss® Enterprise BRMS (Business Rules Management System) provides an open source business rules management system that automates active decisions with easy business policy and rules development, access, and change management. With JBoss, an organization can capture and manage the business policies that drive their line-of-business (LoB) applications, making them more manageable and responsive to changing conditions.

JBoss Enterprise BRMS includes a fast and highly efficient rule engine and easy-to-use rules development, management system, and repository. JBoss Enterprise BRMS makes it easy for a business analyst or auditor to view and manage your business rules as encoded in your IT application infrastructure. Business analysts and rules developers can verify that the encoded rules implement the documented business policies, ensuring compliance with regulations. JBoss Enterprise BRMS also supports open choice of authoring and management consoles and language and decision table inputs, making it easy to quickly modify your business policies to respond to opportunities and competitive threats.

JBoss Enterprise BRMS allows businesses to reduce the development time needed to update applications, SOA deployments, and business processes with the latest business rules and policies. This enables enterprises to implement systems that make active decisions driven by business strategies and market changes. The enterprise can anticipate and respond rapidly to competitive and business challenges. Something as simple as implementing a new pricing scheme or a policy change driven by regulatory changes can be rolled into production in a matter of hours, with little to no impact to the current application infrastructure. Additionally, JBoss Enterprise BRMS allows IT and business analysts to ensure that the application, SOA, and/or BPM deployment implements the business policies correctly, reducing costs and ensuring compliance with regulations.

OVERVIEW

Choose JBoss Enterprise BRMS whether you require an embedded rules engine in a specific application or an enterprise-wide business rules infrastructure. With JBoss Enterprise BRMS, enterprises can create much more agile applications with rapid and easily modified business rules. JBoss Enterprise BRMS supports multiple rules development paradigms targeting business analysts, integration developers, and Java application developers, offering an open choice of tools.

APPLICATION SIMPLIFICATION AND AGILITY

Business rules management systems simplify applications by separating business policy or rules logic from process, infrastructure, and presentation logic. This modularity allows the organization to develop, deploy, modify, and manage the rules of a business process with much greater ease and speed. There is no need to modify code or rebuild the application—it is that simple.

TRANSPARENCY

With the business rules separated from business and presentation logic, it becomes far easier for business analysts and auditors to ensure that the encoded business rules indeed implement the business policies precisely. This helps businesses meet stringent regulatory rules (e.g. Sarbanes-Oxley, Basel, HIPAA, etc.).

EFFICIENT AND SCALABLE

JBoss Enterprise BRMS is a great means to collect complex decision-making logic and work with data sets too large for employees to effectively use. The rules engine included with JBoss Enterprise BRMS can make active decisions based on hundreds of thousands of facts quickly, reliably, and consistently. It works by decomposing large sets of rules into a very efficient network of nodes that can process and react to facts far more efficiently than what can be programmed manually. JBoss Enterprise BRMS scales extremely well with increases in the number of rules and facts.

KNOWLEDGE CAPTURE AND TRANSFER

Rule engines facilitate knowledge-transfer to centralized repositories and help combat issues due to the loss of key decision makers, managers, executives, and specialists due to staff turnover rates and aging populations. This loss of knowledge can cripple small businesses and organizations, and seriously hampers the efforts of medium-sized companies and divisions of large companies. JBoss Enterprise BRMS mitigates these risks by centralizing key knowledge in the rules repository.

RE-USABILITY

Once your business rules are separated from other logic, they can be more easily reused across many applications. This provides added benefits of business agility and accuracy, and delivers the same answers for the same inputs across all applications and users.

FEATURES

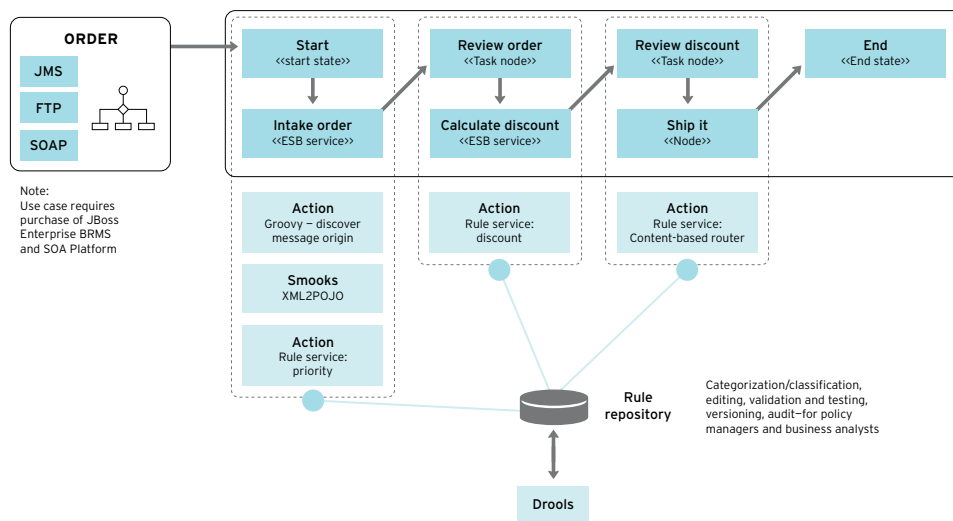
Business rules engine – The JBoss Enterprise BRMS engine implements the full Rete-OO algorithm with high performance indexing and optimization. The runtime supports the dynamic addition and removal of rules. With CEP,

JBoss Enterprise BRMS supports temporal rules that are fired within specified time periods or constraints. A complete event model provides execution audit logging for regulatory compliance support and business event tracking and management.

Complex Event Processing (CEP) – Complex event processing allows JBoss Enterprise BRMS to search for event patterns as they occur and execute business rules that make active decisions in response. The rules engine can correlate and abstract lower level system events, transforming them into business relevant items. With this event-based logic, JBoss Enterprise BRMS can deliver sophisticated decision-making scenarios that add tremendous value to rules execution.

Authoring – The web 2.0-based authoring interface of JBoss Enterprise BRMS enables fast and easy rules development, change, and management for process owners, administrators, and business analysts. For Java developers, the Drools Rule Language (DRL) supports all the previously mentioned features and uses Java to express field constraints, functions, and consequences. The DRL

FIGURE 1: JBOSS ENTERPRISE BRMS IN ACTION IN A SOA DEPLOYMENT



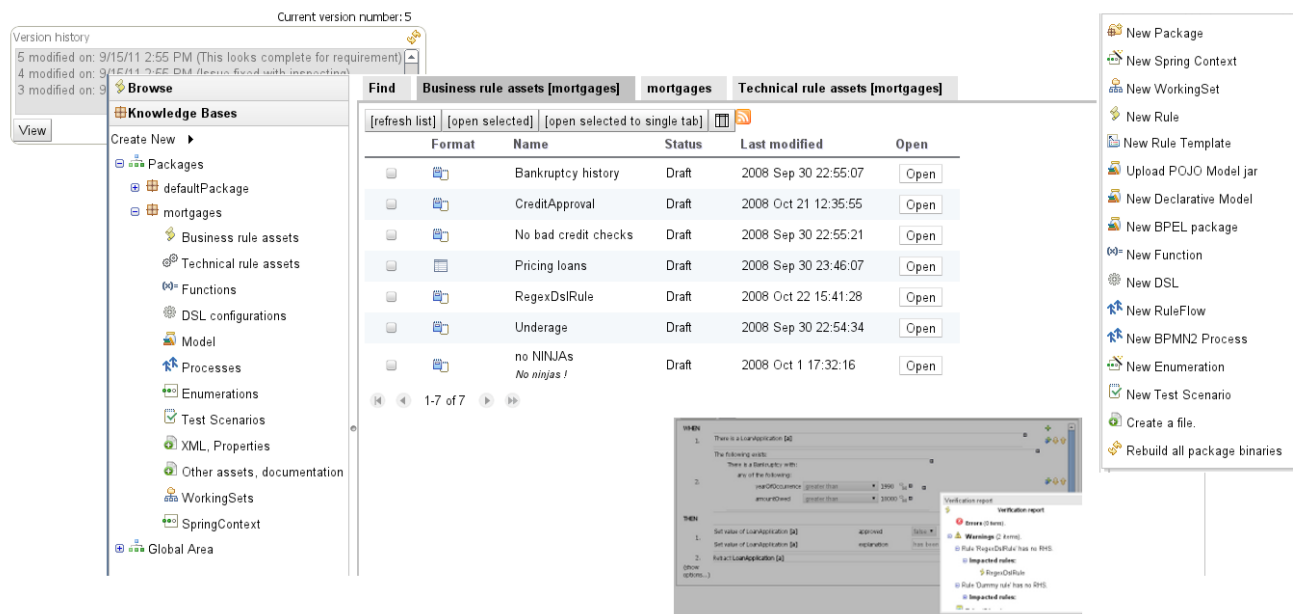
is extendable and provides support for natural language via a mapping properties file. Both the standard DRL and natural language (domain-specific language, or DSL) extensions are supported by JBoss Enterprise BRMS workbench. Users may also author decision tables using Microsoft Excel. The JBoss Enterprise BRMS workbench IDE (part of JBoss Developer Studio) includes syntax coloring, code completion, an outline view, and basic rule validation, error reporting, and debugging. The RETE viewer and audit viewer exposes all the internals of the runtime engine.

Management – JBoss Enterprise BRMS includes a business rules management repository and web-based administration console to help business analysts, developers, administrators manage their rules. Its support for rule categories helps organize business rules in complex deployment scenarios. Assets are rules, groups of rules, or a decision table, all managed as one entity. Multiple versions of assets can be managed. Packages are like a folder of rules and offer a simple way to manage smaller groups of rules. Status

management of rules allows administrators to flag rules as drafts or deployment-ready, both at the asset and package level.

Enterprise class reliability and scalability – JBoss Enterprise BRMS may be deployed with either JBoss Enterprise Application Platform or JBoss Enterprise SOA Platform. The high-availability services provide the clustering, caching, fail-over, load balancing, and distributed deployment features expected in a best-of-breed BRMS platform. Additionally, the business rule engine (BRE) included with JBoss Enterprise BRMS may be deployed in standalone mode (J2SE), or with other application server deployments such as WebLogic Server or WebSphere Application Server in a distributed application or SOA environment. The BRMS can manage the entire rules execution distributed deployment.

FIGURE 2: WEB 2.0 RULES EDITOR





THE BENEFITS OF AN OPEN SOURCE SUBSCRIPTION

Red Hat provides software subscriptions to JBoss Enterprise Middleware products. This provides users with ongoing value throughout the entire subscription term. Features and benefits of the JBoss Enterprise Middleware subscription include:

- **Predictability:** Subscriptions include access to new versions at no additional cost; there are no large upfront license fees or hidden costs.
- **Integrated and certified enterprise platforms:** Access to enterprise open source middleware platforms, in source and binary form, along with enterprise product documentation specific to each product release.
- **Upgrades and updates:** Regular product updates provide enhancements, new features, new platform certifications, and access to the latest defect and security fixes.
- **Security response:** Subscriptions include access to the industry-recognized Red Hat security response process, to help customers proactively address potential security issues in their environment.
- **Long-term stability:** Products have a defined multi-year product lifecycle with strict update policies that maintain application stability and compatibility for the long-term.
- **World-class technical support:** Unlimited incident support by the experts in open source middleware, with coverage up to 24x7 with one-hour response for critical issues.
- **Red Hat customer portal access:** A single portal for accessing all of the benefits of a Red Hat subscription, such as enterprise software delivery, product updates and critical issue notifications, knowledgebase access, and case management.
- **Partner certifications:** Deploy solutions with the confidence that your product is fully certified by leading Red Hat ISV partners.
- **Legal assurance:** the Red Hat open source assurance program safeguards customers who are developing and deploying open source solutions from legal harm.

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