

JBoss® ENTERPRISE BRMS

ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: WHAT IS THE JBOSS ENTERPRISE BRMS?

A: The JBoss Enterprise BRMS delivers a flexible, high performance platform in which to author, deploy, execute, and manage business rules and complex business logic, providing greater business agility. The BRMS (business rules management system) integrates specific versions of the following open source projects: Drools (rules engine), Guvnor (repository and management system), and Web 2.0 authoring and management consoles, which are certified to work together in a single supported enterprise distribution. Annual subscriptions to the JBoss Enterprise BRMS include full production support, security fixes, update releases, and access to new versions released during the subscription lifetime.

Q: WHAT IS NEEDED TO DEPLOY THE JBOSS ENTERPRISE BRMS?

A: The BRMS repository and Web 2.0 consoles require the JBoss Enterprise Application Platform (a limited use case support version of this is included in the JBoss Enterprise BRMS for this purpose only) or the JBoss Enterprise SOA Platform (which requires an additional purchase). The authoring and management tool environment leverages features of the JBoss Enterprise Application Platform, delivering a rich client Web 2.0 experience as well as scalability, reliability, and availability.

The rules engine execution environment can be deployed on certified JSE, Java™, and JEE platforms, including the JBoss Enterprise Application Platform (JBoss EAP), as well as the JBoss Enterprise SOA Platform, where integration is a requirement.

Q: HOW DOES THE JBOSS ENTERPRISE BRMS COMPARE WITH DROOLS AND GUVNOR?

A: Drools and Guvnor are JBoss.org open source projects that are developed in the open source community, where leading edge innovation occurs with a “release early, release often” approach. New features are explored, developed, and tested in the community. As they mature, we bring them into the enterprise-ready, subscription-based product, JBoss Enterprise BRMS.

Q: WHY DOES THE JBOSS ENTERPRISE BRMS REQUIRE EITHER THE JBOSS ENTERPRISE APPLICATION PLATFORM OR JBOSS ENTERPRISE SOA PLATFORM?

A: The JBoss Enterprise BRMS repository as well as the Web 2.0 authoring and management tools require elements of the JBoss Enterprise Application Platform (a limited use case support version of the JBoss EAP is included in the JBoss Enterprise BRMS for this purpose only) to deliver the rich client, Web 2.0 experience. For a full clustered, highly-available environment, you only need to use the JBoss Enterprise Application Platform. If SOA or integration is required in a BRMS deployment, the JBoss Enterprise SOA Platform may be substituted for the JBoss Enterprise Application Platform.

NOTE: The rules execution environments (rules engine deployments) do not require the JBoss Enterprise Application nor SOA Platforms. However, if needed, those platforms can deliver clustering, high availability, and integration to the rules execution environment as well.

Q: HOW LONG WILL EACH VERSION OF THE JBOSS ENTERPRISE BRMS BE SUPPORTED?

A: Each major version of the JBoss Enterprise BRMS has a five year support lifecycle policy. Detailed lifecycle support information is available at <http://www.jboss.com/products/updates/>.

Q: HOW WILL I ACCESS SOFTWARE UPDATES TO THE JBOSS ENTERPRISE BRMS?

A: The JBoss Enterprise BRMS is available through the JBoss Customer Support Portal and JBoss Operations Network.

Q: I ALREADY USE THE JBOSS ENTERPRISE APPLICATION PLATFORM, CAN I GET THE JBOSS ENTERPRISE BRMS WITHOUT IT?

A: No, a version of the JBoss Enterprise Application Platform is included in the JBoss Enterprise BRMS for supporting the Web 2.0 authoring and management tools, and the repository only. Use your existing JBoss Enterprise Application Platform subscription for JEE and SOA service deployments.

Q: I ALREADY SUBSCRIBE TO THE JBOSS ENTERPRISE APPLICATION PLATFORM. CAN I DEPLOY THE JBOSS ENTERPRISE BRMS ON THAT SUBSCRIPTION?

A: No, use the JBoss Enterprise Application Platform that comes with the JBoss Enterprise BRMS for this purpose as this is the certified combination.

Q: WHERE DO I FIND TOOLS FOR BRMS?

A: Product subscriptions to BRMS include entitlement to the JBoss Developer Studio 2.0, which provides a rich set of tools to work with Drools and Guvnor. (This is true if JBoss Developer Studio 2.0 is delivered along with BRMS. Otherwise, tools for BRMS are available through the JBoss Developer Studio 2.0 Portfolio Edition offering. Refer to http://www.redhat.com/developer_studio/ for additional information.)

Q: HOW DO I GET DEVELOPER SUPPORT FOR BRMS?

A: Developer support for BRMS is included as part of the Red Hat Developer Subscriptions. For details, refer to <https://www.redhat.com/developers/subscriptions.html>.

Q: CAN I GET ACCESS TO BRMS CODE TO EVALUATE IT BEFORE BUYING IT?

A: Yes, BRMS is available through the JBoss Developer Studio 2.0 Portfolio Edition for the very low price of \$99. This includes access to all JBoss platforms and tools, along with updates and patches for one (1) full year.

Q: HOW DO I PUBLISH A RULE SERVICE BASED ON WEB SERVICES TO BE USED IN AN SOA?

A: Currently, the JBoss Enterprise SOA Platform supports JBoss Rules 4 within the platform. We will add support for BRMS 5.0 rules services in a future release of the SOA Platform, including tool support for publishing web services built on BRMS/Rules. However, you can still manually publish a BRMS rule service, register it with the SOA Platform registry, and it will be available to the SOA like any other web service.

Q: WHAT IS THE STATUS OF JBOSS RULES FRAMEWORK?

A: We continue to support existing customers with JBoss Rules. However, going forward, Red Hat's flagship rules product is the JBoss Enterprise BRMS. JBoss Rules is available for special bid situations only. If you use the BRMS tools anywhere in the rules lifecycle, you must be a JBoss Enterprise BRMS subscriber to receive support and get the full value of the subscription (certification, partner support, training, customer support portal, legal assurance, and so forth.)

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