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Drools Project Joins JBoss

JBoss Adds Leading Business Rules Engine to the JEMS Open Source Platform for SOA

JBoss WORLD, BARCELONA, October 11, 2005—JBoss[®], Inc., the Professional Open Source company, today announced that the Drools project (www.drools.org) voted as a community to join JBoss. The addition of Drools, the most popular open source Java business rules engine, represents another critical step in the evolution of the JBoss Enterprise Middleware System (JEMS[™]) as the open source platform for SOA (Service-Oriented Architecture). Mark Proctor, Drools lead developer, joined JBoss as a software architect and founder Bob McWhirter will consult on integration of the business rules engine into JEMS.

With Drools, JBoss is again demonstrating its commitment to bring a cohesive open source middleware platform to the mass market. JEMS features a modular, plug-and-play architecture that lets companies start building service-oriented applications on any JEMS product and add more functionality, at their own pace, as their business needs evolve. Implemented as a whole, JEMS offers the simplest, most elegant platform on which to build SOA applications and delivers performance equal to, if not better than, monolithic, proprietary platforms.

“Many JBoss customers are already building SOA applications on JEMS, and now we’re delivering another core technology with which they can extend those applications,” said Shaun Connolly, vice president of product management, JBoss, Inc. “As evidenced by workflow, portal and now a business rules engine, JBoss is systematically building out JEMS so enterprises have a truly open, interoperable open source alternative when it comes to choosing an SOA platform.”

Describing his support for joining JBoss, Proctor said: “Simply put, there is no other organization in open source as willing to take risks as JBoss when it comes to driving middleware innovation, crystallizing a vision for the enterprise and executing on it. But it was incredibly important that the Drools community be involved in the decision process to join JBoss. We’ve seen what JBoss did for Hibernate, JBoss jBPM and Apache Tomcat and have every confidence that Drools will achieve similar success with dedicated resources from JBoss.”

Incorporation of the Drools rules engine into JEMS will allow organizations to easily customize their products and service offerings using business rules that can be applied across an SOA based on actions, events and historical activities. Developers will be able to deploy a rule to quickly and continuously make consistent decisions based on hundreds of thousands of facts. This process reduces the amount of time it takes to evaluate business processes and manually update applications deployed across an entire enterprise.

Iterion, a leading independent European IT consultancy serving clients such as Toyota and Société Generale, uses Drools in many of its IT projects. Rupert Moreton, sales director, commented: “Since its first release, Iterion has been building enterprise solutions on the Drools engine, which has proven to be very flexible and robust. Now that JBoss is backing the project, we expect to see Drools evolve into an even more powerful business rules engine.”

For more information about Drools, please visit www.jboss.com/products/rules.

About JBoss, Inc.

JBoss, Inc. is the industry leader in open source middleware. With the JBoss Enterprise Middleware System (JEMS), clients can build applications, web services and processes that improve business agility—all at their own pace and at lower costs. Fortune 500 companies such as Continental Airlines, MCI and Starwood Hotels rely on Professional Open Source from JBoss, Inc. Certified partners offering JEMS and JBoss Subscriptions include Dell, HP, NEC, Novell, Sun Microsystems and Unisys. For more information, visit www.jboss.com.

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