

RED HAT SOA SOLUTIONS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

As a local authority, you're faced with a combination of operational, regulatory, and informational challenges. Your organisation must manage a complex set of public/private information, which is further complicated by the natural growth of the data over time or through the creation of unitary councils. Integration of information is a key factor in the many decisions that drive everything from managing citizen-centric service delivery to maintaining a single view of the citizen.

**"A service-oriented architecture
does not solve your data problem;
it merely exposes it."**

A service-oriented architecture (SOA) for local authorities must address issues of data and communications interoperability like the NI14 Unavoidable Contact. Traditional SOA technologies ignore the data, only tackling the issue of protocols. A number of local governments are turning to the Red Hat SOA technology to address both data and communication issues.

A BETTER WAY TO WORK WITH DATA ACROSS DIVERSE SYSTEMS

Red Hat SOA solutions for local government begin with the MetaMatrix[®] Enterprise Data Services Platform. The Enterprise Data Services Platform is a powerful management system. It provides tools for creating data services, a repository for storing data service definitions along with relevant metadata, and a robust execution environment that provides enterprise-class performance, data integrity, and security. The Enterprise Data Services Platform lets you transform the data you have into the data you want. It allows multiple, distributed data sources – relational databases, XML documents, flat files, or web services – to be transformed into a read/writable data source with a single common interface. With this platform, your organisation can create unified views of your data.

Once data has been converted into a more useful form, the Enterprise Data Services Platform connects to another data source – the JBoss[®] Enterprise

SOA Platform. The SOA Platform is a high-performance enterprise service business that supports a federated architecture. It provides process orchestration, message routing, and registry capabilities in conjunction with additional data connectors.

Web services built on the JBoss Enterprise Application Platform can be connected to the SOA Platform to process the data being routed by the SOA Platform and transformed by the Enterprise Data Services Platform.

NI14 REDUCING AVOIDABLE CONTACT

Citizen data is frequently scattered across multiple databases. The Enterprise Data Services Platform provides a single read/write view of a citizen instead of consulting multiple applications and databases. When multiple departments maintain duplicate or inconsistent data sources, they cannot count on a single, integrated view of citizen data that is fully accurate and accountable in real time.

The Enterprise Data Services Platform helps reduce the time and cost of software development and integration. It bridges the gap between the data you have and the data you need.

Single view of a citizen

One London borough's continuous effort to provide better customer service uses the data services product range to build an aggregated view of siloed customer databases. With the Enterprise Data Services Platform, this borough is able to create a virtual database without moving any data. They can build business-focused applications using a single database connection. The Enterprise Data Services Platform can connect to a wide range of data sources – from standard relational databases to non-structured documents to web services – which allows the borough to reuse existing components.

The Enterprise Data Services Platform helps reduce the time and cost of software development and integration. It bridges the gap.

The combination of the Enterprise Data Services Platform and JBoss technology is proven to successfully address other major local government initiatives.

CONTACT POINT (CHILDREN'S INDEX)

Lord Laming's 2003 report into the death of Victoria Climbié recommended that the government investigate the feasibility of a database covering all children, providing basic identifying details and contact details for practitioners and services involved with the child.

Local Authority Connect

The Local Authority Connect (LAConnect) community was initially conceived by Sheffield City Council as a direct result of their involvement with the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) Improving Information Sharing and Management (IISaM) programme. As a trailblazing authority in this area, they were one of the few to establish a local, operational prototype of the DCSF ContactPoint system. They were looking to improve:

- The capability of the ContactPoint architecture to take account of wider local data management requirements.
- The management capacity of ContactPoint for data managers.
- ContactPoint to deliver key local safeguarding success factors (e.g. proactive alerting) as evidenced by the LAConnect SafetyNET deployment.

The approach LAConnect ContactPoint children's services is taking is to deliver as a virtual machine. This machine will be running Red Hat® Enterprise Linux® with the JBoss SOA Platform, a MySQL database, ActiveEndpoints, and obviously the LAConnect core service components. To find out more, visit the LAConnect website at www.laconnect.org.

SUMMARY

Red Hat offers everything a local government might need – from component problem-solvers to complete SOA solutions, from Metamatrix Enterprise Data Services Platform through the JBoss SOA Platform and all the way to the operating system itself. Whether you choose one part like the London borough, or the whole suite like LAConnect, you can make your data more accessible. Save time and money – and relieve the headache of duplicate entries or lagging synchronization between information streams. What are you waiting for? Contact Red Hat and find out what we can do for you.

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