New Developments
SAP Interactive Forms by Adobe

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New Developments:

1.1. Interactive Forms & SAP Business Process Management

1.2. New Developments From Selected Areas
   - Overview
   - Adobe Document Services Hub
   - Offline Forms Data Processing Infrastructure
   - Print Performance improvements for large Jobs
   - Job Profile editor
Interactive Forms & SAP NetWeaver Business Process Management

SAP NetWeaver Composition Environment 7.2

- Integrate Interactive Forms into business processes using the SAP Business Process Composer
- Share data between an Interactive Form and a business process
- Take the process offline through the use of offline Interactive Forms inside a process

Forms-based Processes in Business Process Management

- Supports a disconnected working mode within a workflow process step
- Extend business processes to external parties
- Tracking of forms processes (process transparency)

Planned for future releases

- Forms translation
- Transport of forms
- Initiating a new business process with a form
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SAP Interactive Forms by Adobe
New developments

Forms Processing based improvements

- **Performance, Interoperability, Lowered cost of development**
  - Interoperability between Adobe Document Services versions and SAP Business Suite releases with ADS Hub ([SDN Blog](http://sdn.sap.com/))
  - Offline forms data processing infrastructure in ABAP ([More](http://sdn.sap.com/))
  - Performance improvements in Print forms
  - Job Profiles administration UI – SAP NW 7.11 ([SDN Blog](http://sdn.sap.com/))

Web Dynpro based improvements

- **Usability, Performance & Robustness**
  - Improved validation error message handling in online scenarios with Interactive forms and Web Dynpro
  - Performance optimization in online scenarios
Adobe Document Services Hub
Sharing an ADS

- Most SAP IT landscapes consist of multiple SAP systems requiring forms processing capabilities
- Many of these SAP systems are at different releases
- Upgrade cycles for these systems are often different
- Sharing an ADS between these systems could lead to compatibility problems
- Maintaining multiple servers with ADS serving these systems considerably increases customer TCO
- Sharing an ADS in an IT landscape brings obvious benefits
Adobe Document Services Hub
The Solution

- The ADS hub is a concept defining rules to share a central ADS instance between multiple SAP systems.

- The ADS hub "interoperability" ensures compatibility of a single ADS instance with multiple SAP systems on different releases.

- For the ADS Hub an API allows an application to check if a particular feature is supported by the ADS before using it.

- If this feature is not supported the application is notified and has to take the necessary action.

- It is the responsibility of the application to verify if a feature is supported.

*Interoperability is ensured beginning with SAP NetWeaver 7.0 SP13*
Adobe Document Services Hub
Benefits of the ADS Hub

- Leverage existing infrastructure to make use of new features from the ADS
- Lower administration effort through reduced complexity of landscape
- Be independent of the innovation cycles of other SAP systems
- Mitigate impact of platform availability of ADS
Offline Forms Data Processing Infrastructure

The new offline forms data processing infrastructure offers out of the box support for processing form data sent back via emails by:

- Handling PDFs through inbound mail handlers
- Retrieving the form template information
- Extraction of XML based form data from the PDF Form
- Conversion of extracted form data to SAP data dictionary based structures

Concisely reduces the implementation time for offline forms
The inbound handler for a form should be defined in the transaction SFP on the properties tab.
Printing Performance Improvement for Large Print Jobs

New parameter PARALLEL in function module FP_JOB_OPEN

Print Job
....Bundles.....

Requires:
- SAP NetWeaver 7.02 (ABAP)
- ADS on the next SAP NetWeaver Application Server (Java) release

ADS on a 4-processor (2.4 GHz) system

- Serial
- Parallel (3 MDBs)
- Parallel (4 MDBs)
Administration: Job Profile Editor

- When an application calls the ADS, it can specify a job profile to modify the way ADS processes the job (for example, `OUTPUTPARAMS-JOB_PROFILE = 'Adobe/Print/DuplexLongEdge'`).

- A UI for editing job profiles is part of the SAP NetWeaver Administrator in SAP NetWeaver 7.11.