



Implementing a Federated Portal Network

Jana Richter

SAP NetWeaver Product Management





Overview: Federated Portal Network

Use Cases

Integration Concepts & Tools

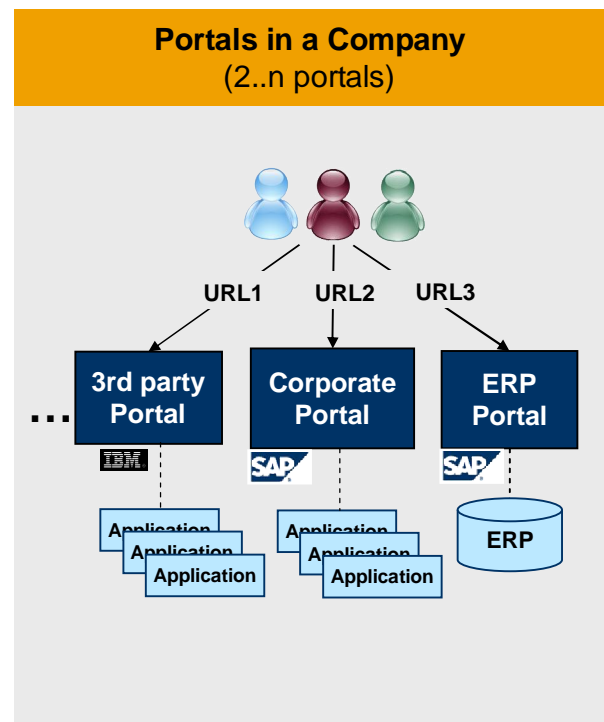
Landscape Considerations

Summary



Motivation

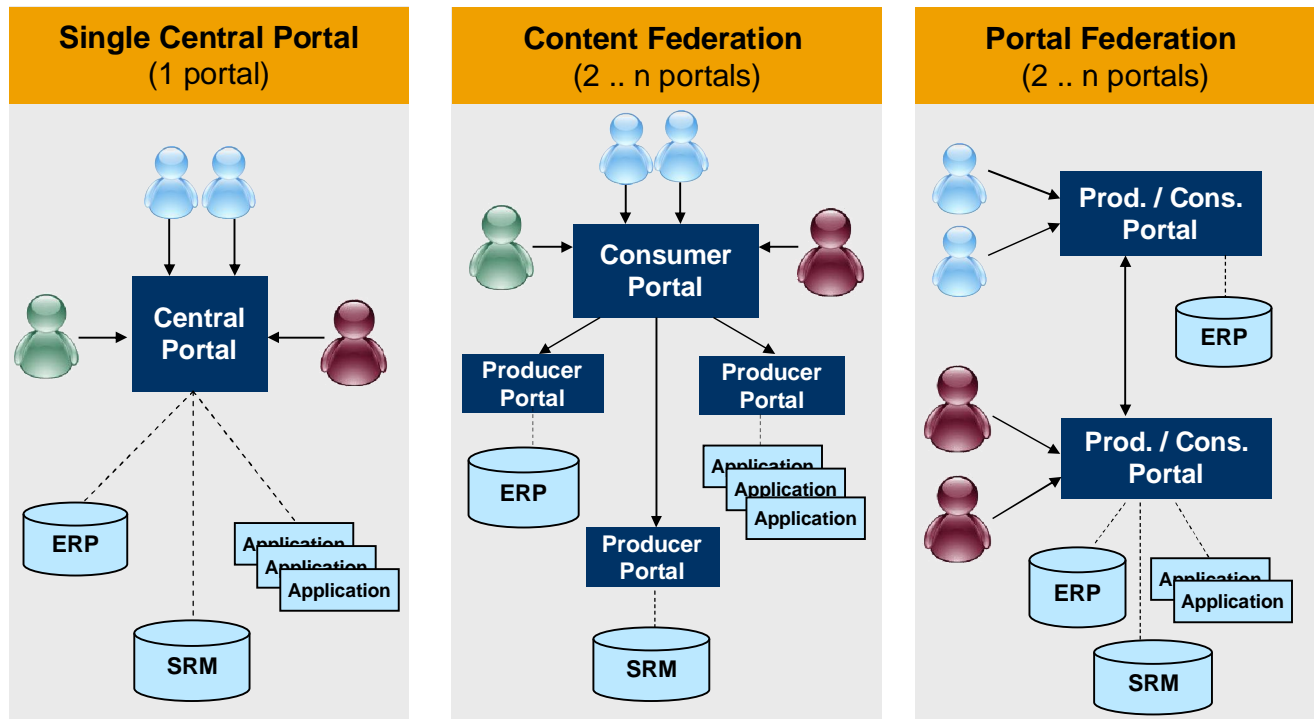
- Number of portals in organizations is increasing
- Users have to access more than one portal
- Allow users to access information, services and applications located on various portals
- Increase user productivity by providing one login portal per user



The general idea of a portal is to integrate content centrally and web-based. It serves as the central entry point for end users in order to find information they require. However, in reality quite often various portals evolve in a company: different internal and external information sources and portals exist in parallel, often due to different owners of those systems. The end users have to know where they can find the specific information they need and how to find it. FPN could provide an option to increase end user productivity by defining one central login portal which serves as an entry point for users to content which is spread over various portals.

Portal Landscapes

A federated portal network (FPN) allows organizations with multiple portals, SAP and non-SAP, to share content between the independent portals.




* The figures are for illustration purposes only – they show only the logical view on the end user experience.

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- With SAP NetWeaver 7.0 (2004s) FPN is available, which allows to set up different portal landscapes.
- Like in previous releases an important landscape option is to create one central portal. All users connect to this portal and all content and connections to backend systems are available there. If this architecture is possible suiting the organizational and technical requirements, it offers a lean set up and central administration.
- However, if this architecture does not serve the needs of the company, the federated portal network allows to create more complex landscapes in which portals can share content. In a Content Federation one consumer portal serves as the central access point for all end users in the company. The applications and connections to backend systems are located on various autonomous producer portals and users are redirected to these portals accordingly. Different producer portals can own these producer portals.
- In a Portal Federation the portals will act as producers and consumers simultaneously. This might be useful for example after mergers & acquisitions where both companies already have an SAP NetWeaver Portal in place. In order not to migrate all content in the first place to only one portal, both portals could co-exist. The users can access the according portals and content relevant for both companies can be shared.
- Overall, the Federated Portal Network allows to share content between portals. The content is deployed only once, but users from other portals could access this content either. It is not about synchronizing portal content or transporting content to various instances.




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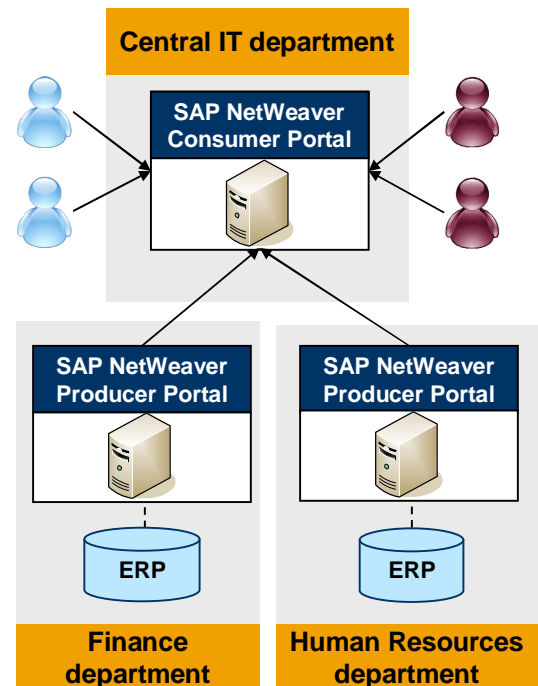


- Within the following slides some major use cases for implementing a Federated Portal Network are illustrated. Of course various other use cases could exist as well.

**Use Case 1:
Central Portal With Autonomous Portals for Business Units**

- **Business units use different portal servers to create and maintain their required functionalities**
- **One central portal for all company employees**

Benefit: Different units can upgrade their portal server to provide enhanced functionality without effecting the main portal server which all employees use.



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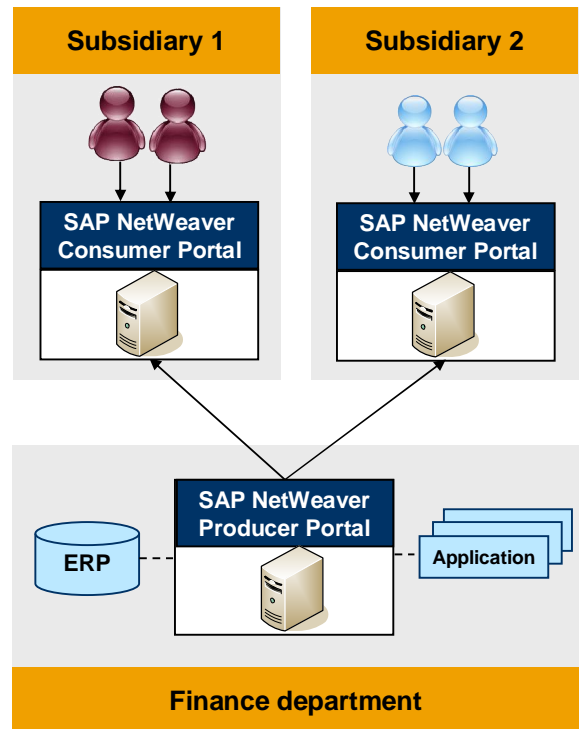
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- In this use case business units can own autonomous portals. The content is integrated into a central consumer portal with the help of the tools provided by the Federated Portal Network (basically a kind of “enhanced URL redirect” takes place). The end users could access the central consumer portal and when trying to access remote content they are redirected accordingly in a seamless manner.

Use Case 2:
Autonomous Portal Servers for Different Departments

- Each unit maintains its own business content on a separate portal
- Employees use their dedicated business unit portal
- Some applications are global applications which need to be shared between the different portals

Benefit: Units keep their business autonomy but at the same time utilize company resources and reduce total cost of ownership by sharing content and systems.



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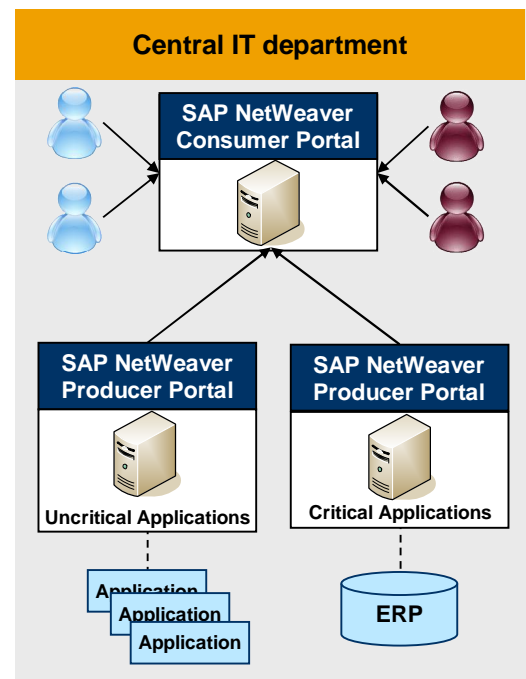


- In this use case, several consumer portals exist for different user groups. Central content is provided in one producer portal, thus this content doesn't have to be duplicated. The end users will access their business unit-specific portal and are redirected to the producer portal when accessing central content.

Use Case 3: Content Separation

- Separated portals for different types of content or functionality
- Separate content servers for business-critical applications and non-business-critical content
- Implement different service-level agreements

Benefit: Distribute risks to different servers. Set the appropriate service level agreement according to content type.



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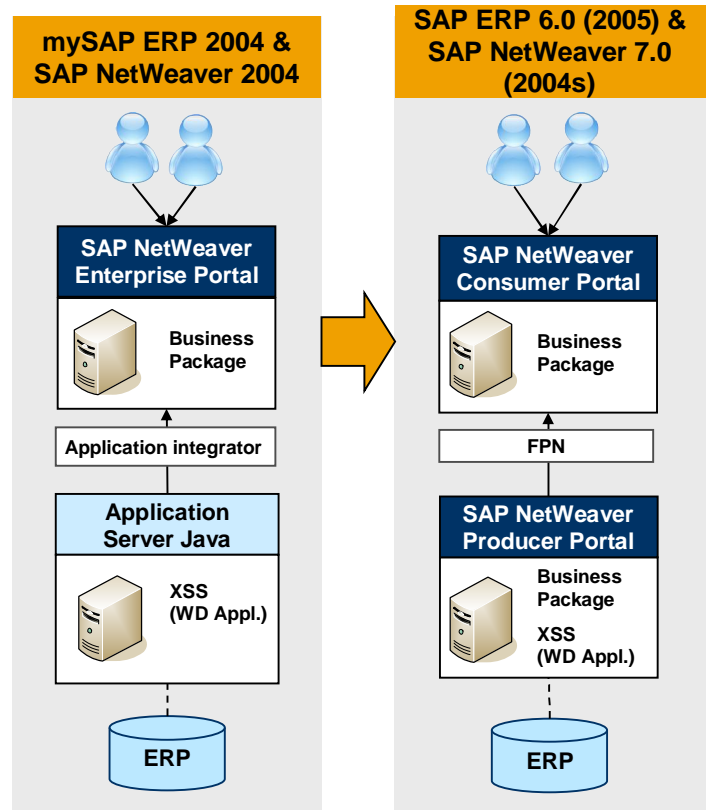
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- This use case might support the following use cases: If one producer portal includes only non-critical applications, it is quite unproblematic if this server incurs performance issues at certain times (e.g. due to some home-grown applications that require an unexpected amount of memory under load). The critical applications are deployed onto another producer portal and thus will not be effected from downtimes on other producer portals. The consumer will remain critical, since it might become a bottleneck if performance problems occur here – however, if only minimal content is maintained on the consumer portal, then this risk could be minimized. Thus for the different consumer and producer portals different internal service-level agreements (SLAs) could be set depending on the importance of the included content.

Use Case 4: SAP ERP 6.0 Distributed Landscape

- **SAP ERP 6.0 (2005) Business Packages require a portal (PCD and portal eventing) to support the enhanced functionality**
- **Change in architecture compared to SAP NetWeaver 2004 / mySAP ERP 2004**

Remark: FPN is not a must for using ERP Business Packages. It is only needed when you want to separate the Self-Service applications from your central corporate portal.



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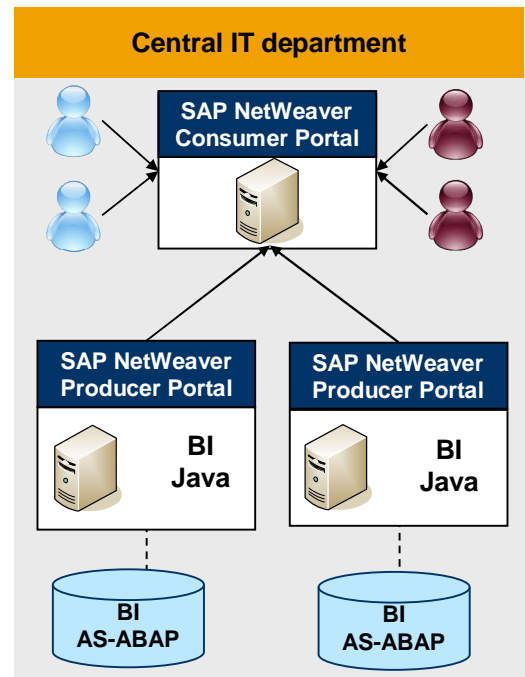


- This is a specific use case when upgrading from mySAP ERP 2004 to SAP ERP 6.0 (2005).
- One landscape option of mySAP ERP 2004 / SAP NetWeaver 2004 is: Deploy the XSS applications (Web Dynpro Java based Business Packages / self-services, like Employee Self-Service) onto a separate AS Java. This might be recommended for large installations, where both the Web Dynpro Java-based application as well as the central corporate portal might require lots of resources. Thus the Web Dynpro application is separated from the main portal server and is integrated into it via the Application Integrator.
- In SAP ERP 6.0 (2005) / SAP NetWeaver 7.0 (2004s) some changes to Business Packages took place: ESS applications were refitted in order to use portal eventing and to store some customer-specific settings in the local portal content directory (PCD). Because the Business Packages now require a portal, the XSS applications cannot run standalone on an AS Java anymore. In order to keep a similar architecture compared to mySAP ERP 2004, FPN could be a solution. The XSS application is deployed onto a producer portal together with the Business Package (e.g. ESS). The landscape could be kept quite lean with installing only usage type EP Core on the producer portal (see slide 25) and adjust and maintain the portal content on the consumer portal. The Business Package is deployed automatically onto both consumer and producer portals and connections between them are created.

Use Case 5: BI Java Distributed Landscape

- BI Java provides new functionality like BEx Web with Drag&Drop, Formatted Reporting, BI Integrated Planning using new Planning Modeler...
- BI Java installations require usage type EP (1:1 relation)

Benefit: Federated Portal Network allows connecting several BI systems to a central Enterprise Portal (different Support Package Stacks possible).



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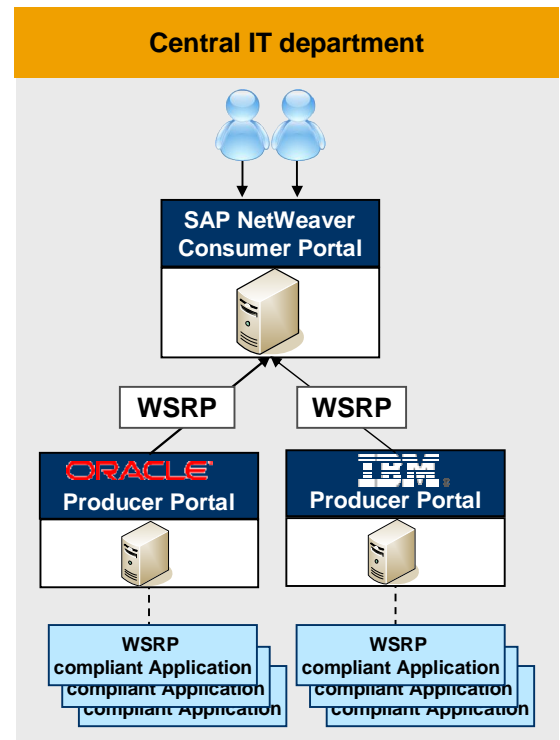


- The new BI Java capabilities in SAP NetWeaver 7.0 (2004s) require usage type Enterprise Portal. FPN offers tools with which you can integrate content coming from various „BI Java-Portals“ into a central consumer portal. More details on the implementation options can be found in the section landscape considerations, slide 29.

Use Case 6:
Interoperability With Non-SAP WSRP-Compliant Portals

- Share content between WSRP-compliant portal servers from different vendors
- SAP NetWeaver Portal could serve as a consumer or producer

Benefit:
Enable the integration of non-SAP content into SAP NetWeaver Portal.



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- The Web Service for Remote Portlets (WSRP) is a standard defined by the OASIS technical committees and allows to share portlets from different vendors. Currently WSRP 1.0 is supported by SAP, and thus content from other vendors offering WSRP-compliant portlets could be integrated into a SAP NetWeaver consumer portal. (SAP NetWeaver portal as a producer is supported as well, more details are available on slide 20).



Overview: Federated Portal Network

Use Cases

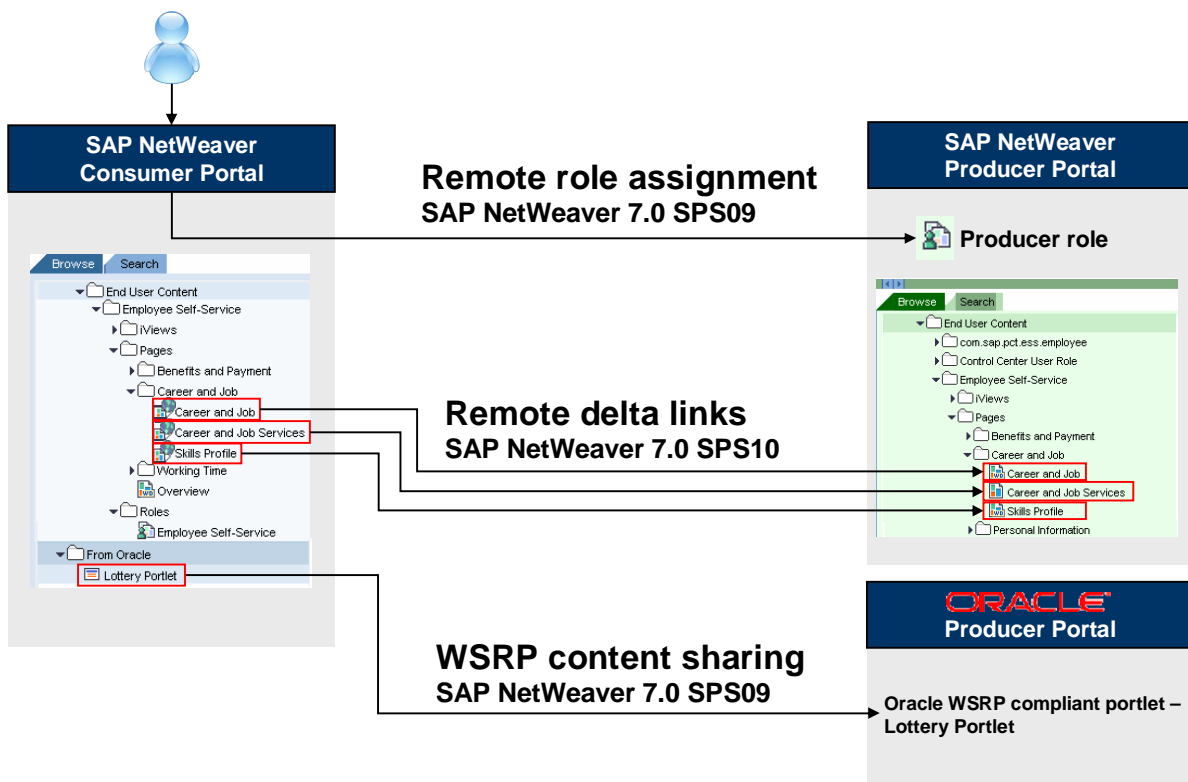
Integration Concepts & Tools

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Content Sharing Content Usage Modes (1/2)



The Federated Portal Network supports 3 content sharing modes:

- **Remote Role Assignment:** Assigning remote roles to users directly → available since SAP NetWeaver 7.0 (2004s) SPS09 through standard UME role assignment tools (only for SAP NetWeaver portals)
- **Remote Delta Links:** Copy content and paste as delta link from remote portals to the local PCD of the consumer → adjust and integrate this content, e.g. iViews / pages ... , on the consumer portal. Available since SAP NetWeaver 7.0 (2004s) SPS10. (only for SAP NetWeaver portals)
- **WSRP content sharing:** In order to integrate standard-compliant content coming from Non-SAP portals, a new iView template is available in the Portal Content Studio. Consuming and producing content is supported since SAP NetWeaver 7.0 (2004s) SPS09.

Content Sharing Content Usage Modes (2/2)

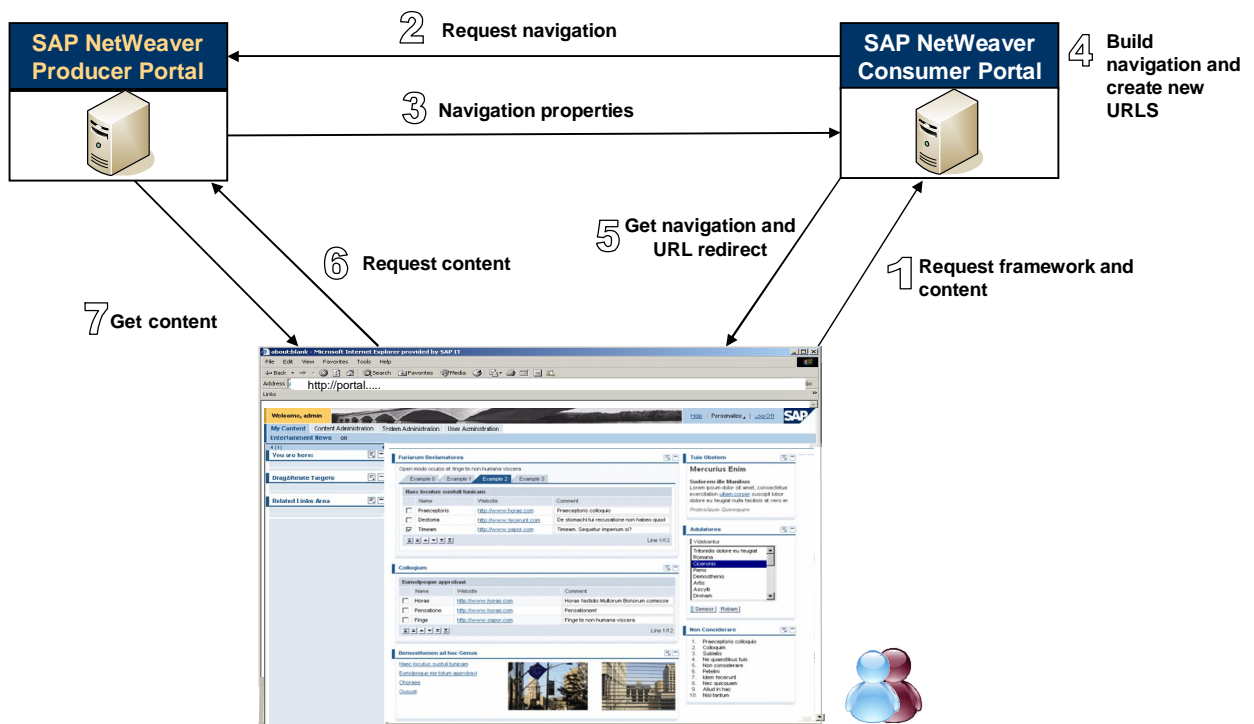
The content is shared throughout the network using three content usage modes:

- **Remote Role Assignment**
Enables the consumer administrator to assign complete roles offered by an SAP producer.
- **Remote Delta Links (SAP NetWeaver 7.0 SPS10)**
Enables the consumer to embed remote portal content (iViews / Pages etc.) offered by an SAP producer into local content.
- **WSRP Content Sharing**
Enables the consumer to provide its users with portlets offered by WSRP-compliant SAP or non-SAP producer.

Remote Role Assignment – Facts

- An SAP NetWeaver portal producer can offer **complete roles** to an SAP NetWeaver consumer.
- Role content is **maintained on the producer**.
- The **navigation structure** of the role is **built on the consumer** (top level navigation and detailed navigation) .
- Role content is **executed on the producer**.
- The remote roles are assigned to the consumer users using the **standard Role Assignment tools**.
- Remote Role Assignment is ideal in cases where no changes to the provided content are required.
- **Merging Remote Roles is possible**.

Remote Role Assignment – Runtime Technical Flow



Explanation of the runtime flow:

1. The end user opens the browser, enters the URL of the central consumer portal and requests some content
2. The requested role is located on a remote producer portal, thus the navigation is requested from this producer.
3. The navigation properties from the producer are sent back to the consumer.
4. On the consumer the navigation properties have to be rebuild, since those navigation nodes should point directly to the producer portal and an “enhanced URL redirect“ will be performed when clicking on it.
5. The navigation is displayed in the browser.
6. The content itself is requested from the producer portal directly via this URL redirect – there is no additional interaction taking place with the consumer.
7. The content is executed on the producer, sent back to the browser and displayed in the content are of the portal.

Remote Delta Links – Facts (As of SPS 10)

- An SAP NetWeaver portal producer can offer content from its location to be **copied to a remote consumer**.
- The consumer administrator can **easily browse the PCD of the producer** and copy required content to its local PCD.
- Copied content becomes local consumer content and can be **reused, configured, and customized**.
- It allows **delta link synchronization** of copied content. Any change on the producer object properties, which were not updated on the consumer, is synchronized and reflected during runtime.
- This is ideal for cases that require combination of local and remote content within one role.

- There is no copy & paste available in order to avoid inconsistencies between consumer and producer portals when some major changes on the producer portal take place – only copy and paste as delta link is available.

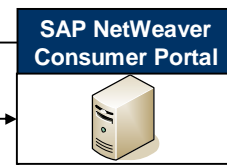
Remote Delta Links – Runtime Technical Flow

7 Integrate consumer and producer properties – delta link behavior

2 Build navigation and local content



6 Get consumer object properties



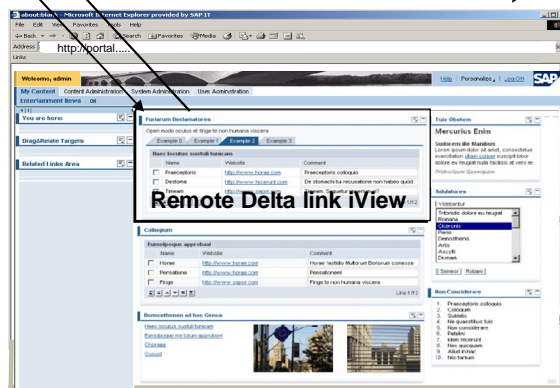
5 Request consumer properties *

3 Get navigation and URL redirect

4 Request remote content

1 Request framework and content

8 Get content



* This step happens only once.

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





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Explanation of the runtime flow:

1. The end user opens the browser, enters the URL of the central consumer portal and requests some content
2. Some of the content is available in the consumer, other content is coming from a remote producer portal. The navigation and the local content are build on the consumer.
3. The navigation, the content from the consumer and the URL redirect to the remote content are sent back to the browser.
4. The remote content is requested from the producer using the URL redirect.
5. Because the content might have been modified on the consumer portal, the producer requests the changed properties from the consumer (happens only once).
6. The properties from the consumer are send back to the producer.
7. On the producer, the consumer and producer properties are integrated / merged (comparable to usual delta link behaviour).
8. The result is sent back to the browser and integrated into the content from the consumer portal, thus providing a continuous experience for the end user.

Remote Role Assignment Vs. Remote Delta Links

	Remote Role Assignment	Remote Delta Links
Types of shared content	 Roles	 iViews, pages, worksets, roles
Administration effort / TCO	 Producer: create and maintain portal content + applications  Consumer: assign users to roles	 Producer: create and maintain portal content + applications (could be minimized)  Consumer: copy portal content, adjust + integrate portal content
Modification possibilities	 Merge roles	 Adjust content + integrate into local content (flexible, but requires synchronization)

* Traffic lights are used for illustration purposes only. It illustrates the required effort or possibilities compared between RRA and RDL.

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The traffic lights illustrate the effort and possibilities provided by the different content sharing modes and displays the differences. Both solutions are valuable for different use cases, but have certain administrative impacts you should be aware of.

The two content sharing modes Remote Role Assignment and Remote Delta Links might suit different business needs. Basically those approaches can exist:

- “Bottom-Up-Approach“: Autonomous units create and maintain content on their own producer portals. They build fully configured roles, which should be integrated into a central consumer portal with only little central administration effort. This approach is supported by Remote Role Assignment.
- “Top-Down-Approach“: Due to various reasons the central department decides to separate content to individual producer portals (e.g. XSS applications are deployed onto a separate producer portal). The admin effort on the producer portals should be minimized, because the content is only deployed to the producer, but adjusted and maintained on the consumer portal. For this approach Remote Delta Links would be the right choice.
- Mixed scenarios: Especially for portal federation mixed scenarios would be thinkable as well. Autonomous portal content is created in a portal, however, this will be reused and adjusted on other consumer portals. Here Remote Delta Links or Remote Role Assignment (using role merging) might be suitable depending on the specific use case.

→ You should decide thoroughly which content sharing mode you would like to use in which scenario and how the overall administration concept in the federation should look like. It will have impacts on the administration effort required on consumer and producer portals.

WSRP Content Sharing

- **WSRP allows sharing of portlets (iViews) between SAP and non-SAP portals**
- **Runtime execution of portlets remains on the WSRP producer**

Consuming WSRP Content

- **Any WSRP producer can offer portlets to an SAP NetWeaver consumer**
- **The SAP consumer can integrate remote portlets into local content as standard iViews**

Producing WSRP Content

- **Customers and partners are able to develop Java-based iViews and make them available for WSRP consumption**
- **The WSRP standard provides support for integration on a generic portlet level only**

- Using WSRP content can be shared between SAP and Non-SAP portals. A quite important remark is, that the runtime execution of the content which is shared still remains on the producer portal – so both portals will continue to coexist.
- Consuming WSRP-compliant content in an SAP NetWeaver portal works quite easily: You can integrate the content from a Non-SAP producer into your portal by selecting in the iView Wizard the portlets that you would like to consume in your SAP NetWeaver Portal. The look and feel of the portlets will be adjusted to the theme applied to the consumer portal.
- Producing WSRP-compliant content is a more complex issue: Today the WSRP standard only supports sharing portlets / iViews, thus no pages, worksets, roles ... can be shared. Moreover, because the standard is quite basic, currently only Java-based iViews (like e.g. Java Server Pages) can be exchanged. SAP-specific content like Web Dynpro Java / ABAP applications or applications leveraging Portal APIs cannot be shared, because they are unique to SAP and provide functionality which cannot be exposed through a standard. They provide quite unique functionality like Object-Based Navigation, Client-Side Eventing, Session Management ... Thus SAP Business Packages cannot be consumed Non-SAP portals using WSRP.



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Configuration Steps

SAP NetWeaver Producer Portal	SAP NetWeaver Consumer Portal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Configuring Proxy Settings (→ SMP: How To... Set up Federated Portal Network Scenarios with Reverse Proxies) ■ Setting Up Trust Between You and Consumers (exchange portal server certificate file) ■ Configuring Your Registration Password (for RRA and RDL) ■ WSRP application sharing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Set your root PCD folder for WSRP-based content requests ■ Create a registration user and password for the consumer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Configuring Proxy Settings ■ Setting Up Trust Between You and Producers (exchange portal server certificate file) ■ Configuring Caching for your Consumer Portal ■ Optimizing Your Consumer Profile (only for RRA)

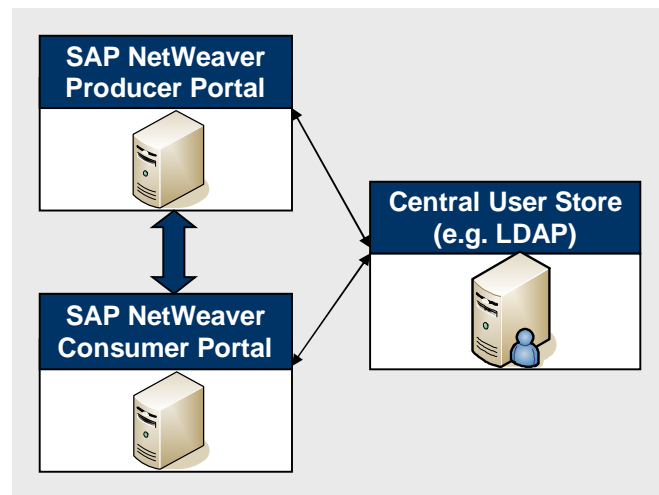
- Some initial configuration steps have to be performed before the content sharing modes of the Federated Portal Network can be used. Details about activities for the producer portal can be found here: http://help.sap.com/saphelp_nw2004s/helpdata/en/43/23fdb2cad10d23e1000000a1553f7/content.htm , details about the activities for the consumer portal here: http://help.sap.com/saphelp_nw2004s/helpdata/en/43/22387b0b413fe1e1000000a11466f/content.htm . A crucial requirement for FPN is that trust is established between consumer and producer portal in order to facilitate the URL redirect taking place.

User Persistence

Users on the consumer portal must also exist in the user store utilized by the producer portal

Logon tickets used for authentication → User IDs must be identical

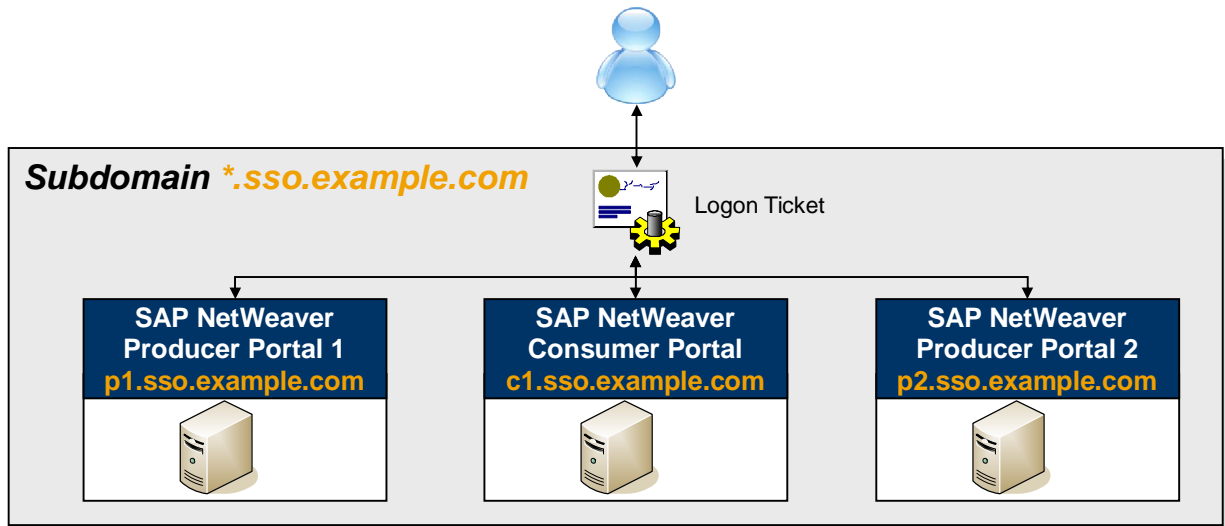
- **Recommended:** Single user store serving all portal installations
- **Alternatively:**
 - Distributed user stores with exact duplication
 - Distributed user stores with partial duplication



- Because a URL redirect with logon ticket authentication takes place, the User IDs have to be the same in all portals. In case you have to use distributed user stores, please be aware that some restrictions exist, if different kinds of users stores are used (e.g. one portal uses user store LDAP, another portal user store ABAP) → see central FPN note 880482.

Single Sign-On / Logon Tickets

- **Recommended:** All federated portals into one DNS sub-domain

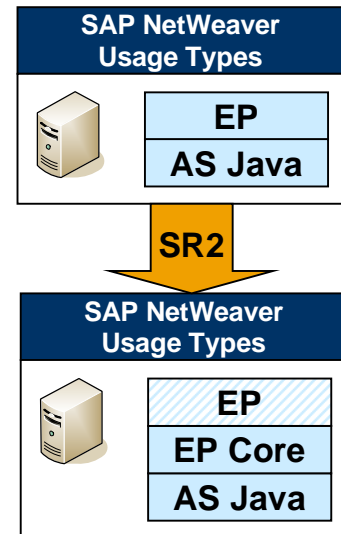


- Alternatively: Logon Tickets for multiple domains could be implemented with some restrictions regarding terminating sessions → see:
http://help.sap.com/saphelp_nw04s/helpdata/en/a0/88a340fa432b54e1000000a1550b0/frameset.htm (not recommended)

Usage Type EP + EPC

SAP NetWeaver 7.0, Service Release 2: usage type Enterprise Portal separated into two closely related usage types:

- **EP Core (EPC):** core portal capabilities (e.g. portal runtime, administration, FPN tools; *planned: Universal Worklist and Guided Procedures*)
- **Enterprise Portal (EP):** portal add-on capabilities (e.g. Knowledge Management, Collaboration, Visual Composer)



Benefit:

Decide for each producer and consumer portal whether usage type EPC or EP is required (depending on needed functionality). Improve overall performance, reduce memory consumption and lower TCO of the landscape.

- Since SAP NetWeaver 7.0 (2004s), Service Release 2, the two usage types EP Core and Enterprise Portal are available. The SAP Business Packages are refitted for SAP ERP 6.0 (2005) SP8 so that they can be deployed on EP Core installations (and don't require the full EP functionality).

UWL and the Federated Portal Network

- Only one Universal Worklist should be configured in a federation.

- Recommended: UWL content runs on the consumer portal

- Alternatively:

- UWL iView runs on a producer portal and is displayed in the consumer portal
- Multiple UWL iViews from producers are integrated (via RDL) into consumer portal

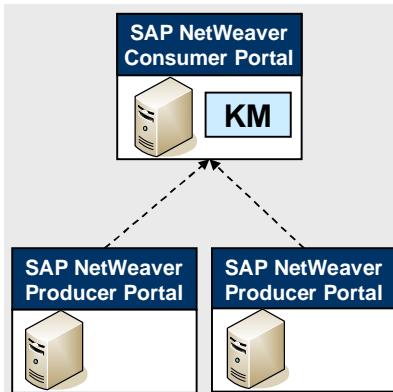
The screenshot shows the SAP Universal Worklist (UWL) interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Home', 'Content Administration', 'User Administration', and 'System Administration'. Below this, there are tabs for 'Tasks (55 / 71)', 'Alerts', 'Notifications', and 'Tracking'. The main area displays a table of tasks with columns for Subject, From, Sent, Priority, and Due. The first task is 'Create vacation request (UWL testing)' with a due date of Jul 7, 2004. Below the table, there is a detailed view of the selected task, showing its status as 'Normal' and 'In Progress', and a 'You can also' section with links for 'View Memo', 'Display Details in SAP GUI', and 'Create Ad-Hoc Request'.

Subject	From	Sent	Priority	Due
Create vacation request (UWL testing)	Workflow system	Jul 7, 2004	Normal	2 Jul 8, 2004
Create vacation request (UWL testing)	Administrator, Admin	Jan 3, 2006	Normal	Jul 15, 2004
test				
Edit maintenance notification 10001353 / M2	Workflow system	Dec 9, 2005	Normal	1
Edit maintenance notification 10001352 / M2	Workflow system	Dec 9, 2005	Normal	1
Edit maintenance notification 10001350 / M2	Workflow system	Dec 9, 2005	Normal	1
Edit maintenance notification 10001349 / M2	Workflow system	Dec 9, 2005	Normal	1
Edit maintenance notification 10001341 / M2	Workflow system	Nov 24, 2005	Normal	1
Edit maintenance notification 10001339 / M2	Workflow system	Nov 24, 2005	Normal	1
Test WebFlow Services	Workflow system	Nov 15, 2005	Normal	

- The Universal Worklist (UWL) gives users a unified and centralized way to access their work and the relevant information in the Enterprise Portal. It collects tasks and notifications from multiple provider systems – SAP Business Workflow, Collaboration Task, Alert Framework and Knowledge Management Recent Notifications - in one list for one-stop access.
- Multiple UWLs currently cannot be merged or combined into one central UWL. Thus, if possible, only one UWL should be configured in a Federated Portal Network, which collects all tasks and notifications (in case Knowledge Management is configured to use the UWL as well, it should be available on the same portal).
- Alternatively, if this is not possible, you could display multiple UWLs in one page in a consumer portal with the help of Remote Delta Links.

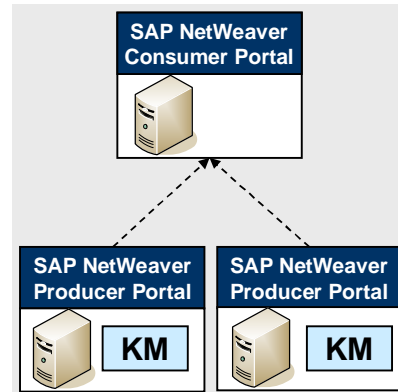
Knowledge Management and the Federated Portal Network

Recommended:
KM runs on the consumer portal only



All KM features available on the consumer

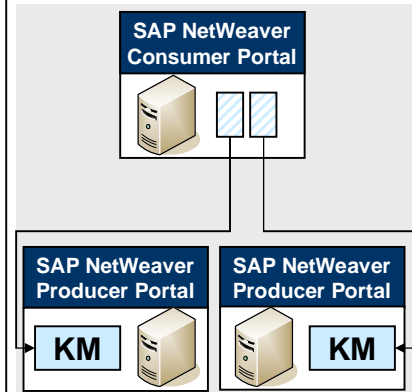
Integrate KM iViews via Remote Role Assignment or Remote Delta Links



Some KM features not available on consumer e.g.

- taxonomies
- subscriptions & workflows
- search restricted to „Federated Quick Search“

Connect remote KM repositories via WebDAV to consumer portal



Some KM features have to be maintained on consumer e.g.

- taxonomies
- subscriptions & workflows



- In order to use all capabilities provided by Knowledge Management, the recommended solution would be to use KM only on one portal in the federation. This could be the central consumer portal or alternatively one of the producer portals. Then all features, like versioning, taxonomies, approval workflows, subscriptions, template-based publishing ... will be available in this portal.
- In case KM has to be federated to different producer portals, KM iViews (e.g. Document iViews, Navigation iViews) could be integrated with the content sharing modes provided by FPN. However, this is not a deep integration, because only a redirect to the remotely located iViews is performed. The services themselves, like taxonomies, will not be available in the consumer portal.
- For a deeper integration on repository level instead of iView-level, the remote repositories could be connected to the consumer via the WebDAV protocol (World Wide Web Distributed Authoring and Versioning – protocol for asynchronous document management). Then the KM services, like subscriptions can be configured and used on the consumer. Those services cannot be shared via the protocol either, but have to be configured in all portals where it is required.

Knowledge Management – Federated Quick Search

- **KM federated search searches for documents over all connected producers**
- **The search results are displayed in tabs:**



- In case you integrate KM iViews into your central consumer portal with Remote Role Assignment or Remote Delta Links, you can search for documents in the federation with “Federated Quick Search“. The results are displayed in tabs, according to the portal where the documents are stored. If you need an integrated search result (= no tabs), WebDAV integration would be recommended.

Federated Portal Network & Information Broadcasting

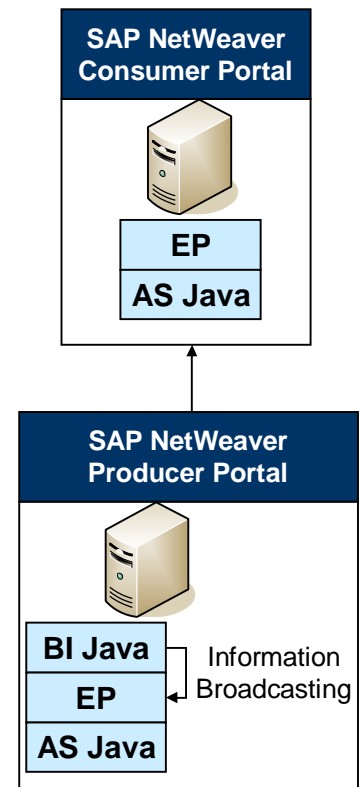
Information Broadcasting supports distribution of reports to the local portal. Documents and online links are stored in KM.

Available Options:

- Remote Delta Link KM Navigation iView
- URL iView: for SAP NetWeaver 2004 consumer
- WebDAV Repository Manager: Documents stored + accessed from consumer and producer portals
- CM Repository Manager: Document storage in same file system
- ICE: Documents copied regularly to consumer portal

More information:

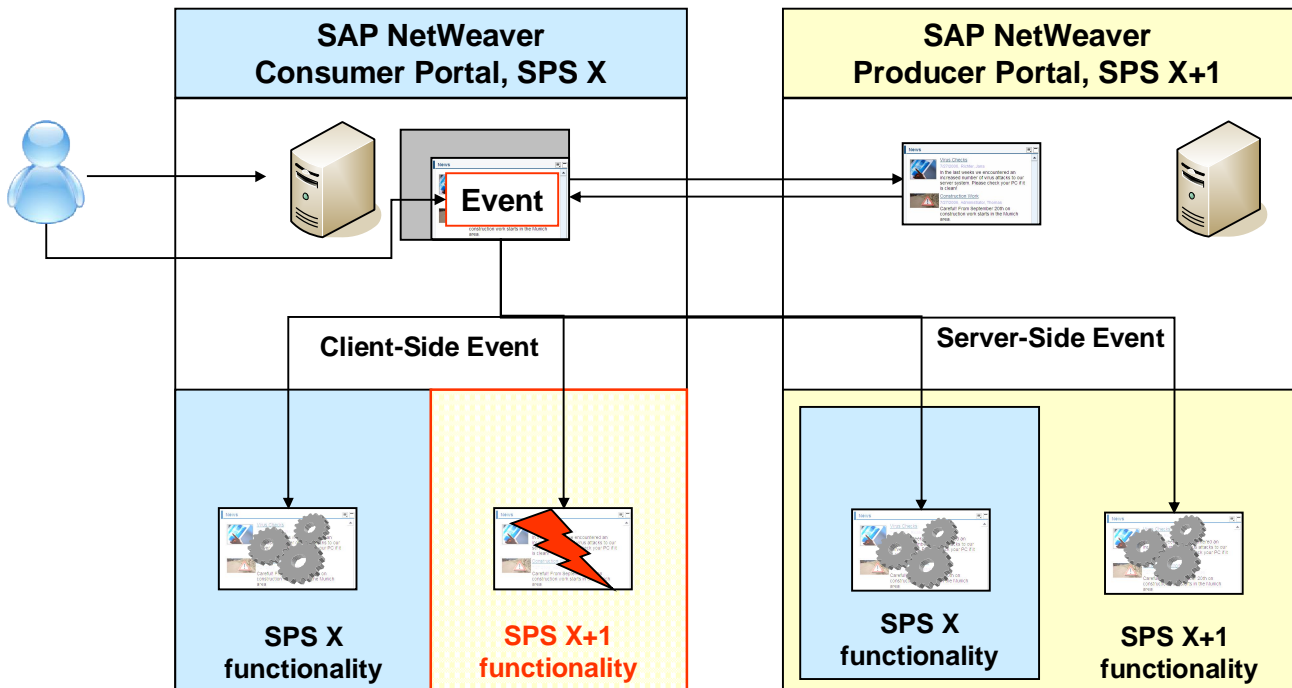
- Note 969040
- <http://service.sap.com/bifaq>



- For BI Java Information Broadcasting similar recommendations like for KM apply - Information Broadcasting is performed to the local KM instance. Since no “remote information broadcasting” is available today, the content can be integrated into a central consumer portal with different techniques:
 - using the FPN tools like RRA or RDL
 - in case the consumer is a SAP NetWeaver 2004 portal URL iViews could be used instead
 - connecting the same repository manager to both portals is an option as well.
 - The other options of storing the information in the same file system or using ICE transports can be applied too, although they imply some drawbacks.
- Please read the note for more details or go to service.sap.com/bifaq.

Version Interoperability Considerations

- **Consumer \geq Producer: works** 
- **Consumer $<$ Producer:**



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- The portals in a federation can run on different releases or Support Package Stacks of SAP NetWeaver. However, some considerations have to be made beforehand: In case the consumer is on the highest version (SPS or release), the federation will run without any problems, since all functionality is available in the consumer which might be called from the producer.
- In case the producer is on a higher level than the consumer, one restriction applies: In case an event is raised on the remote iView, server-side events will work as expected, since all functionality is available on the producer. However, for client-side events (one example: Object-Based Navigation), if new APIs are called which are not available yet in the consumer, the application might fail. Thus an error-handling mechanism for this kind of functionality should be implemented or new APIs which are not available in the whole landscape should be avoided.



Overview: Federated Portal Network

Use Cases

Integration Concepts & Tools

Landscape Considerations

Summary



Go for FPN? Exemplified Landscape Comparison ...

	Central Landscape (1 portal)	Federated Portal Network (2 .. n portals)
Administration effort	1 portal to be administered	Multiple portals with different scopes
Release dependency	Each individual requirement influences portal upgrade strategy	Upgrades take place on different portals independently
Test	All functionality to be tested in one portal	Integration and landscape tests required
Autonomy of business units	Typically central IT department leading, delegated administration concept	Autonomous content and application creation and maintenance
Availability	Only one portal → determines availability + SLA	Availability requirements can vary, but consumer remains crucial

* Traffic lights are used for illustration purposes only. It illustrates the required effort or possibilities compared between central and federated landscapes.

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- In case you would like to decide for yourself, whether a federated portal network would be an appropriate portal landscape in your company, you should thoroughly evaluate the pros and cons of this solution. One central productive portal implementation of course causes a lot less administrative effort than a federated landscape with multiple portals, that have to be monitored, administered, configured ... However, a federated portal network can offer you some other benefits, which might make it desirable: You can have multiple portals exchanging content, that could run on different releases, SPS and service-level agreements. Moreover, business units can own autonomous portals and create content (the delegated content administration sometimes is too restricted for organizational requirements). Thus you should decide for yourself whether organizational or technical requirements demand a federated portal landscape or whether you should stay with one central portal.

Key Take-Aways

- The Federated Portal Network might be a solution for certain use cases, e.g. providing business units with **autonomous portals** or **separating content**.
- Different **content sharing modes** are offered: Remote Role Assignment, Remote Delta Links and WSRP content sharing.
- The planned implementation should to be **evaluated thoroughly and certain landscape considerations**, e.g. regarding user stores, Knowledge Management and BI Java, should be taken into account.

Further Information

→ Public Web:

- SAP.com: www.sap.com
- SAP Developer Network:
www.sdn.sap.com/irj/sdn/developerareas/ep Federated Portal Network
- SAP Service Marketplace: www.service.sap.com/nw-fpn
- SAP Help:
http://help.sap.com/saphelp_nw2004s/helpdata/en/5b/9f2d4293825333e10000000a155106/content.htm

→ Related SAP Education Training Opportunities

- www.sap.com/education/ : SAPEP, EP120, EP200 (general portal training)

→ Related Notes

- 880482: Central Note Federated Portal Network
- 853509: Release Restrictions Usage Type EP of SAP NetWeaver 2004s
- 969040: Federated Portal Network and Information Broadcasting

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