



SAP® Exchange Infrastructure, an open integration platform, supports process-centric collaboration across heterogeneous components (both SAP and non-SAP). It allows IT organizations to integrate business processes within and across organizational and technical boundaries, reducing both integration costs and total cost of ownership. The exchange infrastructure platform takes full advantage of SAP's extensive knowledge of business processes, including the need to capture and share collaborative knowledge during the entire software life cycle.

mySAP Technology

SAP® EXCHANGE INFRASTRUCTURE

PROCESS-CENTRIC COLLABORATION

COPING WITH COMPLEXITY

Today's IT environments are increasingly complex and difficult to integrate. At the same time, new initiatives require collaboration and connectivity among all applications inside and outside the enterprise.

SAP® Exchange Infrastructure copes with complexity by providing an open integration platform that drives collaborative business processes. It uses a process-centric integration model based on Web services.

The solution's Web-centric architecture uses XML and a message-based infrastructure in order to:

- Support open collaboration
- Support open standards
- Leverage Java, ABAP and .Net

SAP Exchange Infrastructure supports the complete software solution life cycle covering design, development, deployment, and change.

EASY INTEGRATION

The SAP Exchange Infrastructure allows you to adapt your business processes according to changing business requirements without having to deal with the specific component code. All the relevant collaboration knowledge you need to integrate any component can be uploaded into the SAP Exchange Infrastructure. And since the SAP solution provides you with preloaded collaboration knowledge for mySAP, integration between SAP products works out of the box.

SAP Exchange Infrastructure avoids the rigidity and costs caused by large numbers of direct connections between individual application components. Exchange-based process integration replaces uncoordinated direct connections by connecting each component to a hub. Shared collaboration knowledge is extracted from the components and made available at the SAP Exchange Infrastructure in order to facilitate the integration of both external and internal components.

SHARING COLLABORATION KNOWLEDGE

SAP Exchange Infrastructure provides an integration repository to extract integration-related knowledge and makes it available in a central repository. The repository becomes the single source for information about business process definitions, available interfaces and required transformations.

The SAP Exchange Infrastructure is designed to capture and store this shared collaboration knowledge across all components throughout the solution life cycle (from design time when a business process is created, to configuration time when the business process is deployed). This collaboration knowledge allows you describe integration processes at a high level, rather than forcing you to hard code these processes into the attached components. As a result, you save time and money.

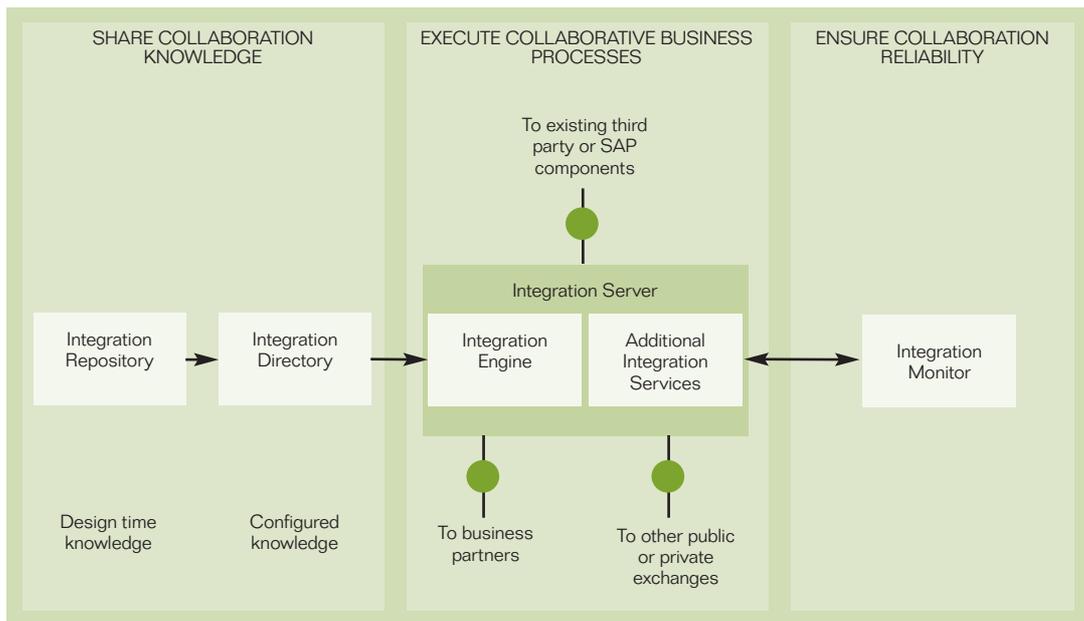


FIGURE: OVERVIEW OF EXCHANGE INFRASTRUCTURE

The integration repository manages all the integration-related knowledge available during business processes design and development. It is preloaded with collaboration knowledge of the mySAP.com® e-business platform. Customers can use it as an open environment to adapt and design their company-specific processes – including information about all interfaces and logical components, as well as the business scenarios and business processes needed to combine Web services. This unique approach places integration-relevant code into the repository, separating it from the regular application code written in J2EE or ABAP. This allows you to adjust your company-specific processes more easily and at lower cost.

The Integration Directory manages all the information relevant to a specific customer IT environment and uses selected, shared collaboration knowledge to drive the SAP Exchange Infrastructure execution environment.

EXECUTING COLLABORATIVE BUSINESS PROCESSES

To run your collaborative business process, SAP Exchange Infrastructure provides an integration server that includes an integration engine and other integration services. SAP, as well as the partner ecosystem built up around the SAP Exchange Infrastructure, provide a multitude of adapters to connect to other packaged applications, industry standards, or files and databases.

The integration engine provides a runtime infrastructure for secure XML-based communication between the instances of the various components, as well as for mapping, routing and business process control functions. During runtime the Web services in the distributed components are integrated by exchanging messages following the definitions in the integration directory.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information about SAP Exchange Infrastructure and how you can apply it to your e-business initiatives, see our Web site at www.sap.com/technology or at service.sap.com

THE mySAP.com E-BUSINESS PLATFORM

To remain competitive and profitable in today's economy, successful companies must work together across traditional enterprise boundaries, collaborating in virtual global networks, with the best tools and solutions. That's why companies are choosing mySAP.com – a comprehensive platform of e-business solutions, services, and technology built on SAP's 30 years of business experience. By using mySAP.com to power your business strategy, you gain a lasting competitive advantage, adding significant value and maximizing ROI.

mySAP.com is based on an open, flexible, and collaborative services architecture that supports both SAP and non-SAP systems. mySAP.com creates value by allowing quick responses to new business opportunities and by reducing costs, enabling you to collaborate, integrate, and succeed in today's marketplace.

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