



IBM FileNet Connector for Microsoft Visio

Overview

IBM FileNet Connector for Microsoft Visio allows customers to gain immediate return on their investment by importing existing Microsoft Visio diagrams into IBM FileNet Process Designer, providing a Microsoft Visio BPMN stencil and template, and facilitating process automation in IBM FileNet Business Process Manager.

Today's dynamic global economy requires organizations to effectively utilize resources and implement agile processes. Defining and modeling key business processes build the necessary foundation to understand and improve operational efficiency. Furthermore, they provide a logical entry point for process automation implementations, where efficiency gains can deliver significant cost savings and real competitive advantages.

Most companies define, document and design vital business processes using Microsoft's ubiquitous desktop applications, such as Microsoft Visio. How to take these documented processes from process maps to production is a challenge to many organizations since it involves new technology adoption and collaboration between various departments and users. Therefore, allowing business users to continue modeling workflows in a familiar environment or even reusing workflow diagrams from Microsoft Visio would introduce substantial time, resource and cost savings.

IBM FileNet Connector for Microsoft Visio accelerates process automation and implementation by allowing customers to leverage investments in Microsoft Visio and to import legacy workflow diagrams into IBM FileNet

Process Designer for process deployment and execution, including process simulation capabilities. Additional standards-based tools enable business users to continue using Visio as the primary process design tool while providing precise mapping accuracy when importing into Process Designer. Lastly, this functionality bridges the gap between business process design and process implementation by facilitating communication of complete business processes between business and technical users.

Features & Benefits

Intuitive Import Wizard

Enables import of Microsoft Visio workflow diagrams into IBM FileNet Process Designer in seven simple steps. An intuitive Wizard guides users through the process step-by-step, validates import shapes and texts against more than 300 pre-mapped objects, and provides a summary report. Users can also customize and save unique object mappings during the import process for future reuse.

BPMN Template and Stencil

Provides Business Process Modeling Notation (BPMN) template and stencil for use in Microsoft Visio. Developed to industry specification by IBM, these BPMN resources



provide standards-based design shapes for process modeling to promote consistency across the enterprise and to increase mapping accuracy during the import process from Visio to Process Designer.

Workflow Collections

Supports import of multiple process diagrams and related sub-processes one at a time or in groups. Workflow collections allow users, such as business analysts and departmental workflow authors, to keep related, complex processes together for better collaboration.

Annotations Support

Imports and maintains descriptive texts on process modeling diagrams from the native Microsoft Visio environment to Process Designer. Specific instructions, exceptions, and other important user notations remain as part of the process map to keep every detail intact throughout multiple project hand-offs. Users have the additional flexibility to show or hide annotations, and to use different colors for annotations in Process Designer.

Summary of Benefits

- Leverages and reuses existing process diagrams in Microsoft Visio to decrease implementation time for IBM FileNet Business Process Manager.
- Offers significant time, cost and resource savings for customers by reducing the need to recreate

and to remodel process models in IBM FileNet Process Designer.

- Simplifies team collaboration and complex process modeling by supporting import of legacy Visio diagrams, BPMN process maps, workflow collections, and user annotations.

Technical Specifications

Works with

- IBM FileNet Business Process Manager version 4.0.1.1 or later
- IBM FileNet Process Designer 4.0 or later
- IBM FileNet Process Analyzer 4.0.0.2 or later
- IBM FileNet Process Simulator 4.0.0.3 or later
- IBM FileNet Workplace or Workplace XT
- Microsoft Visio version 2003 or later

Dependencies

- IBM FileNet Process Engine
- IBM FileNet Application Engine
- IBM FileNet Content Engine

Server Hardware and Software

Requirements

- Refer to IBM FileNet P8 4.0 Platform documentation for IBM FileNet Business Process Manager 4.0.1 Compatibility and Dependency

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