

WebSphere Product Center: Architecture and Components Overview

Version 5.1

Note! Before using this information and the product it supports, read the information in "Notices" at the end of this document.

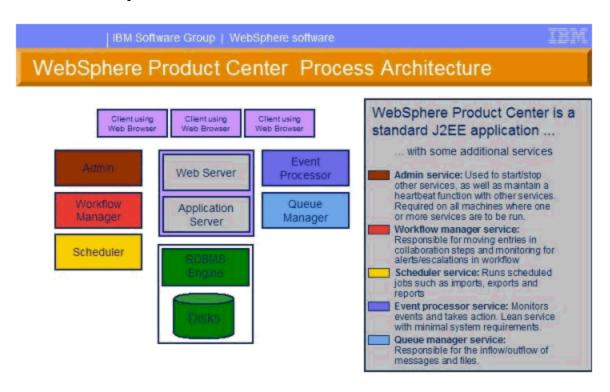
29 August 2004

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Architecture Overview

WebSphere Product Center is a complete, easy-to-use solution that is accessible through a familiar web browser inter. It is built on an open API and based entirely on proven, leading technologies including Java and XML. WebSphere Product Center is written using 100% Java and is J2EE Compliant.

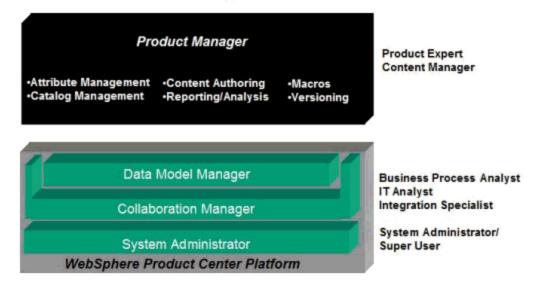


Product Components

Each component of the WebSphere Product Center is based on a role-based modularized design, which allows a user to easily interpret their role in the product information management cycle. The following are the main components of WebSphere Product Center:

- Product Manager
- Data Model Manager
- Collaboration Manager
- System Administration

WebSphere Product Center Components



Product Manager

The Product Manager allows you to centralize, manage, and ultimately deliver relevant, unique, and consistent product information anywhere, at any time.

Product Manager

WebSphere Product Center enables you to enhance, automate, and extend your product information management processes. As a result, you can accelerate time to market and provide customers easier access to product content across multiple touch points, while reducing costs, automating tasks, and increasing operational efficiency.

With the Product Manager, the following functions are available:

- Attribute management
- Catalog management
- Content authoring
- Reporting/Analysis
- Macros

Versioning

The WebSphere Product Center Platform is the architectural foundation, overseeing overall solution functionality and providing connectivity to internal and external systems.

Data Model Manager

The Data Model Manager provides tools to customize and standardize a structured data model for information that is imported into or exported from WebSphere Product Center.

A structured data model can be created to enforce business rules for separate files, catalogs, and information published to separate marketplaces.

Apply inheritance rules to a data model to reduce the need to duplicate item information for similar items. Thus, a single item is able to obtain an attribute value from a separate category or from another item.

Application security is managed through user roles and permissions, enabling users to view the information relevant to them. Also provided, are alert services that, for example, can notify users when information is published or errors are discovered.

Collaboration Manager

Collaboration Manager component is used to gather, manage and publish information. Collaboration Manager also controls the import and export of data with a standardized structure. Through Collaboration Manager, the product information reaches multiple touch points and can be published to varying destinations.

Manage a business process through the definition of a workflow. Create a workflow process, containing multiple instances that are viewable through the definition display and based on the status, an alert can be sent to notify that an approval is needed before it is escalated to the next step in the workflow.

The Document Store is the area within WebSphere Product Center where every incoming and every outgoing file is stored. From the document store, you can view generated and stored files from a central location.

System Administrator

Audit and performance monitoring tools are an integral component of any enterprise system.

The system administration tools provide the capability to effectively diagnose the current system's health, thus increasing system uptime and minimizing support costs.

System administrators can audit system log files, monitor various system processes, analyze application performance and control system services using the graphical inter.

Product Inters

Import Console

The Import component aggregates a company's internal and external content sources into the WebSphere Product Center application. Once the information is centrally stored, the information can then be managed effectively.

- Multiple file formats (delimited, XML etc.)
- Multiple data protocols (FTP, SOAP over HTTP)
- Multiple data types (items, images, taxonomies)
- Connectors to internal systems and external trading partners are also provided (Connectors to EAI integration platforms such as WebSphere Business Integration and WebMethods)

Export Console

The Export component eases the generation of export files into any format, which reduces the complexity in managing syndication across multiple customers and exchanges. The following features are offered:

- Export in any format (XML, CSV, tab-delimited etc.)
- Export to various destinations

Web Services

WebSphere Product Center supports Web Services inter. Additional details can be provided

upon request.

Technical information

Note: The supported platforms listed in this section are subject to change. Contact your IBM WebSphere Product Center representative for updated information.

Specified operating environment

WebSphere Product Center 5.1 supports the following platform stacks:

AIX 5L 5.2

- WebSphere Application Server ND 5.0.2.5/DB2 8.1
- WebSphere Application Server ND 5.0.2.5/Oracle 9.2.0.5

Linux/Red Hat ES 2.1

- WebSphere Application Server ND 5.0.2.5/DB2 8.1
- WebSphere Application Server ND 5.0.2.5/Oracle 9.2.0.5
- BEA WebLogic 7.0/Oracle 9.2.0.5

HP UX 11i

• BEA WebLogic 7.0/Oracle 9.2.0.5

The hardware and software requirements that apply to each of the platform stacks above are listed in the following section.

Hardware and software server requirements

Recommendations for hardware requirements are supplied for guidance only. This section lists the minimum hardware requirements for WebSphere Product Center. However, the actual requirements for your system may be greater, depending on the complexity of your specific WebSphere Product Center environment, throughput, and data object size. The following information is for the WebSphere Product Center system only. If you run other applications on the same system, make appropriate adjustments.

Additional server requirements:

AIX 5L 5.2

- Additional CPUs may be required based on capacity requirements
- Additional memory may be required based on capacity requirements
- Additional servers for added capacity and/or redundancy
- Multi-server installations require network attached shared storage

The software requirements for WebSphere Product Center depend on which of the elements of the product components are being used and whether they are used singularly or in combination on a particular server. Dedicated servers are recommended for the database.

WebSphere Application Server ND 5.0.2.5/DB2 8.1

	Software	Hardware
Application Server	 WebSphere Application Server ND 5.0.2.5 AIX 5L 5.2 IBM HTTP Server 2.0 IBM JDK bundled with WebSphere Application Server ND 5.0.2.5 	Model 6C4 • Processor: 4 x 64-bit POWER4+ 1.45 GHz • Memory: 8 GB
Database Server	 DB2 II 8.1 Advanced Edition Fixpack 5 AIX 5L 5.2 	 Server Type: IBM p630 Model 6C4, PE2650 Processor: 4 x 64-bit POWER4+ 1.45 GHz Memory: 8 GB Disk Sub-System: 420 GB SCSI

WebSphere Application Server ND 5.0.2.5/Oracle 9.2.0.5

	Software	Hardware
Application	 WebSphere Application 	• Server Type: IBM p630
Server	Server ND 5.0.2.5	Model 6C4
	• IBM HTTP Server 2.0	Processor: 4 x 64-bit

	 AIX 5L 5.2 IBM JDK bundled with WebSphere Application Server 	POWER4+ 1.45 GHzMemory: 8 GBDisk Sub-System: 144 GB SCSI
Database Server	 Oracle 9.2.0.5 Enterprise Edition AIX 5L 5.2 	 Server Type: Intel compatible Processor: Dual Intel, XEON 2.8 GHz Memory: 6 GB Disk Sub-System: 5*73 GB 10K RPM SCSI Driver

Linux

WebSphere Application Server ND 5.0.2.5/DB2 8.1

	Software	Hardware
Application Server	 WebSphere Application Server ND 5.0.2.5 IBM HTTP Server 2.0 Red Hat Enterprise Linux ES 2.1 IBM JDK bundled with WebSphere Application Server 	 Server Type: Intel compatible Processor: Dual Intel, XEON 2.8 GHz Memory: 6 GB Disk Sub-System: 5*73 GB 10K RPM SCSI Driver
Database Server	 DB2 II 8.1 Advanced Edition Fixpack 5 Red Hat Enterprise Linux ES 2.1 	 Server Type: Intel compatible Processor: Dual Intel, XEON 2.8 GHz Memory: 6 GB Disk Sub-System: 5*73 GB 10K RPM SCSI Driver

WebSphere Application Server ND 5.0.2.5/Oracle 9.2.0.5

	Software	Hardware
Application Server	 WebSphere Application Server ND 5.0.2.5 IBM HTTP Server 2.0 Red Hat Enterprise Linux ES 2.1 IBM JDK bundled with WebSphere Application Server 	 Server Type: Intel compatible Processor: Dual Intel, XEON 2.8 GHz Memory: 6 GB Disk Sub-System: 5*73 GB 10K RPM SCSI Driver
Database Server	 Oracle 9.2.0.5 Enterprise Edition Red Hat Enterprise Linux ES 2.1 	 Server Type: Intel compatible Processor: Dual Intel, XEON 2.8 GHz Memory: 6 GB Disk Sub-System: 5*73 GB 10K RPM SCSI Driver

BEA WebLogic 7.0/Oracle 9.2.0.5

	Software	Hardware
Application Server	 WebLogic Server 7.0 Apache HTTP Server 2.0 Red Hat Enterprise Linux ES 2.1 WebLogic JDK bundled with WebLogic Server 7.0 	 Server Type: Intel compatible Processor: Dual Intel, XEON 2.8 GHz Memory: 6 GB Disk Sub-System: 5*73 GB 10K RPM SCSI Driver
Database Server	 Oracle 9.2.0.5 Enterprise Edition Red Hat Enterprise Linux ES 2.1 	 Server Type: Intel compatible Processor: Dual Intel, XEON 2.8 GHz Memory: 6 GB Disk Sub-System: 5*73 GB 10K RPM SCSI Driver

HP-UX

BEA WebLogic 7.0/Oracle 9.2.0.5

	Software	Hardware
Application Server	 WebLogic Server 7.0 Apache HTTP Server 2.0 HP/UX 11i WebLogic JDK bundled with WebLogic Server 7.0 	 Server Type: HP RP 4440 Processor: 2 CPUs Memory: 4 GB Disk Sub-System: HP MSA 1000
Database Server	 Oracle 9.2.0.5 Enterprise Edition HP/UX 11i 	 Server Type: HP RP 4440 Processor: 2 CPUs Memory: 4 GB Disk Sub-System: HP MSA 1000

Hardware and software requirements for client access to WebSphere Product Center

The following are the minimum system requirements recommended for client access to WebSphere Product Center:

Software	 Microsoft Windows 2000 Professional Service Pack 3 or Microsoft Windows XP Professional Service Pack 1 Browser: Microsoft Internet Explorer Version 6.0 Service Pack 1
Hardware	 Processor: Intel-based system with a Pentium III with minimum processor speed of 750 MHz Memory: 256 MB

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