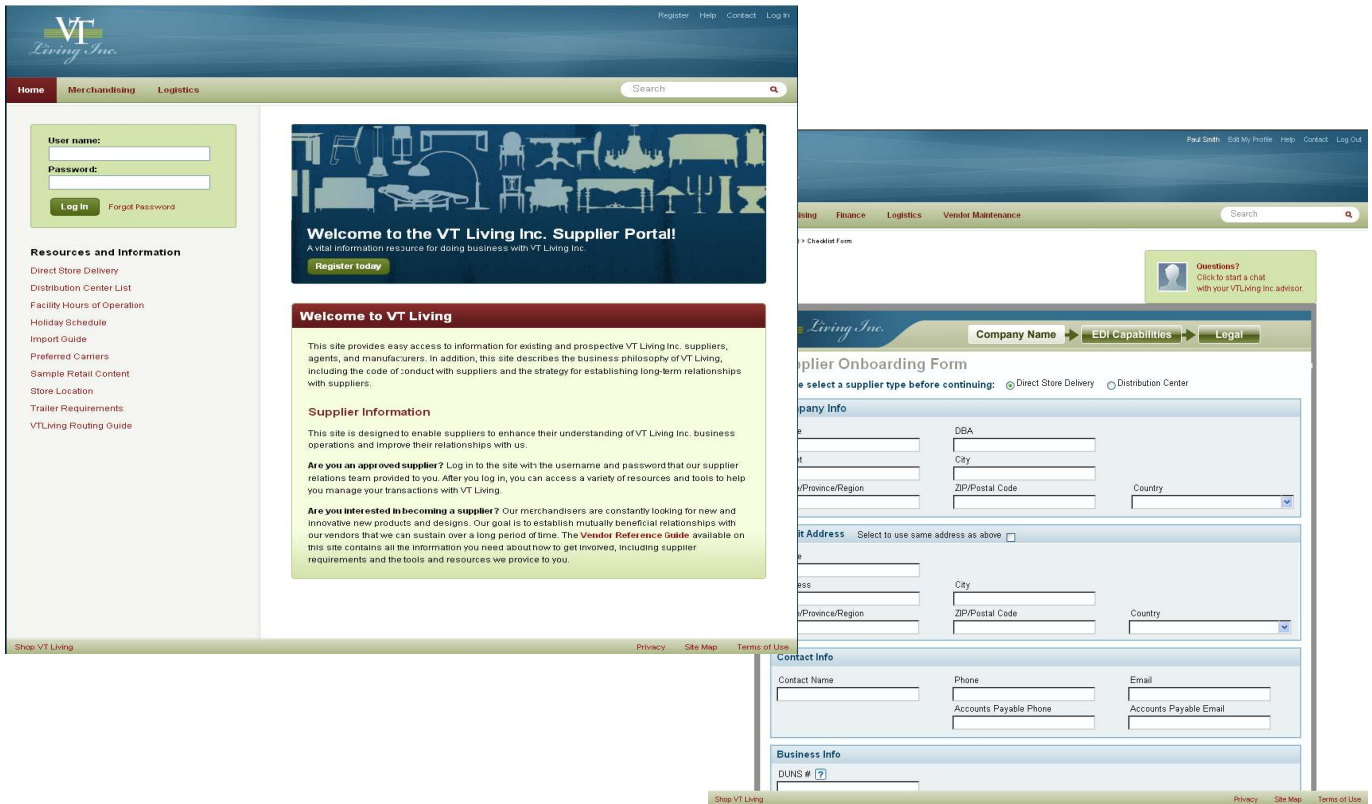# IBM Retail Vendor Portal Template for WebSphere Portal Fact Sheet

The IBM Retail Vendor Portal Template for WebSphere Portal can help retailers accelerate the development of an online presence to strengthen relationships with existing suppliers/vendors, as well as bring new vendors on-board more quickly and cost effectively. The template includes a sample retail vendor portal website which has been built on top of WebSphere Portal, Lotus Forms, Lotus Web Content Management, and Lotus Sametime.

The template provides best practice examples for the many design patterns which are common in this type of portal. All content, layouts, forms and portlets can be customized and configured to meet specific requirements. The template assets can be integrated with existing systems and content to provide an exceptional user experience for retailers and their vendors/suppliers.



## Why a Retail Vendor Portal?

The Supply Chain area has seen many innovations and the competitive environment continues to demand new, innovative approaches. Retailers will work to extract more value from their supply chains that will help them respond more quickly to customer, supplier, and regulatory influences. One core requirement is the ability to respond quickly to changes in the market by adding new vendors and product assortments, as well as build a stronger partnership with suppliers. Today's on-boarding process for new vendors are inefficient, difficult and costly due to high administrative overhead, information required in the process residing in many different systems.

Today's smart retailers are leveraging supplier portals as a way to save cost and increase productivity and profitability. They have become collaborative platforms extending enterprise applications to benefit all parties in reduced cost, risk and cycle. The Retail Vendor Portal template can help enable the rapidly-changing vendor on-boarding process to add new suppliers quickly and go to market faster. It can help make a retailer's site, stores, and brands "the place to be" for vendors. IBM's Supplier Portal for Retailers allows intelligent, pro-active collaboration between trading partners to provide secure, efficient collaboration via the web.

Common Retail Vendor Portal solution patterns that the template addressess include:
- Decrease cycle time for on-boarding new vendors with electronic forms
- More effective partnerships with suppliers and partners
 Better user experience

 Stronger communication & collaboration

 More pro-active supply chain

 - Enable self-service for vendors with access to personalized content

- Allow Vendors the ability to manage the users within their organization through the Vendor Maintenance Portlet

- Streamline content publishing and put in the hands of SMEs


**Service Oriented Architecture (SOA):**

The IBM Retail Vendor Portal Template leverages WebSphere Portal software's inherent Web service-based portlet development technology to deliver a SOA-based Retail Vendor portal solution.   To help ease customization, portlets are developed with WebSphere Portlet Factory, Lotus Forms, and Lotus Web Content Management templates.  Existing content can be integrated through the inherent capabilities of WebSphere Portal and Lotus Web Content Management.  Lotus Forms provides the ability to leverage and customize three sample forms that were built for this template as well as create several other electronic forms.  It provides numerous options for integration of existing data and business processes for automating workflows.  Lotus Sametime provides the ability for suppliers to communicate with the retailer to get answers to questions instantly and help build stronger partnerships.

The Retail Vendor Portal can be extended using dashboards created with the Dashboard Accelerator. These dashboards can help organizations reach performance data wherever it resides, delivering it as real-time key performance indicators via personalized, portal-based dashboards.  It also provides alerts and tools to help users take action at the greatest point of impact – before issues become critical. There are numerous additional options for WebSphere Portal integration with existing systems and data sources using pre-built and customer connectors, adapters and portlets from both IBM (for products such as WebSphere Business Process Manager, WebSphere Master Data Management, and Cognos 8 BI) and IBM Business Partners.

The underpinnings for the Retail Vendor Portal template include the following products: WebSphere Portal, Lotus Web Content Management, Lotus Forms and Lotus Sametime.  The Retail Vendor Portal template builds on top of these products plus additional assets which are also used in the sample website.

To learn more about the IBM Retail Vendor Portal Template, contact your IBM representative.  For product information please visit:

IBM WebSphere Portal
www.ibm.com/software/websphere/portal

Retail Industry Toolbox for IBM WebSphere Portal
www.ibm.com/software/websphere/portal/industry/retail

IBM WebSphere Portal Business Solutions Catalog
www.ibm.com/software/brandcatalog/portal/portal

Note: Product capabilities referenced in this document reflect current capability and may change at any time at IBMs sole discretion based on market opportunities or other factors, and are not intented to be a commitment to future product or feature availability in any way.

**PRE-REQUISITES/LIMITATIONS:**

**Hardware and software requirements**

Before installing the IBM Retail Vendor Portal template for WebSphere Portal review the hardware and software requirements.  Because the Retail Vendor Portal template integrates with other software components, you should also refer to the appropriate hardware and software requirement information for each of the components.

**Operation systems**

The Retail Vendor Portal template is supported on the following operating system:

Microsoft Windows product site: http://www.microsoft.com/

Microsoft Windows Server 2008 (64 bit)

> Microsoft Windows product site: http://www.microsoft.com/

SUSE Linux® Enterprise 10 SP2 (32 bit)

> SUSE product site: http://www.suse.com/

**Software Components**

The Retail Vendor Portal Template requires the following software  components:

**IBM WebSphere Portal V6.1.5 and IBM Lotus® Web Content Management V6.1.5**
IBM WebSphere Portal 6.1.0.3 - IBM WebSphere Portal FeaturePack 6.1.5.0 (FEAT615 wp6103_201_01 2009-11-07 11/07/2009)
WebSphere Portal requirements: http://www-01.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=1070&uid=swg27007791
WCM fix packs - http://www-01.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=swg24023835


**IBM Lotus Sametime® Community Server 8.5**
Lotus Sametime requirements: http://www-01.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=477&uid=swg27016451

**IBM Lotus Sametime Proxy Server 8.5**
Lotus Sametime Proxy Server requirements: http://www-01.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=477&uid=swg27016451#Sametime%20Proxy%20Server


**IBM Business Process Accelerator Framework 1.0.0.18**

**IBM Lotus Forms 3.5.1**
Lotus Forms requirements: http://www-01.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=3325&uid=swg27013026

**IBM WebSphere Application Server**
The following versions of WebSphere Application Server are required:
WebSphere Application Server V6.1.0.27 for WebSphere Portal Markup Build Number: cf270934.08
- Build Date: 8/25/09)
WebSphere Application Server V7.0 for Lotus Sametime
Required fix: PK96429
Refer to the IBM support site to determine which fix pack is appropriate for your version of
WebSphere Application Server at: http://www-01.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?
rs=180&uid=swg1PK96429
WebSphere Application Server requirements: http://www-01.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?
rs=180&uid=swg27006921

**IBM DB2 Universal Database™ 9.5.3**
DB2® 9.5.x requirements: http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/db2luw/v9r5/topic/
com.ibm.db2.luw.qb.server.doc/doc/r0025127.html

**IBM Tivoli® Directory Server 6.1**
Tivoli Directory Server requirements: http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/tivihelp/v2r1/topic/
com.ibm.IBMDS.doc/sysreq10.htm#sysreq

**IBM Lotus Domino® Server 8.5**
Lotus Domino requirements: http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/domhelp/v8r0/topic/
com.ibm.help.domino.admin85.doc/
H_SUPPORTED_PLATFORMS_AND_HARDWARE_AND_SOFTWARE_REQUIREMENTS_OVE
R.html

**IBM WebSphere Portlet Factory 6.1.5**
WebSphere Portlet Factory requirements: http://www-01.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?
rs=3044&uid=swg27016233

**Mail server**

The Retail template requires a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) compliant mail server. You can
install any SMTP compliant mail server.

**LIMITATIONS:**

IBM Retail Vendor Portal Template (PRPQ P02103) is available in US English only