The foundation for IBM FileNet's family of products

IBM Information Management software

IBM FileNet P8 Platform

Overview

"With its FileNet P8 architecture, FileNet infuses content management applications with process management. Launched by business events, collaborative content or records management applications can trigger additional workflows. Cleanly automated processes that can change when business conditions change: That's the objective FileNet is assembling its software to help companies achieve."

Intelligent Enterprise naming FileNet as its Editors' Choice award for Business Execution

Organizations worldwide are challenged to address a broad range of content, process and compliance management needs across their enterprise. CIOs are dealing with a lack of standards and stovepiped business systems that cannot share content and data, hindering their ability to respond to rapidly changing business needs and competitive threats. Organizations are not able to keep pace with the dramatic growth of unstructured data growing at more than 75 percent annually. To address these challenges, corporations and government agencies require enterprise-level solutions that share a common platform.

A Platform for Tomorrow, Today

IBM FileNet P8 provides the first unified content, process and compliance environment that offers maximum operational flexibility, accelerates application deployment and lowers total cost of ownership. FileNet P8 provides interoperability to the widest selection of databases, applications, operating systems, portals, security, servers, storage, systems management tools, and Web server environments. FileNet P8 can be deployed as a Service Oriented Architecture (SOA) shared services platform, helping organizations reduce the cost of operations and simplify their global IT infrastructure.

Increased Operational Efficiency

FileNet P8 is a unified ECM and BPM platform, removing the need to have separate products. This increases operational efficiency by reducing the number of vendors across the enterprise as well as providing a common, unified interface for building and deploying content and process applications.

Integrated Platform for Solutions

FileNet P8 is the foundation for FileNet's family of products. All of the FileNet P8 suites seamlessly interoperate so that their powerful capabilities can be fully utilized. For example, IBM FileNet Records Manager enables organizations to declare all their content and processes stored in IBM FileNet Content Manager, IBM FileNet Image Manager Active Edition, and non-FileNet repositories as records and to manage them accordingly. These records can then be automatically activated for use within an approval process managed by IBM FileNet Business Process Manager.

Foundation for Managing Risk and Ensuring Compliance

Corporations and government agencies deploy Records Manager to control the use and access to content and data, and enforce the lifecycle dictated by business and legal authorities. Records Manager ensures that only users with the proper level of security will have access to critical business content. By utilizing the advanced security, comprehensive auditing, events, lifecycle management, and workflow capabilities of FileNet P8, Records Manager ensures organizations stay in compliance.

Seamless Content and Business Process Management

The FileNet Content Engine, a key component of FileNet P8, manages a full range of structured and unstructured data, business critical information, and processes securely and reliably. It is an object-oriented metadata repository that provides maximum flexibility in setting up document and folder classes as well as content storage options.

Increased Business Agility and Responsiveness

FileNet P8 activates content, allowing the content infrastructure to respond immediately to changing business needs. Business transactions can trigger content actions, thereby increasing the overall responsiveness of business operations. FileNet P8 provides pre-defined events for common document operations including document creation, check-in, checkout, deletion, and property updates. Custom events can also be created. This allows external business events to trigger the launching of new processes or interact with live processes, without the need for custom development.

Support for Java, .NET and XML Web Services Frameworks

The FileNet P8 platform provides a comprehensive set of APIs for Java, .NET, and XML Web Services to support J2EE and .NET developers as well as organizations moving to SOA. FileNet is an active member of the Web Services Interoperability Organization (WS-I) and utilizes the WS-I profile to ensure developers can use a broad set of XML Web Services frameworks and development environments.

Maximize Existing IT Investments Through Support of Industry Standards

FileNet P8 is based on industry standards, such as J2EE, .NET and XML Web Services, to enable organizations to maximize the investments they may already have in their IT environments. Extensive testing with industry leading infrastructure products is done to ensure FileNet P8 applications can be deployed easily and rapidly.

Real-time Performance and System Monitoring

The FileNet P8 platform provides a comprehensive set of system and performance monitoring features including integration with leading Enterprise System Management tools. This enables system administrators and data center operators to view the health of the system in real-time and identify potential problems before they occur. In addition, FileNet supports the leading clustering, high availability, and disaster recovery products to ensure organizations can meet their service level agreements.

Broad Range of Integration Options

FileNet P8 provides a powerful set of capabilities for integrating with desktop and packaged applications, content repositories, and legacy systems.

Unparalleled Support for Storage Technologies

FileNet supports the leading storage vendors in the industry and a comprehensive range of their hardware and software offerings. This gives organizations maximum flexibility to choose the storage solution that is right for them, and lower their data storage costs. Both rewritable and write-once technologies are supported in magnetic disk, optical and magnetic tape formats for all relevant storage networking topologies, including SAN, NAS and iSCSI. Magnetic WORM devices from leading companies such as IBM, Network Appliance, Hitachi Data Systems and EMC provide customers with compliant storage environments, along with tape and optical WORM offerings from major vendors including IBM, Hewlett Packard, Plasmon and Sun.

Support for Global Deployments

FileNet P8 provides multilingual system capabilities to enable worldwide organizations to operate in the language of their choice, share content, and collaborate in enterprise-wide business processes.

Major Features and Benefits

Universal Catalog Services
Provides a master catalog of all the documents and content under management regardless of where they reside, when they were created, how they were acquired and what applications can access them.

Content Federation Services
Provides seamless access and search to content and documents stored in heterogeneous content repositories, simplifying ease of use and reducing training costs.

Robust, High-Performance, Scalable Unified Repository Highly scalable content repository that handles billions of objects and hundreds of thousands of users. Reduce complexity and improve content storage and retrieval through a single repository that can manage all forms of structured and unstructured content.

Easy To Use, Fully Customizable Zero Footprint User Interface Speeds deployment with a web client that can be easily tailored to meet the look and feel of any organization. It comes in a variety of languages with a multi-format image viewer. Content entry, publishing, and search templates can be utilized to maximize end user productivity. Context-driven menus, bookmarks, shortcuts, and portal like views minimize the need for end user training.

Native Workflow Includes FileNet's unsurpassed workflow capabilities for automating, enabling, and managing human driven process flows. Delivers exceptional business performance management and decision management capabilities.

Object Management Services
Provides greater control and flexibility for the management of any type of content through an advanced object model that manages the relationship between content objects, security profiles, lifecycle information, processes, and external data.

Event-Driven Architecture
Improves business agility and overall organizational efficiency by immediately reacting to internal and external business events as they occur. Makes Active Content possible, allowing both fixed and dynamic content to be active participants in the business process.

Classification Framework Enables auto-classification of XML content and the ability to create custom classifications as needs require. Allows content to be understood automatically and managed proactively; enables enforcement of ECM standards and strategy, while simultaneously reducing risk and information latency.

Full Lifecycle Management
Manages and controls the complete content lifecycle to improve efficiency and accuracy in content-related tasks such as approval, publishing, expiration, and retention, maintaining complete audit trails to meet regulatory mandates.

Retention Management Provides services for the management of retention and disposition schedules to manage risk and ensure compliance.

Robust XML capabilities XML is utilized extensively throughout the FileNet P8 platform as a data format, for data exchange, application development, and changing the look and feel using XSL to meet corporate branding standards.

Compelling Service Oriented Architecture (SOA) capabilities
Fully SOA enabled. WSDL descriptions for the Content and Process Engines are published to enable developers to create XML Web Services based applications.

Robust Audit Capabilities Track all content and process events and transactions that take place to provide a full audit history necessary for compliance and security management.

Single Sign On & Native LDAP support Provides identity management, multi-layered and object security to ensure that only users authorized to access sensitive business information are provided access. Standards-based authentication with industry leading LDAP Directory Servers and Single Sign On (SSO) providers means user and group information is managed and maintained in the corporate security infrastructure.

Framework for Enterprise System Interoperability Provides easy access to mission-critical content and data across an organization's disparate systems and repositories through:

- A connector framework for integration with EAI / middleware products to allow for access to a broad range of legacy systems and packaged applications.
- The FileNet Component Integrator provides additional options for integrating applications into defined business processes. It also can directly leverage Message Queues via Java Message Service (JMS).

- Native integration with Microsoft Office and Outlook to enable end users to easily manage Office applications and email messages within a FileNet P8 repository.
- Application Integration Toolkit for integrating with other desktop applications with minimal coding.
- JSR 168-based portlets for seamless integration into industry leading portal environments.

Fully Integrated Capture Environment
Provides easy ingestion of computer generated reports, physical documents, faxes, and forms that minimize scanning and indexing costs, ensures high content-acquisition service levels, streamlines the capture process, and performs record declaration.

Multilingual System Capabilities
Serve international markets and target customer groups with a de-centralized, federated, multilingual system architecture.

Summary

Thousands of organizations have deployed FileNet P8 successfully in a broad range of compliance, content and process applications. The FileNet P8 platform and products enable organizations to successfully address their business process, content and compliance needs across the enterprise.

As a complete, open and secure framework for functional expansion and systems integration, the FileNet P8 platform:

- Provides a single enterprise catalog across all of an organization's content repositories.
- Helps ensure compliance with various legal, regional and industry regulations and policies.
- Provides a comprehensive set of content and process management business services that can be consumed and deployed as part of a Services Oriented Architecture
- Supports J2EE and .NET architectures for application development and system integration
- Delivers enterprise scalability to support tens of thousands of simultaneous users accessing repositories containing billions of objects with fast response times
- Integrates easily with existing corporate IT infrastructures and enterprise business applications through a broad range of integration options.
- Reduces cost for data center operations through integration with leading systems management solutions and support of enterprise IT infrastructures.

As the clear market leader in Enterprise Content Management (ECM), IBM's ECM solutions help organizations make better decisions, faster by managing content, optimizing business processes and enabling compliance through an integrated information infrastructure. IBM's ECM portfolio delivers a broad set of capabilities and solutions that integrate with existing information systems to help organizations drive greater value from their content to solve today's top business challenges. The world's leading organizations rely on IBM enterprise content management to manage their mission-critical business content and processes.

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3565 Harbor Boulevard
Costa Mesa, CA 92626-1420
USA

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